

OKANOGAN COUNTY
Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 12
ENERGY & UTILITIES

RESPONSIBILITY SUMMARY:

Primary Response

Public and Private Energy and Utility Providers
Okanogan County Department of Emergency Management
Elected Officials
Public Works Departments

Supporting

Okanogan County Public Information Officer
Public Works Departments
US Army Corps of Engineers

Plan Preparation & Maintenance

Okanogan County Department of Emergency Management

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose

To provide for effective use of available electric power and water resources, telecommunications, propane, and petroleum products required to meet essential needs, and to facilitate restoration of energy and utility systems affected by an emergency or disaster. Okanogan County includes public utilities in their coordination of damage assessments, operational capabilities, and restoration actions.

B. Scope

The term 'energy/utility' includes producing, refining, transporting, generating, transmitting, conserving, building, distributing, and maintaining energy/utility systems and system components.

1. Assessments of current energy/utility capabilities, capacities, and reserves within Okanogan County.
2. This ESF collects, evaluates, and shares information on energy/utility system damages and estimates on the impact of energy/utility system outages within the affected areas.

3. It also provides information concerning the energy/utility restoration process; such as projected schedules, percent of completion of restoration, geographic information on the restoration and other information as appropriate. This ESF applies to all emergencies considered in the Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Analysis (HIVA) and the Multi-Hazards Mitigation Plan which are supporting documents to the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP).

II. POLICIES

- A. Restoration of normal operations at energy facilities is the responsibility of the facility owners, managers and operators. Local government support while desired may be limited.
- B. All energy/utility providers, whether publicly or privately owned, should be prepared to respond to energy related needs resulting from an emergency or disaster. Many utilities work under an agreement which may mandate Emergency and Preparedness Plans.
- C. This ESF addresses significant disruptions in energy/utility supplies for all hazards; whether caused by physical disruption of energy transmission and distribution systems, unexpected operational failure of such systems, planned interruptions, or unusual economic or international political events.
 - a. Damage to one of Okanogan County's energy systems may have an impact on energy/utility supplies, systems, and components in other districts relying on the same system. Consequently, energy/utility supply and transportation problems can be within Okanogan County, intrastate, interstate, and international.

III. SITUATION

- A. **Emergency/Disaster Conditions and Hazards**

Emergencies, both natural and man made can have profound effects on the public and privately owned utilities in Okanogan County. The ability to quickly restore damaged water, power, telephone and sewer systems is essential to maximizing the life, safety, health, and minimizing the economic impact of a disaster. Reference the HIVA and MHMP, supporting document to the CEMP.

B. Planning Assumptions

1. Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) for emergencies may be established by each operator of a public utility in Okanogan County.
2. Widespread and possibly prolonged energy/utility failures could result in impacts that could affect transportation, media, telecommunications, and other lifeline infrastructures which would affect the public health and safety of the citizens in Okanogan County.
3. During and after emergencies, public utilities will operate within their authorized service areas and according to their respective charters. Should these utilities be unable to supply Okanogan County with their service the EOC will request additional support from the State EMD.
4. Delays in the delivery of petroleum-based products may occur as a result of damaged storage supplies or transportation infrastructure and/or loss of commercial electrical power.

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**A. General**

The occurrence of a major disaster could destroy or disrupt all or portions of the County's energy and utility systems.

1. Types of utilities and commercial vendors providing services in Okanogan County are electric, water, sewer, petroleum products, and commercial communications.
2. Responding to energy/utility shortages or disruptions and their effects is necessary for the preservation of public life, safety, health, and general welfare of Okanogan County citizens.
3. The EOC will collect information on damaged utility and energy resources and for identifying requirements to repair those systems.
4. While restoration of normal operations at energy/utility facilities is the primary responsibility of the owners of those facilities, this ESF provides the appropriate supplemental assistance and resources to enable restoration in a timely manner when requested.

B. Organization**1. Emergency Management**

The Emergency Management program serves, Okanogan County and the incorporated municipalities of Omak, Okanogan, Oroville, Brewster, Pateros, Conconully, Nespelem, Elmer City, Coulee Dam, Riverside, Twisp and Winthrop. Operations are under the direction of the Emergency Management Director.

2. Electricity

The county area and municipalities is served by the Okanogan County Public Utility District (PUD), Nespelem Coop, and Okanogan County Electric Coop and relies on the trained and experienced personnel of these organizations to have the capability to provide power even under the most extreme conditions.

3. Water/Sewer

Water supply and sewer systems within the county and municipalities are both publicly and privately owned systems which are organized at municipal and district levels. Municipalities operate their own water treatment, distribution and sewage disposal facilities. The primary systems serving the rural County area are private septic systems, with the exception of associations or owners which have developed their own sewer disposal systems.

4. Petroleum Products

Home heating oil and Liquid Propane Gas service in Okanogan County is provided by local vendors and is individually delivered to their specific customers.

5. Commercial Communications

Communication services are provided by multiple vendors whose commercial toll lines, cellular, and satellite systems provide service within Okanogan County.

C. Procedures

1. The energy and utility systems will continue to provide services through their established service area and operate within their COOP.
2. Energy and utility information should be furnished to local emergency government officials to inform the local public on the safe use of services.

3. Energy and utility companies should compile preliminary damage assessment reports and transmit them to the EOC as needed or upon request. The EOC will collect, evaluate and report conditions to public safety and other impacted agencies and organizations.

4. Energy and utility companies should provide representation to the EOC as required.

D. Preparedness Activities

1. All public utilities will maintain emergency call lists, operating procedures, and emergency resources; will update them as needed.
2. Okanogan County DEM in coordination with the utilities will develop guidelines for priority use of public utility resources where there may be insufficient supplies to meet essential needs. As well as coordinate with the Public Information Officer in the preparation of news releases to inform the public of conservation and safety measures.
3. Participate in energy emergency exercises with the energy industry and local governments when conducted by others to test written plans and to prepare for energy emergencies.
4. Participate in hazard mitigation studies to reduce the adverse effects of future disaster.

F. Response Activities

1. All water and energy utilities will be contacted by the EOC staff to collect current preliminary damage assessment information.
2. Utilities will coordinate the mobilization of personnel and equipment required for emergency repair of facilities and assist with conducting damage assessment operations and reporting these assessments to the EOC.
3. DEM will activate the EOC, notify the State EMD and identify energy/utility resources which are in short supply and are necessary for the life, safety, and health of the population. DEM will coordinate information with local point of contacts from affected utilities and their PIO's to develop emergency public information.

4. An Energy/Utility Liaison will be established to work in the EOC and will be responsible for the coordination of energy resources, if required.
5. Utilities will be requested to provide the EOC with a single point of contact for emergency operations and conducting operations in accordance with internal procedures for emergency operations and disaster response.

G. Recovery Activities

1. The EOC will coordinate with State and Federal agencies for supplemental energy resources, including electricity, water, natural gas, petroleum products, etc.
2. The EOC will assist in compiling damage assessment reports and act upon request for State and Federal Assistance as needed.
3. The Utility Liaison should coordinate with the EOC and local governments to determine priorities among users if adequate utility supply is not available to meet all essential needs. As well as coordinate supporting resources for utility restoration and repair to meet essential needs.
4. The EOC will coordinate and conduct a post-disaster situation analysis to review and determine the effectiveness of the pre-established tasks, responsibilities, reporting procedures and formats to document any crucial lessons-learned, and to make revisions to plans as needed for future events.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Primary and Support Agencies

1. Maintain liaison with local utilities and provide 24-hour emergency contact information to include critical personnel, emergency chain of command, and notification procedures.
2. Provide accurate and timely emergency public information coordinated through the EOC.
3. Document all emergency related energy or utility expenditures, obligations, and situation reports for State and Federal government assistance to aid Okanogan County's recovery process.

B. Primary Agency

1. DEM will appoint an Operations Coordinator in the EOC to coordinate the evaluation, allocation, and restoration of energy resources. The Operations Coordinator will advise DEM on the utilization of available resources.
2. EOC staff will identify the needs, appropriate responses, and facilitate interactions between different utilities during an emergency. Direction and control of the operational capabilities for the utilities will reside with the respective Directors or Managers of the utility companies.
3. EOC staff will assist with the coordination of permit issuance for utilities to do work on county and city roadways, coordinate the inspection of public utility services installed in road right-of-way, and for transport of overweight equipment and loads during emergencies.

C. Support Agencies

1. **Municipal Utility Directors will:**
 - a. Follow the WAC 194-22 for State Curtailment Plan for Electric Energy.
 - b. Provide the EOC with accurate and timely information regarding their department's location and extent of outage or disruptions, capabilities and availability of staff, equipment and materials for restoration.
 - c. Provide a representative to the EOC if available.
 - d. Ensure compliance with the state statutes and local codes through inspection, review of design, construction management, and issuing of required permits.
 - e. Deploy available resources to support emergency repair, reconstruction, and restoration of services.
 - f. Coordinate out-of-area private and public energy assistance.

2. The US Army Corps of Engineers will act as needed in response to flooding under Public Law 84-99. The Corps will also provide support to state and local engineering efforts if a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration is in effect and if FEMA has issued a mission assignment to the Corps.

VI. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

Each support agency has a general purpose, specialized equipment, and resources that may be useful in emergency conditions; inventories of these resources will not be maintained as part of this plan, but will be maintained as part of the Operations Coordinator's working references in the EOC.

VII. REFERENCES

See Appendix 2 of the Basic CEMP