

Emergency Planning and Response



Q:

How will public safety officials be prepared for an emergency involving a shipment of spent nuclear fuel or high-level radioactive waste?

In an emergency, state, tribal, and local governments are responsible for the safety of their residents and responding to accidents in their jurisdictions.

In accordance with Section 180(c) of the NWPA, DOE will provide technical and financial assistance to states and tribes for training public safety officials in procedures for safe, routine transportation and emergency response situations. DOE will apply the experience derived from existing emergency preparedness programs within the DOE and other federal agencies. DOE will also support exercise programs to test and validate state, tribal, and local officials' transportation emergency response plans.



Emergency responders across the country participate in realistic training and practice exercises to prepare themselves for an emergency involving a radioactive waste shipment.