

**AGENCY ANNEX M
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE**

I. MISSION

To fulfill statutory obligations relating to public service corporations, firms and individuals engaged in such business.

II. AUTHORITY

Title 3 VSA - Section 212
Title 30 VSA

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.

Emergency or disaster situations within Vermont have the potential of incapacitating the delivery of utility services such as electric power, natural and propane gas and other energy resources, water and telecommunications. Emergency or disaster situations can also affect the supplies of non-utility petroleum fuels such as gasoline, diesel fuel, heating oil, and propane.

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

IV. ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Department of Public Service is one of two¹ divisions of Vermont State government responsible for the regulation and supervision of companies engaged in: electricity generation, transmission, distribution and sale; natural gas transmission, distribution and sale; telecommunications provisioning and sales of facilities-based wire-line services; cable television provisioning and sale; and the financial aspects of privately-owned water companies. The Department is headed by a Commissioner, who is appointed by the Governor.

The Department will assist in the response and recovery of utility companies as provided in the annexes for State Support Functions 2 and 12 included as part of the Vermont State Emergency Operations Plan.

The Department has the capability of providing support engineering personnel to assist in reviewing incident reports involving electric, gas, and telecommunications utilities.

The Department's Electric Engineer is responsible for reviewing electric utility infrastructure projects, and staffs the State Emergency Operations Center during emergencies.

¹ The other division of State government involved in the regulation of public service companies is the Public Service Board, which is not involved in Emergency Management activities.

**STATE OF VERMONT EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN
2013**

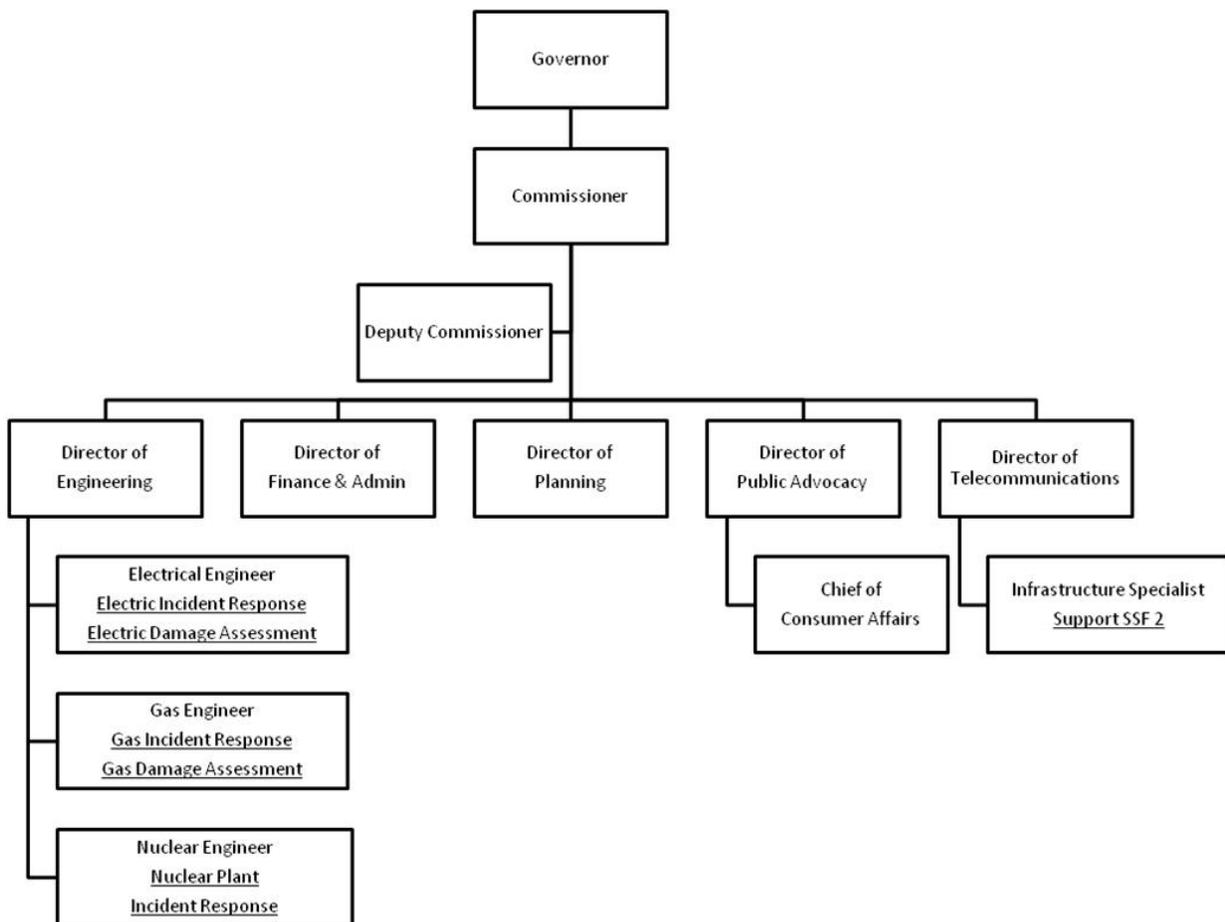
The Department's Gas Engineer is responsible for assessing the gas utility's emergency procedures and response performance for any gas leak events.

The Department's Nuclear Engineer examines the operation of Vermont Yankee and the effects of proposed actions and plant shutdowns upon the safety of plant personnel and, in conjunction with the Vermont Department of Health, the safety of the surrounding population.

The Department's Telecommunications Infrastructure Specialist provides support to State Support Function 2 (Telecommunications), as needed, with respect to the status of telecommunications infrastructure.

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

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE -EMERGENCY RESPONSE



The Department is the lead agency for State Support Function #12 (Energy) and is a support agency for State Support Function #2 (Communications), #5 (Emergency Management, Recovery & Mitigation), and State Support Function #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, DEMHS 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 day-to-day operation of the Department of Public Service is as follows:

Deputy Commissioner
Director of Engineering
Director for Public Advocacy
Director of Telecommunications

Line of succession for staffing the SEOC is as follows:

William Jordan
Allan St.Peter
Sean Foley
Evan Shearer.