Introduction

Purpose

This Emergency Support Function (ESF) provides a framework for state government to support local governments, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector, and is designed to enable community recovery from the long-term consequences of an incident of state significance. This support consists of available programs and resources of state agencies to enable community recovery, especially long-term community recovery, and to reduce or eliminate risk from future incidents, where feasible.
Scope

The policies and concepts in this annex apply to state agencies and other interested stakeholders following a disaster affecting the community’s ability to recover. Based on an assessment of the incident, ESF #14 supports may vary depending on the magnitude and type of disaster. ESF #14 will most likely be activated for large-scale or catastrophic incidents that require state and federal assistance to address significant long-term impacts in the affected area (e.g., impacts on housing, schools, businesses and employment, community infrastructure, and social services).

Policies

- ESF #14 recognizes the primacy of affected county and municipal governments and the private sector in defining and addressing risk reduction and long-term community recovery priorities.

- ESF #14 coordinator(s) will work with local governments in planning for the future of the affected communities, identifying resources needed during rebuilding, and economic and social implications which may play a role in a community’s rebuilding efforts.

- State agencies continue to provide recovery assistance under independent authorities to local governments in planning for the future of the affected communities, identifying resources needed during rebuilding, and economic and social implications which may play a role in a community’s rebuilding efforts.

- State support is tailored based on the type, extent, and duration of the event and long-term recovery period, and on the availability of state resources.

- Long-term community recovery and mitigation efforts focus on permanent restoration of infrastructure, housing, educational entities, and local businesses with attention to mitigation of future similar impacts when feasible.

Concept of Operations

General

ESF #14 provides the coordination mechanisms for state government to:

- Assess the social and economic impacts in the affected communities and coordinate federal, state and local efforts to address long-term community recovery issues.

- Work with local governments, private-sector businesses/organizations to develop a comprehensive long-term community recovery plan while helping ensure coordination of resources and identifying gaps in resource availability.

- Avoid duplication of assistance, coordinate application processes, and identify and coordinate resolution of policy and program issues that could impede recovery.

- Determine/identify responsibilities for recovery activities, maintain continuity in program delivery among state agencies, and ensure follow-through of recovery and hazard mitigation efforts.
Organization

- The ESF #14 coordinator and primary agencies meet to determine the need to activate ESF #14 elements when the incident requires long-term community recovery assistance.

- The ESF #14 coordinator and primary agencies meet to determine the need to activate ESF #14 elements when the Incident of State Significance is likely to require federal long-term community recovery assistance.

- ESF #14 representatives will hold and participate in coordination meetings of all stakeholders. Agency representatives may be assigned to serve on committees formed as a result of ESF #14 meetings and as goals are outlined during the recovery process.

Actions

- Gathers information from state and federal agencies and impacted local governments to assess the scope and magnitude of the social and economic impacts.

- Holds meetings with all stakeholders to develop specific goals of the community, along with an action plan on how to achieve each goal, to include taking full advantage of all mitigation and recovery resources available.

- Facilitates sharing of ideas and information among specific agencies and officials and encourages participation to help resolve issues that hinder a community’s recovery efforts.

- Coordinates appropriate state and/or federal programs for local officials and community residents to help speed individual families’ recovery efforts.

Responsibilities

Office of the Governor-Coordinator

- Convenes meetings to implement and give guidance to ESF #14 activities.

- Ensures appropriate participation from all agencies.

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency–Coordinator/Primary Agency

- Coordinates developments of the state’s Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation plans and ensures those plans are integrated with goals and achievable deadlines of the long-term recovery plan.

- Coordinates drafting and publication of ESF #14 plan.

- Facilitates recovery decisions through stakeholders.

- Assists local governments through the Public Assistance and Mitigation grant processes to ensure fast and accurate disaster funding is available and that all state and federal guidelines are followed.

- Work with federal agencies and MS Development Authority (MDA) to develop long-term housing needs and assistance.
Mississippi Development Authority–Coordinator/Primary Agency
• Works with private sector to help coordinate business recovery and development in impacted areas.
• Assists local governments and other ESF #14 stakeholders in developing long-term housing plans for impacted communities.

Mississippi Department of Education–Primary Agency
• Assists local school districts that are impacted by a disaster in rebuilding and/or repair efforts.

Mississippi Insurance Department–Primary Agency
• Provides personnel to assist disaster survivors who need assistance processing and/or filing insurance claims.
• Investigates complaints against insurance companies doing business in the state and following a disaster.
• Assists with the administration of insurance programs following a disaster.

Support Agencies, Other Non-Governmental/Private Sector Partners and Organizations

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Functions</th>
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| Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Services | • Coordinates volunteer activities in disaster areas.  
• Ensures volunteer groups and volunteer recovery committees work in agreement with local communities’ long-term recovery plans. |
| Mississippi Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster | • Coordinates volunteer activities in disaster areas.  
• Ensures volunteer groups and volunteer recovery committees work in agreement with local communities’ long-term recovery plans. |
| Mississippi Department of Human Services | • Coordinate all requests for emergency food stamp assistance or other services as identified or deemed appropriate.  
• Assist with long-term housing, feeding requirements, and emergency services during recovery. |
| Mississippi Department of Employment Security | • Coordinates the disaster unemployment grant programs for affected communities.  
• Assists disaster survivors with finding employment when necessary. |
| Office of the Attorney General | • Facilitate all legal needs on behalf of the state to include liability issues, tort claims and any other needs.  
• All other legal resources in support of long-term recovery. |
<p>| Mississippi Chamber of Commerce | • Will work with businesses and organizations to assist in securing funding as part of rebuilding and long-term recovery efforts. |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Role Description</th>
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| Mississippi Municipal League/ Mississippi Association of Supervisors | • Assist local government and municipalities in meeting organizational needs for long-term recovery requirements.  
• Provide and assist local government in facilitating recovery decisions on long-term project needs. |
| Mississippi Bankers Association                | • Assist local government and industries with funding as part of long-term rebuilding and growth. |
| Mississippi Association of Manufactured Homes  | • Assist with long-term recovery housing needs dictated by population of displaced persons in the affected areas. |
| Mississippi Association of Manufacturers       | • Work with businesses and manufacturers interested in relocating and/or building in affected areas. |
| Mississippi Housing Authority                  | • Assist long-term recovery efforts in locating or helping in the facilitation of suitable dwellings for persons displaced from their homes. |

**ESF # 14 Review and Maintenance**

As a minimum, the state agency contact will coordinate and conduct an annual review of this annex with all support agencies. Additional reviews may be conducted if an incident or regulatory change indicates a need. Recommendations for change will be submitted to MEMA for approval, publication, and distribution.