Minnesota's Preparedness for Ethanol and Oil Transportation Incidents



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Purpose of the Study

- DPS directed to prepare a report on preparedness for oil transportation incidents preparedness.
 - Update initial 2015 study.
 - Contracted with Management Analysis & Development (MAD).
- Report requirements:
 - Evaluate preparedness activities.
 - Evaluate preparedness for ethanol rail incidents.
 - Examine funding sources, unfunded needs, and equity issues for response preparedness.
 - Make recommendations.



Scope of Study

 The study focuses on public safety preparedness and response to an oil, ethanol or other hazardous materials transportation incident involving railroads or pipelines in Minnesota.



Study Methods

Research conducted August – November 2016.

Data sources:

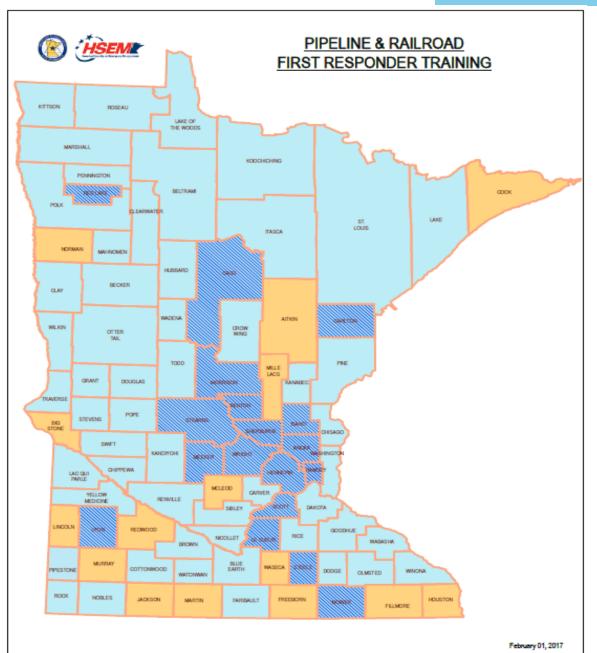
- Interviews of subject matter experts.
- Review of emergency preparedness literature and guidance.
- Survey of public safety officials
- Interviews of state and local officials.



Progress Since 2015 study

- Conducted awareness training for oil transportation incidents.
- Evaluated hazardous materials preparedness activities.
- Funded training.
- Purchased hazardous materials team equipment.
- Created a secure data portal for response planning information.





- Greater the 50%
- Less than 50%
- Operations level

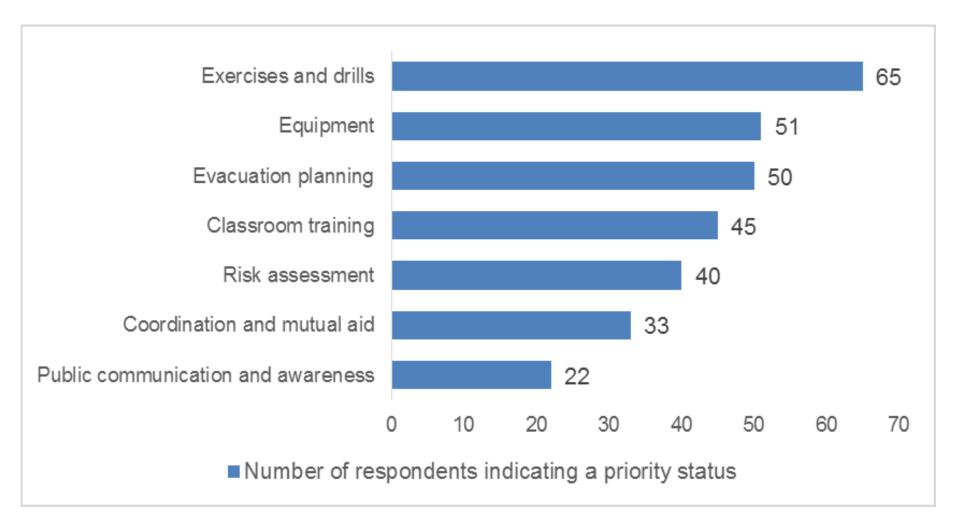


Additional Preparedness Actions

- Coordinated with neighboring states and provinces.
- Provided enhanced training to state response teams.
- Continued to work with rail and pipeline companies.
- Supported local governments to enhance warning systems.
- Provided emergency planning zone analysis, maps, and exercise/drill support.



Prioritized Survey Findings





- Recommendation:
 - Support drills and exercises.
- Proposed actions:
 - Grant program to fund local drills and exercises.
 - Provide subject matter experts to support drills and exercises.



- Recommendation:
 - Staff and participant support for exercises at Camp Ripley.
- Proposed actions:
 - Support the development and operation of the proposed Joint Emergency Response Training Center (JERTC).



- Recommendation:
 - Planning and training, including risk assessment.
- Proposed actions:
 - Planning grant program.
 - Training grant program.
 - Provide subject matter experts for local planning.
 - Support local risk and hazard identification.



- Recommendation:
 - Classroom training.
- Proposed actions:
 - Continue awareness and operations level training.
 - Develop needs based training.
 - Coordinate with public and private partners to keep information up-to-date and refresh training.
 - Review actual incidents to identify best practices and share lessons learned.



- Recommendation:
 - Community-focused communications and warnings.
- Proposed actions:
 - Fund Integrated Public Alert and Warning Systems (IPAWS) equipment and services.
 - Conduct IPAWS user training.
 - Develop public awareness program on risk, hazard, and preparedness.



Recommendation:

 Establish clear and regular reporting about how safety account funds are spent.

Proposed actions:

- Regularly inform stakeholders on the availability of railroad and pipeline safety account funds.
- Publicly report on spending and achievement of outcomes and milestones.



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Other recommendations:

- Maintain and upgrade state response team equipment.
- Provide railways with access to ARMER radio network.
- Promote use of AskRail® mobile application by first responders.
- Identify public and private response equipment and assess gaps.

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Questions?