Appendix B – Transportation

Primary Agency
Mississippi Emergency Management Agency

Support Agencies
Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)
All other state departments, agencies, and organizations as required.

Introduction

Purpose
The Transportation Appendix to the Logistics Management Annex provides the overarching framework through which the transportation of commodities provided in an affected area of operations.

This appendix describes the procedures for acquiring the transportation resources, concepts and guidelines. It provides an overview and defines key logistics management responsibilities. This document does not describe the specific mechanisms, facilities or locations through which Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and its partner agencies will execute various logistics functions in response to a particular emergency event. Such details will be included in the Logistics Section Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG).

Scope
This appendix applies to all State and local government, private and volunteer agencies involved in the response and recovery phases of an emergency event when the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) is activated.

Policy and Authority

“In accordance with such plan and program for emergency management of this state, to ascertain the requirements of the state or the political subdivisions thereof for food or clothing or other necessities of life in the event of attack or natural or man-made or technological disasters and to plan for and procure supplies, medicines, materials, and equipment, and to use and employ from time to time any of the property, services, and resources within the state, for the purposes set forth in this article; to make surveys of the industries, resources and facilities within the state as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this article; to institute training programs and public information programs, and to take all other preparatory steps, including the partial or full mobilization of emergency management organizations in advance of actual disaster, to insure the furnishing of adequately trained and equipped forces of emergency management personnel in time of need.”
Situation

Incident Condition

MEMA coordinates and controls the state response to any emergency event following the Governor’s declaration of a State of Emergency, which activates the Mississippi CEMP. The MEMA State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) is activated and functions as a Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MAC). Logistics management is a key function of the SEOC.

Assumptions

- A catastrophic incident may occur with little or no advance notice.
- The Governor of Mississippi will declare a State of Emergency either prior to or shortly following a disaster event.
- A massive evacuation of populations in the hundreds of thousands may have national implications, necessitating long term sheltering and housing assistance.
- Response timing will be affected by the availability of air and ground transportation assets and the post-event condition of the transportation infrastructure.
- Extreme and widespread structural damage could result in significant and long-term disruptions of critical infrastructure such as health and medical services, utilities, transportation networks, and communications.
- Environmental impacts resulting from a catastrophic incident may slow a response and recovery effort.
- Catastrophic incidents may result from a terrorism-related chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or high yield explosive attack, man-made hazard such as a chemical plant explosion, disease epidemic or a major predictable, or unpredictable, natural event such as a hurricane or tsunami.

Concept of Operation

Mission

MEMA coordinates and manages a comprehensive logistics operation within the state in accordance with the CEMP to save lives, minimize human suffering and restore State and local Government operations to a normal operating state.

Execution

Logistics operations will be coordinated and managed by the Logistics Section within the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). This includes transportation planning, implementing, and controlling the flow of goods, services, information and other resources from the point of origin to the point of consumption and establishing the logistics transportation structure in the field that will enable the delivery of resources. Software available for use will be WebEOC® Resource Management.
Coordination

- State agencies, departments, and commissions should coordinate directly to prepare for execution of logistical support operations for any disaster event.

Organization

**Logistics Chief**- the Logistics Chief is a member of the general staff in the SEOC and is the person charged with coordinating and controlling the logistics management system during an operational period. The Logistics Chief reports to the SEOC Director of Response.

**Logistics Section**- the Logistics Section is comprised of personnel from various state agencies, Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) and MEMA Reservist. The section is an “ad hoc” organization with no official structure within MEMA; therefore, staffing of the section will vary depending upon the type and scope of the emergency event and the discretion of the Logistics Chief.

**Ground Support Unit**- the Ground Support Unit is part of the Support Branch in the Logistics Section. The staff is provided by the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration and contract vendor representatives as required during an incident.

Types of Resources

**Agency-Owned Resources**- The logistics section will track these resources within the SEOC by the use of WebEOC® Resource Manager (RM) to allow visibility to the Operation Section and maintain accountability.

**Other State Agencies Resources**- State agencies will be provided access into WebEOC® Resource Manager for input and have the ability of deploying their assets based on RM Request of their assets of available resources.

**Vendor Owned Resources**- A vendor that has rented/leased to the state to support response mission requirements.

**County/Municipality Owned Resources**- These resources can be equipment and personnel who make up a response team for required actions during the disaster. The requirements are addressed within the Statewide Mutual Aid Compact (SMAC).

Transportation Procedures

- When the SEOC is activated and a State of Emergency (SOE) is declared the Logistics Section can request from the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) or disaster reservist personnel to drive agency or leased vehicles to move property to affected areas.

- Internal assets will be used to support incident requirements by:
  - The Ground Support Unit will maintain accountability of personnel and assign vehicles to support daily missions.
  - Maintain operational awareness to ensure high priority request are moved efficiently and effectively.
MEMA Support Services will provide hand receipts and support to account for State property during an incident.

- External assets will be established through stand-by contracts with Transportation Companies.
  - Identified company will provide a representative at the SEOC to provide updated movement control and contract representation.
  - A company dispatcher will be provided at the State Staging Area (SSA) to assign and manage power units to leased or federally provided trailers.
  - Provide required MEMA’s documentation of delivery and account for commodities to receiving county including companies’ billing documentation for delivery of services.
  - Provide a cross docking operation as required to facilitate the offloading of commodities into leased trailers.
  - Provide the transportation capability of dry cargo, heavy haul and short trucks during the incident.

- Mission assignment of RM Request to specific state agencies who have transportation assets. Assets may be listed in Resource Manager Inventory. Examples of assets are Mississippi Department of Wildlife Parks and Recreation (MDWFP) has tractors with low boy trailers, Mississippi State University Extension Services has one-ton trucks with trailers, Mississippi Community Colleges have tractors with cargo trailers.

- Personnel driving state vehicles will have their agencies’ identification available at all times for entry into area. Commodities being delivered to affected counties will be given from the SSA a Commodity Transfer and a MEMA Entry Pass assigned to the transfer for entry into the area.

- Logistics will coordinate with Operations and ESF #13 for transportation passes for vendors supplying supplies and services in the affected area.

- Barge and River access will be coordinated with MDOT Intermodal for support of operations. Two ports located on the Mississippi River near the possible earthquake area are: Port of Rosedale and Port of Greenville.
  - Port of Rosedale is the northern-most port on the Mississippi River located on a slack water channel at milepost 585 in Rosedale. The port has road and rail access and can provide intermodal capabilities. There is one barge berth 600 feet in length with a nine feet draft. There are 1.5 acres of surfaced storage area adjacent to the berth and one 150 ton mobile crane, one conveyor system for dry bulk load-out and one conveyor for unloading. The port also offers 20,000 square feet of covered storage.
  - Port of Greenville is located in Greenville, in the west central portion of the state at milepost 537 on the Mississippi River. The port has two port areas North and South area. The south offers rail and highway access to include two barge berths 600 feet in length, a nine feet draft, eight acres of storage area, three mobile cranes, with container to rail and container to truck loading. While the north has a finger type pier and 20,000 square feet warehouse.
Responsibilities

Counties

- Provide county road closure and county bridge weight limit information in WebEOC®.
- Ensure transportation assets can safely move to the County Staging Area (CSA) with commodities.
- Receive all property at the CSA and maintain accountability of property through proper chain of custody forms for Federal, State, and county or leased property.

State Agencies, Departments, and Commissions

Provide assistance to MEMA with transportation personnel and equipment as requested.

Mississippi Department of Transportation

- Provide damage assessment for highways, roads and bridges on state maintained routes.
- Determine and designate available and prohibitive traffic routes.
- Provide permits and routing for the movement of oversize and overweight emergency response vehicles.
- Movements of State personnel, equipment, and supplies are managed through prioritizing shipments. Each ESF is responsible for compiling submitting and updating information for inclusion in the ESF #1 prioritized shipments.

Mississippi National Guard

- Provide movement control specialist to support the incident as required if National Guard resources are available due to existing missions and deployments.
- Provide transportation assets to move commodities into affected area as required if National Guard (MSNG) resources are available due to existing missions and deployments.

Mississippi Department of Finance and Administrative

- Provide transportation and fleet specialists to serve as members of the SEOC Logistics Section Ground Support Team for each operational period when the SEOC is activated.