



# U.S. Department of Transportation / Pipeline and Hazardous Substances Material Association

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## GENERAL

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) provides response expertise pertaining to transportation of oil or hazardous substances by all modes of transportation. DOT offers expertise in the requirements for packaging, handling, and transporting regulated hazardous materials. DOT also establishes oil discharge contingency planning requirements for pipelines, transport by rail and containers or bulk transport of oil.

DOT's Pipeline and Hazardous Substances Materials Administration (PHSMA) works to protect the American public and the environment by ensuring the safe and secure movement of hazardous materials to industry and consumers by all transportation modes, including the nation's pipelines. PHMSA was created under the Norman Y. Mineta Research and Special Programs Improvement Act of 2004. PHMSA provides DOT a modal administration focused solely on its pipeline and hazardous materials transportation programs. Through PHMSA, DOT develops and enforces regulations for the safe, reliable, and environmentally sound operation of the nation's 2.3 million miles of pipeline transportation system and the nearly 1 million daily shipments of hazardous materials by land, sea, and air.

PHSMA's **Hazardous Materials Safety Office** is the Federal safety authority for the transportation of hazardous materials by air, rail, highway, and water. They can provide information on guidance documents, hazmat carriers' special permits and approvals information, reports and incidents summaries, penalty action reports, registration information and forms, the Emergency Response Guidebook for First Responders, Freedom of Information Act requests, and the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness grants program.

PHSMA's **Pipeline Safety Office** is the Federal safety authority for the nation's natural gas and hazardous liquid pipelines. They can provide information regarding pipeline regulations, proposed and final rulemakings, pipeline statistics, Common Ground Alliance and One Call programs, request procedures under Freedom of Information Act guidelines, reports on major pipeline accidents/incidents and corrective action orders, pipeline mapping systems information, training and publications, and online library of Pipeline Safety forms and public information files.

## Mission and Goals

The mission DOT PHSMA is to protect people and the environment from the risks inherent in transportation of hazardous materials, by pipeline and other modes of transportation.

The goals of the agency involve:

**Safety:** To reduce the risk of harm to people due to the transportation of hazardous materials by pipelines and other modes.

**Environmental Stewardship:** To reduce the risk of harm to the environment due to the transportation of oil and hazardous materials by pipeline and other modes.

**Reliability:** To help maintain and improve the reliability of systems that deliver energy products and other hazardous materials.

**Global Connectivity:** To harmonize and standardize the requirements for pipeline and hazardous materials transportation internationally, to facilitate efficient and safe transportation through ports of entry and through the supply chain.

**Preparedness and Response:** To reduce the consequences (harm to people, environment, and economy) after a pipeline or hazmat failure has occurred.

## Role/Responsibility

During a response, under the National Contingency Plan (NCP) for oil and hazardous materials, under the Stafford Act for presidentially declared disasters or emergency, or under the National Response Framework, DOT/PHSMA plays a significant role in the federal response. Their primary strategic role of DOT/PHSMA is to provide expertise on all modes of transporting oil and hazardous materials, including information on the requirements for packaging, handling, and transporting regulated hazardous materials. DOT/PHSMA also issues Special Permits to facilitate movement of hazardous materials, hazardous waste, and hazardous debris in support of response and recovery efforts.



## Laws/Authorities Governing their Response (to be reviewed)

- The National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)
- The Oil Pollution Act of 1990
- National Response Framework (NRF)
- The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act,
- Executive Order 12148 — Federal Emergency Management
- Executive Order 12656 — Assignment Of Emergency Preparedness Responsibilities
- Executive Order 12777 - Outlines the responsibilities of certain Federal agencies in preventing and containing discharges of oil and hazardous substances
- The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
- The Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act
- Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies Act
- The Defense Production Act of 1950 as Amended
- The National Emergencies Act
- HSPD-5 - Management of Domestic Incidents
- HSPD-7 - Critical Infrastructure
- HSPD-8 - National Preparedness
- HSPD-9 - Defense of United States Agriculture and Food

ESF #	Primary Agency	Support Agency
1 Transportation	X	
2 Communications		
3 Public Works & Engineering		X
4 Firefighting		
5 Emergency Management		X
6 Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing, and Human Services		X
7 Logistics Management and Resource Support		X
8 Public Health and Medical Services		X
9 Search and Rescue		
10 Oil and Hazardous Materials Response		X
11 Agriculture and Natural Resources		X
12 Energy		X
13 Public Safety and Security		
14 Long-Term Community Recovery		X
15 External Affairs		X

## Response Requirements

During times of national threat or a Presidential Declaration, the Department of Homeland Security serves as the planning integrator for the President for a more robust federal incident management capability and in order to coordinate all Federal incident Management Activities in support of our State and local partners. All Federal departments and agencies may play significant roles in incident management and response activities, depending on the nature and size of an event. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) coordinates response support from across the Federal Government and certain non-governmental organizations (NGOs) by calling up, as needed, one or more of the 15 ESFs.

Each of these functions are coordinated by a single agency (Primary ESF Coordinating Agency) but may rely on other agencies (Support Agencies) to provide resources for each functional area. The mission of the ESFs is to provide the greatest possible access to capabilities of the Federal Government regardless of which agency has those capabilities. Under the National Response Framework (formerly known as the National Response Plan), the DOT and its member divisions and services play a role (either as the Primary or as a Support agency) for the following ESFs: