

REP QUARTERLY

Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Quarterly Newsletter

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Message From the Indiana State REP Coordinator

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Hopefully, everyone is still on track with their recent new year's resolutions! One of the things we should also focus on this year is safety in the nuclear world and making a continuous stride in protecting the public from a radiological emergency. I recently attended the Women in Nuclear Radiological and Emergency Response Initiative launch event in February 2022. This global initiative will focus on protecting people's health and property during a radiological emergency with the continuation of planning and preparation. This initiative not only concentrates on the safety but also the security of nuclear energy and its assets.

During the second half of 2021, I spent several days in Illinois training for the Ingestion Pathways Exposure Exercise for LaSalle Powerplant.

Upcoming Webinars

AWR 328: All Hazards Preparedness for Animals in Disasters

- [April 5](#)

MGT 448: All Hazards Planning for Animal, Agricultural, and Food Related Disasters



This series of trainings took place on four different dates spanning from August to November in various weather events. While this powerplant would not affect Indiana directly in a core meltdown, two others in Illinois would; Braidwood and Dresden Powerplants. During

- [April 12](#)

If you're interested in taking a REP Core Concepts class **June 20-24** please reach out to Courtney Eckstein at ceckstein@dhs.in.gov

RapResponder Nationwide Drill:

- May 23- 25, 2022
- [Drill Execution and Closing Webinar](#) (drill is open from May 23 - 25, with the Closing Webinar taking place on May 25)
- **Pre-Drill Webinar** - May 19, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. ET

Optional Communications Check - May 20, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. PM ET: Register [here](#)

REP Resources

[REP Program Information](#)

[REP Manual](#)

[IAEA Nuclear Security e-Learning Modules](#)

[NUREG 0654](#)

Support Ending for RadResponder, ChemResponder Mobile Applications



these trainings, we reviewed air, water, soil, fish and milk sampling, both tabletop and practice, and tested them in the labs. This proved helpful since weather can play a significant factor during a nuclear powerplant event. We trained with federal teams such as FEMA, FRMAC, A-Team and numerous state agencies to increase teamwork and collaboration during an event. We also had several days of federal outreach training and how the process should work if we need federal assistance, including resources provided to state and local EMAs and estimated times it would take to receive said resources.

I look forward to bringing more updates from this initiative and applying the information that I learn to our trainings and planning in Indiana, and using this information while updating our REP plans to match the new FEMA standard by the end of 2022.

Courtney Eckstein, MPH

SMRs: Small but Mighty and Spreading Throughout the World



Advanced Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) are the nuclear power of the future. SMRs are nuclear reactors that produce about one-third of the energy of

traditional nuclear reactors. These smaller reactors are popping up worldwide, including Russia, South Korea, China and the United States. The first SMR model was approved in the United States in late 2020, and it has been full steam ahead with beginning construction on them since. NuScale is the main driving force behind building these reactors in the US, in states such as Idaho and Utah. Although SMRs will not be producing energy until the late 2020s or early 2030s, the Department of Energy is excited to bring a new form of safe, clean and reliable energy sources to the United States. [Read more here.](#)

Nuclear Powerplants in Extreme Events

The CBRNResponder mobile application will replace the separate RadResponder and ChemResponder mobile applications in August 2022. However, their separate websites will remain. The CBRNResponder Team recommends users download the CBRNResponder application now to begin your organization's transition.

Questions may be sent to support@cbrnresponder.net.

IDHS Radiation Equipment Notice

IDHS is still developing a plan to have all IDHS radiation equipment calibrated and repaired in accordance with manufacturer standards.

Agencies in need of equipment calibration or repair should email hazmat@dhs.in.gov for more information.



Continuing the series on how nuclear powerplants function in extreme events, this quarter, we will be talking about an event we have become all too familiar with: COVID-19. The ultimate test of resilience. As we all went into quarantine and work from home became the new normal, nuclear powerplants continued operating without fault. However, with no cuts to standard safety guidelines, some regular maintenances were postponed. The Director of the IAEA's Division of Nuclear Power stated, "it remains to be seen how much of an impact these pandemic-related disruptions will have on the industry." Still, there is optimism that the current stability trend will continue. Some countries like Brazil, India, South Korea and the United Kingdom increased the demand for nuclear power during the pandemic as coal plants had to be closed for safety and health concerns.

Read more [here](#).

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