## 2023 Statewide Medical and Health Exercise

# Chemical Fire with Burn & Pediatric Surge Scenario

# Environmental Health Objectives

**How To Use This Document:** *The purpose of this document is to provide sample objectives and capabilities for exercise planners to select from in designing their Statewide Medical and Health Exercise (SWMHE). These capabilities and their supporting objectives were identified based on the Multi-Year Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP) (formerly MYTEP) developed by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). To access this document, visit* <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/EPO/Pages/swmhe.aspx>

*To use this document, insert your agency/organization’s name in the bracketed text in the header that reads “Insert Name of Agency/Organization Here.” Review the suggested capabilities and objectives and* ***consider them as options to create an Exercise Plan that is customized to the unique characteristics of your organization******and community****. Select and modify objectives as needed. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA),* ***ten or fewer objectives are recommended for a functional exercise****.*

## Applicable Capabilities

| **Type** | **Capability** | **Capability Goal** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| PHEP | Emergency Operations Coordination | Ability to coordinate with emergency management and to direct and support an incident or event with public health or health care implications by establishing a standardized, scalable system of oversight, organization, and supervision that is consistent with jurisdictional standards and practices and the National Incident Management System (NIMS). |
| PHEP | Emergency Public Information and Warning | Ability to develop, coordinate, and disseminate information, alerts, warnings, and notifications to the public and incident management personnel. |
| PHEP | Responder Safety and Health | Ability to protect public health and other emergency responders during pre-deployment, deployment, and post-deployment. |

# Proposed Objectives

## Objective One

Evaluate the ability to activate Environmental Health emergency operations based on analyzed information.

*PHEP Capability 3: Emergency Operations Coordination*

Sample Task(s):

* Gather situational awareness information utilizing and coordinating with the Medical and Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) Program
* Establish an emergency management structure based on received information and anticipated mission areas, e.g. establish an Environmental Health Department Operations Center (DOC) **OR** an Environmental Health position within the Public Health DOC
* Coordinate with the Joint Information Center (JIC) and test ability to integrate field information systems for data collection, mapping, tracking and other.
* Potential Scenario Based Mission Areas:
  + Exposure Mitigation and Decontamination:
    - First Responders
    - Patients
  + Housing/Building
  + Debris management
  + Water Runoff management (storm drains, drinking water sources, etc.)
  + Hazardous materials (sampling/ identification, assess aerial dispersion, environmental decontamination, disposal)

## Objective Two

Evaluate the ability to implement a jurisdiction-wide Environmental Health response strategy.

*PHEP Capability 3: Emergency Operations Coordination*

Sample Task(s):

* Identify potential impacts of the incident on Environmental Health in the jurisdiction
* Develop an initial incident response strategy
* Activate Environmental Health response plan (as applicable)
* Develop an Incident Action Plan (IAP) for Environmental Health objectives for the operational period, and conduct associated IAP meetings
* Activate staff call down procedures
* Develop a staffing plan for first operational period; consider the need for alternate work locations
* Review existing Environmental Health mutual aid / resource requesting coordination procedures with the MHOAC

## Objective Three

Evaluate processes utilized to communicate with the public and regulated community regarding impacts and resiliency activities. *PHEP Capability 4: Emergency Public Information and Warning*

Sample Tasks:

* Identify Environmental Health messaging needs related to the event.
* Coordinate with Public Health to incorporate Environmental Health messaging into Joint Information Center (JIC) / Joint Information Systems (JIS) operations
* Coordinate with Health Officer to issue and rescind “Area-wide” unsafe water/area notices as applicable
* Prepare guidance for dissemination to impacted private well owners
* Prepare guidance for dissemination to affected food facilities
* Test notification / dissemination strategies for the above during an event
* Ensure that communications reflect equity concerns for the LHJ. Determine additional communication needs for vulnerable populations including children, elderly, non-English speakers, in-patient healthcare facilities in the vicinity that may be impacted

## Objective Four

Evaluate health and safety plans and processes for Environmental Health responders as part of incident response and recovery planning. *PHEP Capability 14: Responder Safety and Health*

Sample Task(s):

* Determine appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) level for responders
* Develop incident-specific health and safety plans for Environmental Health responders
* Assess the need for go-bags for Environmental Health responders
* Provide just-in-time training to Environmental Health responders (Please see Resources Tab)
* Coordinate with the MHOAC and local responding agencies to determine the need for Behavioral Health services for Environmental Health responders