

## Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

The following pre-scripted messages for an explosive radiological dispersal device (RDD) were prepared by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Radiation Management Program and Department of Health Services Psychological Programs for Bioterrorism.

### **DRAFT Public Information Statement No. 1**

This message can be used immediately after the explosion, as soon as the fire department arrives and detects radiation.

There has been an explosion at \_\_\_\_\_. Fire and police personnel are on the scene. There may have been some radioactive material released during the explosion. The public should stay away to facilitate response efforts and reduce the possibility of radiation exposure from this incident. We are requesting that the public avoid using telephones, including cell phones, to ensure lines are available for emergency responders.

We will be providing an update on this issue in 1 hour, or sooner if additional information becomes available.

### **DRAFT Public Information Statement No. 2**

This message can be used when additional information becomes available.

There has been an explosion at \_\_\_\_\_. Fire, police, and health department personnel are on the scene. This was an explosive device where radioactive material was added to the explosives. This was NOT a nuclear bomb. The highest levels of radioactive contamination are within the immediate vicinity of the explosion, but we will be determining if the radiation has traveled from the site of the explosion. The public should stay away to facilitate response efforts, and to reduce the possibility of radiation exposure from this incident.

Although we do not have evidence that radioactive material has spread beyond the immediate vicinity of the explosion, there is a possibility that the wind carried smaller amounts away from the site of the explosion. As a precautionary measure, the public is advised to stay indoors for their personal safety. If you are located (north, south, west, east) of \_\_\_\_\_, and within \_\_\_\_\_ miles of the explosion, you should close the doors and windows and turn off fans that bring in air from the outside. In-room fans that only recirculate air are OK to use. Air conditioning systems do not bring in air from the outside, and may be operated.

To minimize your risk of radioactive contamination, those who were at the \_\_\_\_\_, (explosion site) or outdoors since \_\_\_\_\_ (time of the explosion) in the \_\_\_\_\_ area, are advised to change clothes and place the clothes you had been wearing in a plastic bag, which will likely reduce any contamination by about 80 to 90%. If possible, take a shower with warm, not hot, water, and gently wash your body and hair with ordinary soap and shampoo. Again, we recommend you stay indoors. If we determine that you would be safer in another location, we will advise you where to go. You should not go to a hospital unless you were injured in the explosion, or have another medical emergency requiring immediate treatment, such as a heart attack.

The water from your faucet is safe to drink or bathe in, as is the food in your house. The only food that potentially might not be safe is food that was outdoors since \_\_\_\_\_ (time) today, within a few miles of \_\_\_\_\_ (explosion site).

We are requesting that the public avoid using telephones, including cell phones, to ensure lines are available for emergency responders. We are also requesting that the media not fly over the scene so that airspace is available for emergency air responders, and to reduce air movement around the scene.

We will continue to monitor the area to establish the extent of radioactive contamination to ensure safety of the public. We will be providing an update on this issue in 1 hour, or sooner if additional information becomes available.

### **DRAFT Public Information Statement No. 3**

This message can be delivered some hours later.

There has been an explosion at \_\_\_\_\_(site of explosion). Fire, police, and health department personnel are on the scene. This was an explosive device where radioactive material was added to the explosives. This was NOT a nuclear bomb. The public should stay away to facilitate response efforts, and to reduce the possibility of radiation exposure from this incident.

Over the last hour we have determined that some radioactive material was carried \_\_\_\_ (north, south, west, east) of the explosion site by the wind. At this point, we don't know the extent to which the winds have carried the radioactive material, so we continue to advise the public to stay indoors for their personal safety. As a precaution, if you are located within 5 miles east of \_\_\_\_\_(explosion site), you should close the doors and windows and turn off fans that bring in air from the outside. In-room fans that only recirculate air are OK to use. Air conditioning systems do not bring in air from the outside, and may be operated. If you were at \_\_\_\_\_(explosion site) when there was an explosion but have left and are not yet home, you may either continue home and shower there, or go to (evacuation location(s)).

To minimize your risk of radioactive contamination, those who were outdoors since \_\_\_\_ (time of the explosion) and within \_\_\_\_ miles (north, south, west, east) of the \_\_\_\_ (location of the explosion) are advised to change clothes and place the clothes you had been wearing in a plastic bag, which will likely reduce any contamination by about 80 to 90%. If possible, take a shower with warm, not hot, water, and gently wash your body and hair with ordinary soap and shampoo. Again, we recommend you stay indoors. If we determine that you would be safer in another location, we will advise you where to go. You should not go to a hospital unless you were injured in the explosion, or have another medical emergency requiring immediate treatment, such as a heart attack. Right now, the safest place for you is indoors.

The water from your faucet is safe to drink or bathe in, as is the food in your house. The only food that potentially might not be safe is food that was outdoors since \_\_\_\_ (time) today.

We have received questions about using potassium iodide (KI) pills. KI is not useful for the form of radiation used in this explosion. Therefore, we do not advise the use of KI pills.

We are requesting that the public avoid using telephones, including cell phones, to ensure lines are available for emergency responders. We are also requesting that the media not fly over the scene so that airspace is available for emergency air responders, and to reduce air movement around the scene.

We will continue to monitor the area to establish the extent of radioactive contamination to ensure safety of the public. We will be providing an update on this issue in 1 hour, or sooner if additional information becomes available.

**DRAFT Public Information Statement No. 4**

This message can be delivered after the presence/spread of radioactive material has been confirmed, when you are recommending evacuation of designated areas. If evacuation is needed, it may not occur until the following day.

There was an explosion at \_\_\_\_\_(site of the explosion). Fire, police, and health department personnel are on the scene. This was an explosive device where radioactive material was added to the explosives. This was NOT a nuclear bomb. Although the highest levels of radioactive contamination are within the immediate vicinity of the explosion, radioactive materials were carried by the wind in a \_\_\_\_\_(northern, southern, western, eastern) direction from the site of the explosion. As a precaution, we are evacuating residents closer than \_\_\_\_\_ mile \_\_\_\_\_ (north, south, west, east) of the explosion site. That is, those within the area \_\_\_\_\_ (compass direction) of \_\_\_\_\_ Street, \_\_\_\_\_(compass direction) of \_\_\_\_\_street, \_\_\_\_\_(compass direction) of \_\_\_\_\_ Avenue. These residents may report to \_\_\_\_\_ (name the evacuation centers), where staff will be on site to determine if contamination is present, provide additional decontamination if needed. We have incorporated a significant safety factor and chosen an area larger than necessary. Therefore, ONLY the individuals within this designated area are advised to evacuate. If we determine that additional evacuations are advisable, you will be notified where to go.

As a precaution, if you are located within \_\_\_\_\_ miles \_\_\_\_\_(compass direction) of the \_\_\_\_\_(explosion site), you should continue to stay indoors, keep the doors windows closed and turn off fans that bring in air from the outside. In-room fans that only recirculate air are OK to use. Air conditioning systems do not bring in air from the outside, and may be operated.

Your water from the faucet is safe to drink or bathe in, as is the food in your house. The only food that potentially might not be safe is food that was outdoors since \_\_\_\_\_ (time) yesterday.

We have received questions about using potassium iodide (KI) pills. KI is not useful for the form of radiation used in this explosion. Therefore, we do not advise the use of KI pills.

(We may not need this paragraph by day two.) We are requesting the public avoid using telephones, including cell phones, to ensure lines are available for emergency responders. We are also requesting the media not fly over the scene so that airspace is available for emergency air responders, and to reduce air movement around the scene. We will continue to monitor the area to establish the extent of radioactive contamination to ensure safety of the public. We will be providing an update in 3 hours, or sooner if additional information becomes available.

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## Situational Statements

### **Statement 1: When there is a possibility of radiological exposure to the public.**

In the interest of public safety and law enforcement requirements, the area around the incident site is being monitored and a barrier (is being)/(has been) established around it. Radioactive material may have been released, so there is a possibility of radiation exposure in the restricted area. This area is also a crime scene. It is important that the movement of people into and out of the restricted area be strictly controlled. For the time being, only members of the emergency services, local, state, and federal response forces are being allowed inside the area. The public should stay away to reduce the possibility of radiation exposure from this incident and to facilitate response efforts. (NCRP No. 138)

### **Statement 2: When there is a possibility of radiation exposure to the public and sheltering/evacuation is recommended.**

In the interest of public safety and law enforcement requirements, the area around the incident site is being monitored and a barrier (is being)/(has been) established around it. Radioactive material may have been released, so there is a possibility of radiation exposure. This area is also a crime scene. The highest levels of contamination are expected to be there. However, radioactive material may have been carried downwind beyond the established perimeter of the restricted area. As a precaution, the public is advised to [take shelter in (location)]/[evacuate the following areas...]. We will continue to monitor the site to determine whether there could be (any risk)/(any further risk) to the public. It is important that the movement of people into and out of the restricted area is strictly controlled. Only members of the emergency services, local, state, and federal response forces are being allowed inside the area. The public should stay away to reduce the possibility of radiation exposure from this incident and to facilitate response efforts. (NCRP No. 138)

### **Statement 3: When radioactive release has been confirmed.**

A release of radioactive material has been detected. The highest levels of contamination are expected to be within the restricted area, which is also a crime scene. However, radioactive material may have been carried downwind beyond the perimeter of the restricted area. As a precaution, the public is advised to [take shelter in (location)]/[evacuate the following areas...]. We will continue to monitor the area to establish the extent of contamination and determine the risk to the public. It is important that the movement of people into and out of the cordoned area is strictly controlled. Only members of the emergency services, local, state, and federal response forces are being allowed inside the area. The public should stay away to reduce the possibility of radiation exposure from this incident and to facilitate response efforts. (NCRP No. 138)

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## General Statements

Local emergency response personnel will normally issue public safety statements advising precautions to be taken against potential exposure to radiological material. For cases in which the IC/UC has determined that there has been a release of significant amounts of radioactive materials, the following information should be released to persons in affected areas as soon as possible after the incident. Until the amount of radiological contamination is determined, the following precautionary measures are recommended to minimize risk to the public:

1. Remain inside and minimize opening doors and windows.
2. Children should not play outdoors.
3. Fruit and vegetables grown in the area should not be eaten.
4. Turn off fans, air conditioners, and forced air heating units that bring in fresh air from the outside. Use them only to recirculate air already in the building. The inhalation of radioactive material (plutonium, uranium) is not an immediate medical emergency.

Trained monitoring teams will be moving through the area wearing special protective clothing and equipment to determine the extent of possible radiological contamination. The dress of these teams should not be interpreted as indicating any special risk to those indoors. If you are outside, proceed to the nearest permanent structure. If you must go outside for critical or lifesaving activities, cover your nose and mouth and avoid stirring up and breathing any dust. It is important to remember that your movement outside could cause you greater exposure and possibly spread contamination to those already protected.

Local, state, and federal personnel are responding to the incident. In the interest of public safety and to assist emergency response teams, authorities request that individuals within the vicinity (define) stay inside, with doors and windows closed, unless advised to do otherwise by the police. Further statements will be made when there is more information. Please listen for announcements on local radio/television (name stations and frequencies). Check the Internet at (web site).

Key messages that public officials need to communicate to the public are listed below.

1. Radiation exposure can have short and long-term consequences to human health. Health effects depend on the radiation dose received and many other factors including length of time exposed, distance from the radiation source and protection such as shelter or clothing worn at the time of exposure. Therefore, an individual's health risk from radiation exposure from this incident may be uncertain.
2. Children exposed to radiation can be more at risk than adults.
3. Radiation exposure, like exposure to the sun, is cumulative.
4. Exposure to radiation may cause cancer in the long-term. Exposure to a very high dose of radiation can cause death in the short term.
5. If someone exposed to radiation from this incident eventually develops cancer, medical and scientific personnel will not be certain that this exposure caused the cancer.
6. There is no more effective or necessary screening for cancer than existing medical methods (mammograms, colon cancer tests, etc.). People potentially at risk of developing cancer in the future due to radiation exposure resulting from this incident should see their physicians for an annual physical.

Much is known about:

1. How to minimize human exposure to radiation
2. How to treat people exposed to radiation
3. How to decontaminate people exposed to radiation
4. How to decontaminate animals exposed to radiation
5. How to cleanup property contaminated with radioactive materials

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## Answers to Questions

Media and public will have numerous questions regarding the incident particularly related to radiation. Below are potential questions and suggested answers (adapted from NCRP 138). Note that the supplied answers are not technically accurate scientific answers to these questions but are simplified for ease of understanding for the public.

### Assistance

Q: What can volunteers do to assist?

A: We are grateful for volunteers. Although some citizens may have had radiation training and may have a radiation detector, many laws prevent volunteers from helping in areas with radiation contamination. Volunteers may help in other ways such as <insert available ways>.

Q: Where can volunteers go to assist?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

### Casualties

Q: How many deaths/injuries were there?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: What caused the deaths/injuries (explosion, radiation)?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: Have responders been injured or killed? If so, how?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: To which hospital(s) will the injured be transported?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: Does/do the hospital(s) have staff to monitor contaminated patients?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: Will the hospital staff and patients be in danger from treating/being near the contaminated patients?

A: Medical staff are not in immediate harm while treating a patient.

### Claims

Q: Who will pay for the loss and damage?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: Where can people file claims?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: How soon is financial assistance available?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

### Domestic animals/wildlife

Q: What is being done to protect pets, livestock and wildlife?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: What should I do if I suspect my pet has been exposed or contaminated to radiation?

A: Wash your pet thoroughly with shampoo or mild dish soap; do not use conditioner because it could trap the radioactive dust onto its hair. Afterward remove your clothes and wash them separately from other clothes. Wash yourself thoroughly, and do not use conditioner because it could trap the radioactive dust onto your hair.

### **Environment**

Q: What is the effect on the water system?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: What is the effect on well water?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: What is the effect on nearby rivers/lakes/streams?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: Was there property damage? If so, what's the estimated cost?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

### **Hazards**

Q: What are health officials' most immediate public health concerns?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: What is an external radiation hazard?

A: An external radiation hazard can result when a source of radiation, for example, a quantity of radioactive material, is outside of (external to) the body. Time, distance, and shielding protect the body from external radiation.

Q: What is an internal radiation hazard?

A: An internal radiation hazard can result from radioactive material entering the human body. This can occur as a result of a person breathing radioactive material present as a dust, vapor or gas; through the ingestion of radioactive materials either in solid or liquid form; through the intake of radioactive materials through cuts or wounds; or through absorption of radioactive materials through the skin.

Q: How is radiation measured?

A: There are several ways to measure radiation. We can measure the actual energy in the air or the energy absorbed or released by a substance. Ground surveys and aerial measurements can be made to determine the extent of contamination on the ground. Air monitoring stations can be set up to detect contamination in the air. Sampling and testing of soil, vegetation, and crops can be conducted to determine the amount of contamination present.

Q: How can people tell if they have been contaminated?

A: If people think they were exposed to radioactive material from the terrorist event, they should contact appropriate local, state or federal authorities and arrange to be monitored. Survey instruments can be used to assess possible contamination of their clothing with radioactive materials. Urine and/or fecal samples can be collected and analyzed to estimate the quantities of radionuclides taken into their bodies. The amounts of radioactive materials deposited in their lungs can be estimated by counting the gamma radiation emerging from their chest wall, through a so-called "lung count."

Q: What is a lung count? Whole-body count?

A: Many of the more penetrating gamma radiations emitted by radionuclides within a person's body will not be absorbed. That is to say, they will escape from the body. A whole-body count is a procedure in which these escaping gamma radiations are counted. The total count provides an indication of the amount of radioactive material in the body. In the case of a whole-body count, all the gamma radiations escaping from the body are counted. In the case of a lung count, only those emerging from the chest wall are counted. Spectroscopic analyses of the energies of the gamma radiations can be used to identify the specific radionuclides present in the body.

Q: Can people die from radiation exposure in hours, days, weeks, months, or years from now? What are the short and long-term effects of radiation on people?

A: Massive exposure to radiation can cause death within a few hours or days. Smaller doses can cause burns, nausea, loss of hair, loss of fertility, and pronounced changes in the blood. Even smaller doses, too small to cause any immediate visible damage, are thought to increase the probability of developing cancer or leukemia, congenital abnormalities in children exposed *in utero* including physical deformities, diseases, and mental retardation.

Q: Is a child's exposure to radiation from this incident more hazardous than an adult's exposure?

A: Based on studies of exposed populations, children have a slightly higher risk of cancer following exposure to ionizing radiation.

Q: What precautions should residents take to avoid exposure/further exposure?

A: Protection:

1. Respiratory protection (includes closing windows and doors)
2. Protective clothing
3. Cover open cuts and wounds
4. Washing/decontamination
5. Food controls

Q: What are the United States government standards for radiation exposure?

A: The United States government has set the maximum acceptable levels for occupational exposure to radiation at 5 rem (5,000 mrem or 50 mSv)  $y^{-1}$  from all human-made sources combined and has set a variety of lower levels for protection of the general public that depend on the source of radiation.

Q: How does radiation hurt people?

A: Radiation can damage genetic material (DNA) in the body's cells, especially dividing cells. If a small amount of radiation is absorbed by the body, it does not always damage the cells. If it does, the cells can sometimes repair themselves. Damaged cells can die right away, or if they survive, may be transformed into cells that could cause a tumor.

Q: How much radiation can cause cancer?

A: No one is sure how much radiation can cause cancer, but we assume that the risk of cancer is proportional to the absorbed dose. Low doses could cause cancers 5 to 30 year or longer after exposure. However, it is important to remember that people are exposed to radiation every day from a variety of sources in the natural environment. The amount of radiation that is absorbed by the body is quantified with a unit called a roentgen equivalent man (rem) or a millirem (mrem). One mrem is one-thousandth of a rem. Exposure to background radiation, from sources such as radon gas, outer space, rocks, and soil, results in the body absorbing about 5 mrem each week. Normally, 200 out of 1,000 United States citizens would be expected to die from cancer. With what we know now, a dose of 5 rem is thought to increase cancer deaths to about 203 out of 1,000.

Q: How can doctors tell how much radiation people have been exposed to?

A: Medical personnel can screen people using biological dosimetry. Techniques can also be used to determine if individuals have radioactive materials in or on their bodies. These methods are used to determine how best to treat patients with radiological injuries.

Q: Is it safe to eat food and drink milk and water? What about eggs, fruit, livestock, fish and crops?

A: (Answer to be determined based on command and control guidance.) Fruit exposed to any residue cloud from the event may have contamination on its surface. Wash and peel fruit before eating.

Q: Are plants in gardens and agricultural produce in the area contaminated by radioactive material?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

### **Radiation Concepts**

Q: How much radioactive material has been released?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: What areas are radiologically contaminated and at what levels?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: Could the radiological contamination spread further?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: What radiological materials were involved?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: What is the highest radiation level and where is it?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: What is plutonium, and how can it harm people?

A: Plutonium is an artificially produced radioactive material. This radioactive element decays by emitting alpha particles and has a very long half-life. The range in air for alpha particles is only a few inches. This means that alpha radiation is not a hazard to people as long as it remains external to the body. Inhalation of airborne plutonium is normally the most hazardous exposure pathway. Following deposition in the lungs, it is transferred primarily to the liver and the bones from where it is cleared only very slowly.

Ingestion is normally a less hazardous pathway because plutonium is only minimally absorbed into the body as it passes through the gastrointestinal tract.

Q: What is uranium?

A: Uranium is a natural substance widely distributed over the earth. Uranium slowly reacts chemically (oxidizes) when exposed to air. In the air, the metal becomes coated with a layer of oxide that will make it appear from a golden-yellow color to almost black. It is an element having several radioactive isotopes with very long half-lives. Uranium also produces more than a dozen other radioactive substances as by-products, including radon gas. Tiny amounts of uranium are found almost everywhere on earth. Concentrated deposits are found in just a few places, usually in hard rock or sandstone, normally buried by earth and vegetation. Uranium has been mined in the southwest United States, Australia, parts of Europe, Russia, Namibia, South Africa, and Niger. At high concentrations, uranium is chemically toxic to the kidney. The radioactive by-products from the decay of uranium are generally more of radiological hazard than uranium itself.

Q: What is cobalt?

A: Stable cobalt is mined and is used in a variety of industrial applications. Radioactive cobalt is generally obtained from the irradiation of cobalt metal. Cobalt-60 is widely used as a source of radiation in industry and is widely used in medicine to treat cancer. Cobalt-60 has a 5 year half-life and emits beta radiation and penetrating gamma radiation.

Q: What is cesium?

A: Cesium-137 has a 30 year half-life and is one of the radioactive fission products created within a nuclear reactor during its operation. It can be absorbed into the food chain and can be an external and internal hazard. Cesium-137 sources are used to measure the thickness or density of material and for gamma radiography.

Q: What is radioactivity?

A: Radioactivity is the spontaneous emission of radiation from the nucleus of an unstable isotope.

Q: What is radiation?

A: Radiation is a form of energy and comes from both natural and man-made sources. Natural radiation comes from the sun, soil, building materials, and food. There are numerous man-made sources which include X-ray equipment, color televisions, smoke detectors and nuclear power plants. There are three primary types of radiation, alpha, beta, and gamma.

*Alpha particles* have a very short range and are easily shielded by a single sheet of paper. Alpha particles cannot penetrate the outer layers of skin and are not an external hazard. Radioactive material that emits them is an internal hazard if ingested or inhaled.

*Beta particles* have a longer range and are less easily shielded. Aluminum foil or glass will stop beta particles. They can penetrate the outer layer of skin and are an external and an internal hazard.

*Gamma radiation* has a very long range and is very difficult to shield. Unlike alpha or beta particles, gamma rays are electromagnetic energy waves (radio waves with a much shorter wavelength) similar to x rays. Concrete, lead or steel is needed to shield sources of gamma rays. The radiation can penetrate through the whole body; it is an external and an internal hazard.

Q: What is a becquerel?

A: A becquerel (Bq) is the special name of a unit by which the quantity of radioactive material is described. One becquerel is equal to one disintegration of a radioactive atom within a mass of radioactive material per second. Another unit often used to describe the quantity of radioactive material is the curie (Ci). One curie is equal to 37 billion becquerels.

Q: What is half-life?

A: The activity of radioactive material decreases with time. The half-life equals the period in which the activity decreases by half due to radioactive decay. Different radionuclides have different half-lives, from a fraction of a second to millions of years or more.

Q: What is contamination?

A: Contamination is the presence of radioactive materials in unwanted locations. Contamination can be on people, pets, vehicles, the ground, and inside and outside of buildings.

## **Remediation**

Q: What measures can be taken to cleanup the area now and in the future?

A: Response organizations, local, state, and federal, will prepare a site remediation, or cleanup, plan. The process is lengthy and depends on the type of contamination and the site contaminated. There are temporary measures that can be taken to fix radioactive materials in place and stop the spread of

contamination. These include “fixative” sprays such as flour and water mixtures, road oil, or water that can be used to wet ground surfaces and prevent resuspension.

Q: How much will it cost?

A: The cost will depend on the extent of contamination, site remediation methods, and the cleanup plan selected with community involvement.

Q: How long will cleanup take?

A: Site remediation is a lengthy process that can take years to complete, depending on the type of contamination, the site contaminated, and the remediation plan selected.

Q: How can I tell if my house is contaminated?

A: If your house was downwind from the residue cloud, it may be contaminated. You should contact local, state, or federal authorities. They will arrange for a team to survey your house to detect possible contamination.

## **Response**

Q: Who is in charge?

A: (Name of Federal Coordinating Officer) is responsible for coordinating the joint response. The senior local official is (name, organization). The senior state official is (name, organization). The senior federal official is (name, organization).

Q: When did authorities know about this incident?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: What response agencies are involved? What are their missions? What expertise do their response teams have? How many people are on the teams? What equipment do they bring? Where do they come from? How long does it take teams to respond following notification?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: How experienced are responders? How often do these organizations practice responding to similar radiological incidents?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: Under what authority does the Federal Coordinating Officer respond?

A: Presidential Decision Directive 39 (PDD-39), U.S. Policy on Counterterrorism, establishes policy to respond to terrorism directed against Americans. Responding federal agencies do so in accordance with the National Response Framework (for Public Law 93-288, as amended) and its Terrorism Incident Annex.

Q: Who pays for response teams?

A: Responding organizations pay for all their expenses unless otherwise directed by the President.

Q: How many people are responding?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: Can I obtain copies of response plans?

A: The Federal Response Framework is located on the Internet at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).

## **Sheltering/Evacuation**

Q: What is sheltering-in-place?

A: <insert definition>

Q: What areas are recommended for sheltering?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: What areas are recommended for evacuation?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: Why was sheltering recommended/ordered?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: Why wasn't sheltering recommended/ordered?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: How many people are/were affected by the sheltering order/recommendation?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: When will sheltering/evacuation guidance be lifted?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: When will residents be able to return home?

A: <insert appropriate answer>

Q: When will businesses be able to reopen?

A: <insert appropriate answer>