



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & PUBLIC PROTECTION
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY



TO: State Agency Commissioners and State Agency Heads
FROM: William P. Shea, Deputy Commissioner
DATE: April 9, 2014
RE: 2014 Statewide EPPI Hurricane Exercise and State Agency COOP

I would like to thank you and your staff for attending the State Agency Head briefing on the Governor's 2014 Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative (EPPI), held on February 7, 2014 at the Governor William A. O'Neill Armory. This memorandum is intended to provide you with more information on state agency roles in meeting the Governor's directive.

This year's EPPI exercise will focus on a statewide response to a hurricane with an emphasis on Functional Needs and Mass Care. The Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) will request appropriate state agencies to participate in the exercise scenario, assigned Task Forces, and /or the Governor's Unified Command. This year's exercise is scheduled for Saturday June 21, 2014 and Monday, June 23, 2014.

As part of this year's EPPI, each state agency is expected to participate in the annual Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) exercise conducted by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) on June 23, 2014. This participation includes convening your Incident Management Team or agency Unified Command, logging into WebEOC, and reporting absences. DAS will be sending out more information on this.

In addition, as part of the Governor's EPPI, state agencies with a role outlined in the State Response Framework will be expected to develop an All Hazards COOP. DEMHS and DAS are working on a template that will be sent to these agencies shortly and training sessions will also be scheduled to assist in the writing of the All Hazards COOP. The template is based on FEMA guidance and elements of the Pandemic COOP that agencies already have in place. The due date for this new plan is September 1, 2014. The June 23rd exercise date can be used as an opportunity to review your existing Pandemic COOP plan to help in the development of your agency's All Hazards COOP. We may also be asking for agency input on an emergency management specific Continuity of Operations Plan. As you know, the State of Connecticut is working to achieve accreditation of its emergency management system and this COOP will help to achieve the accreditation goal.

Identification of your participants in the COOP and/or statewide exercise, and submission of After- Action comments, will allow your agency to receive exercise credit towards the requirements identified in the State Agency Training and Exercise Plan (SATEP).

This memorandum along with supporting products and exercise update messages will be posted on the DESPP/DEMHS website at <http://www.ct.gov/demhs>. If you have any questions or if you require any additional information regarding the Governor's EPPI, please contact us at DEMHS via e-mail at demhs.eppi.questions@ct.gov

Mitigation/prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery are critical essential functions of State government. Your role in the State's Emergency Management Program and your participation in EPPI will contribute to the State of Connecticut achieving accreditation under the Emergency Management Accreditation Program. Thank you for your commitment to this work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William P. Shea", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William P. Shea
Deputy Commissioner
Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection
Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security