



APPENDIX 2 TO EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION #8 PUBLIC HEALTH

PRIMARY AGENCY:

State: Department of Health Services

SUPPORT AGENCIES:

State: Division of Emergency Management
Department of Environmental Quality

County: County/local public health offices

Federal: Center for Disease Control
Food and Drug Administration
Public Health Service

I. PURPOSE

Describe the state's roles and responsibilities in supporting local public health operations for communicable disease control, environmental health and sanitation surveillance.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

In the aftermath of a major disaster, the public's health can be jeopardized in many ways. A major disaster can disrupt and halt public utilities, water supplies and waste water treatment systems. Contaminants may enter water supply systems. Destruction or damage to housing units can dislocate people and require accommodation in mass care shelters. Spoilage of food and drugs can be widespread. Quarantine or condemnation measures may become necessary to control the spread of communicable diseases.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. The **Department of Health Services (DHS)** is the lead agency for the development and coordination of state plans and programs for public health activities during emergencies/disasters. DHS will coordinate with other agencies to prepare intra-agency plans, checklists or procedural guides necessary for public health operations. The objectives of public health operations are:

1. Coordinate health-related activities among state/local/public/private response agencies;
2. Inspect and advise on general food handling and sanitation matters;
3. Provide disaster-related public health information to the public;

4. Provide preventive health services; and
 5. Maintain surveillance of health effects.
- B.** Upon a request from local government for state assistance in public health emergencies, the Director, DHS will authorize the deployment of available resources.
1. Response activities will include sanitation, vector control and immunizations.
 2. Recovery activities will include managing public health services, continuing health surveillance of affected populations and assisting in recovery operations.

IV. ORGANIZATIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. State - DHS and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) have complementary but separate roles in public health issues. DEQ, through inspection, sampling and site visits, determines what is present and the health significance of what is at the locations.

1. **DHS** shall:

- a. Administer and coordinate disaster public health programs, assist essential service providers, coordinate information and disseminate information to physicians on the scene and at evacuation sites.
- b. Assist local government in the assessment of health hazards.
- c. Ensure observance of health regulations.
- d. Provide health advisories to the public on the acquisition of disinfectants for emergency water supplies, vector control and immunization.
- e. Provide analytical laboratory services for food stuffs, water, drugs and other consumables.

2. **DEQ** shall:

- a. Certify emergency water supplies for human consumption.
- b. Provide water quality control assistance.
- c. Provide advisories on solid and human waste collection and disposal.

B. Federal

1. Federal resources may be provided before a Presidential Declaration of Major Disaster. After a Presidential Declaration is made, and upon instructions from FEMA, federal agencies will make resources available to support local and state emergency public health and sanitation efforts.

2. Following a Presidential Declaration and activation of ESF # 8 of the FRP, services will be provided by the United States Public Health Service, Food and Drug Administration and Center for Disease Control.

V. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

ADEM, in coordination with DHS will review and revise this Appendix as required. Participating agencies will prepare SOPs and update IOPs in support of this Appendix.