

PETER SHUMLIN
Governor



State of Vermont
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

To all State Agencies and Departments:

The 2013 Vermont State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) provides the framework for State level preparedness, response and recovery. It is the operational side of the Comprehensive State Emergency Management Plan, which represents many other individual and specific plans. The SEOP provides the mechanism for the notification, coordination and deployment of state and federal resources, if necessary to assist local jurisdictions in responding to and recovering from disasters, no matter what the cause. The SEOP is formulated to utilize all available federal, state, private sector and volunteer agency resources in responding or supporting the response to a disaster.

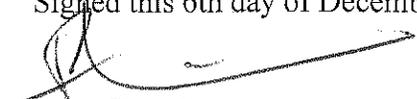
The revised SEOP significantly builds on the "lessons learned" from response, response support and recovery experienced and documented related to Tropical Storm Irene. It is the intent of this revision that we truly have lessons learned which are documented and implemented and not just lessons observed. Additional workshops, exercises and actual incidents have also contributed to this update. Further, participating agencies and organizations have been provided the opportunity to review and revise the annexes of the plan that refer to their assignments. The plan was amended based on those recommendations and now stands as the 2013 Vermont State Emergency Operations Plan. This Plan shall be in effect for five years unless otherwise amended, and can be accessed at the following website:
http://vem.vermont.gov/local_state_plans/eop

Each State Agency and Department, private sector and volunteer organization described within the plan, partner and participate in preparedness, prevention, protection, response, recovery and mitigation activities. As part of the plan, they have an obligation to provide the services that save lives and protect property and the environment during an emergency or disaster.

Assignments within the plan are based upon functional capabilities and/or statutory responsibilities of the organizations. To make the plan viable, participants must be prepared to carry out their assignments when called upon during an emergency and sustain that effort during the subsequent recovery.

I hereby direct that all State Agencies and Departments having defined roles and responsibilities in this document, develop and maintain procedures to ensure emergency preparedness and the capacity to provide response and recovery support to the people of Vermont. To that end, each State Agency and Department shall provide a minimum of three qualified representatives to act in coordination with the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland (DEMHS) and the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in the delivery of their respective services in the time of emergency or disaster.

Signed this 6th day of December, 2013.


Peter Shumlin
Governor