

BAXTER COUNTY
RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION
ANNEX I

In our modern society, the constantly increasing manufacture, transportation, use, and storage of radioactive materials in various forms and shapes for military, government, and private purposes presents the always-existing possibility of a radiological accident. As a consequence, human exposure to high levels of ionizing radiation is possible. This includes:

- A. An accident involving a truck, train, plane, or boat that is transporting radioactive material.
- B. An explosion or fire at a site using radioactive material for military, industrial, commercial, or medical purposes.
- C. A loss or spread of nuclear material because of some secondary effect such as a theft, flood, tornado, earthquake, sabotage, misuse, etc.
- D. Radiation exposure as the result of a nuclear weapon accident, a terrorist directed nuclear strike, or the most devastating scenario of all, a major disaster involving radioactive materials.

Response to these types of emergencies requires specialized training and equipment. Training and equipment that are not usually found in local emergency response organizations.

It is imperative that “first responders” follow their procedures for responding to a “hazardous materials” event and IAW Emergency Response Guides. When the event is related to radioactive material and trained, equipped personnel are not available the concept of “secure, isolate, and notify” (SIN) should be employed:

- A. Secure: The area involved in the incident must be secured. This will ensure contamination of personnel and equipment is minimized.
- B. Isolate: The guidance in Emergency Response Guides should be followed to protect both the general public and emergency response personnel.
- C. Notify: Immediate notification to the appropriate emergency management organizations and the Arkansas Department of Health, Radiation Control Authority, is paramount. This will expedite the arrival of trained radiation response teams, decontamination teams, and the clean up of contamination. Notification of the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) can be made through the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management or directly to the ADH Emergency Communications Center:

1-800-633-1735

1-800-554-5738

1-800-661-2136