

**AGENCY ANNEX G1
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

I. MISSION

To preserve, enhance, restore, and conserve Vermont's natural resources, and protect human health, for the benefits of this and future generations.

II. AUTHORITY

3 VSA 2873
10 VSA 901-911
10 VSA Chapter 41, Subchapter 2, Alteration of Streams
10 VSA Chapter 47
10 VSA Chapter 56
10 VSA Chapter 61
18 VSA 1218
18 VSA 1282

III. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

State agency and department heads and their staffs develop, plan and train to internal policies and procedures to meet preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery needs as identified in this plan including annexes, appendices, tabs and other supporting documents including the State Hazard Mitigation Plan. Training includes not only what may be accomplished within the agency but multi-level, interagency training and exercises to develop and maintain necessary capabilities.

The Department of Environmental Conservation is the arm of State government concerned with protecting, regulating, and controlling the lands and waters of the State of Vermont to protect the public health and the environment. Headed by a Commissioner appointed by the Secretary of Natural Resources, the Department has seven Divisions, including six which have emergency response assignments: Water Supply; Water Quality; Wastewater Management; Waste Management; Facilities Engineering and Air Quality. The Directors of these divisions report to the Commissioner in emergencies.

Under emergency conditions, the responding Divisions will assist as follows:

A. Water Supply Division

The Water Supply Division protects the public health by assuring safe drinking water and by managing the water resources, which supply that water.

In an emergency or disaster situation, the Division will provide expertise in damage assessment; coordinate with local, state and federal units of government as required; and will assist in the continuing operation of, or any necessary repair to, public water systems. The Division will communicate with municipal officials and advise them of appropriate actions.

The Division will coordinate with Vermont Health Department and Public Water

Systems to sample affected water systems for potential contamination, monitor identified problems and make public notice regarding restrictions placed on the use and drinking of water.

B. Water Quality Division

The Water Quality Division is primarily involved with the quality of the water in rivers, streams, lakes and ponds; stream alterations; and conditions affecting the watersheds of Vermont.

Historically, the greatest natural disasters to occur within the State of Vermont have been the result of flooding. The Division has a primary response role of providing expertise and coordination with local, state and federal units of government in those matters involving the water resources of the State in emergency or disaster situations. The Division also assists in damage assessment.

The Division may be able to model time-of-travel for disaster-related water quality problems in order to advise public health and emergency response personnel of downstream threats.

C. Wastewater Management Division

The Wastewater Management Division is involved with the operation of municipal wastewater treatment facilities.

In an emergency or disaster situation, the Division will provide expertise in damage assessment; coordination with local, State and Federal units of government as required; and will assist in the continuing operation of, or any necessary repairs to, municipal waste-water treatment facilities. Wastewater Management advises the other departments of major Wastewater facility disruptions and coordinates with them when appropriate.

The Director will assign divisional personnel, as necessary, to provide requisite support during a Presidentially Declared Major Disaster.

D. Waste Management Division

The Waste Management Division is primarily involved in regulating, controlling, managing and cleaning up spills of oil and hazardous materials. The Division serves as a liaison with the Environmental Protection Agency in the delivery of Superfund monies and the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund for use in Vermont. In an emergency, the Division advises and assists state and local officials on the handling and disposal of hazardous wastes.

E. Facilities Engineering Division

Agency Facilities is primarily involved with Agency owned facilities, including state parks and water control dams, fish culture facilities, and the safety of dams. Engineering personnel from the Division will respond and coordinate with the

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Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation and with the Department of Fish and Wildlife on damage assessment and reconstruction of Agency facilities as required.

The Division will serve as the primary source of Agency personnel involving Damage Survey Reports and Final Inspection Reports as a result of a Presidentially Declared Major Disaster under the provisions of Public Law 100 - 707.

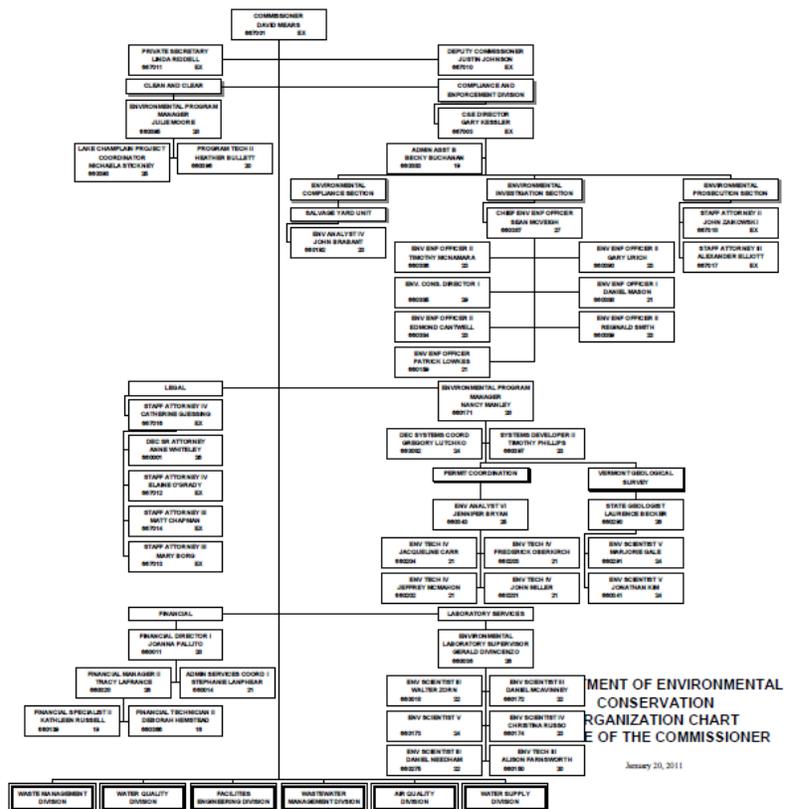
F. Air Quality Division

The Air Quality Division is available for advice on management of toxic releases to the air. The Division may be able to supply modeling expertise on plume travel in the event of radiological or man-made releases.

The situation and assumptions in section ii of the Base plan also apply.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following chart outlines the emergency response organization of the Department:



The Department is a support agency for State Support Function #1 (Transportation), #3 (Public Works and Engineering), #5 (Emergency Management, Recovery, and Mitigation), #8 (Health and Medical Services), #10 (Hazardous Materials), #11 (Natural Resources and Agriculture), and #14 (Public Information) and assumes the responsibilities as outlined in those annexes. The Department is also a participating agency in the Recovery and Restoration Multi-Agency Coordination Group as designated in the Disaster Recovery and Restoration Annex.

V. IMPLEMENTATION

This Annex will be implemented with the assigned responsibilities by means of direct coordination from the Commissioner, Department of Public Safety or Director, VEM with the Commissioner and/or upon the order of the Governor within the framework of the State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP).

VI. ADMINISTRATION

The Commissioner is responsible for the overall emergency response of the Department.

VII. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

In accordance with the provisions of title 20, “agency heads will in addition to any deputy authorized pursuant to law, designate by title three emergency interim successors and specify their order of succession. These designations shall, each year, be reviewed and revised, as necessary, to ensure their current status.”

Line of succession for the Agency is as follows: