

Hazardous Material Response Capabilities for Local Government

FY2002 Request: \$500,000
Reference No: 33912

AP/AL: Appropriation
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Statewide
House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2001 - 06/30/2006

Project Type: Health and Safety
Recipient: Statewide
Contact: Larry Dietrick
Contact Phone: (907)465-5255

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project provides funding to establish and maintain a statewide hazardous materials response capability by increasing local government response capabilities. Specific geographic response strategies and tactics for the protection of environmentally sensitive areas and areas of public concern that have the highest priority for protection will also be developed.

Funding:	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	Total
Oil/Haz Fd	\$500,000						\$500,000
Total:	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

Hazardous Material Response Capabilities for Local Government has received prior appropriations of 500.0 in FY1998, 300.0 in FY1999, 200.0 in FY2000.

Project Description/Justification:

DETAIL PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION: In accordance with its statutory obligations, DEC is required to respond to oil and hazardous materials (hazmat) releases throughout Alaska. DEC may satisfy this responsibility through contracts with persons or municipalities or, in the absence of these resources, DEC may elect to establish and maintain this capability within the Department. DEC has implemented local response agreements with the communities of Fairbanks and Anchorage, both of which maintain a credible hazmat response capability. 32 additional agreements for oil spill response are in place in other Alaskan communities. Recent studies have shown, however, that other locations in Alaska do not possess a Level A hazmat response capability, although the risk from a release of ammonia, chlorine, or other extremely hazardous substance may exist.

This project will provide funds for equipment, preparedness, and training costs for the hazmat teams in Anchorage and Fairbanks, augmenting their capability to allow response outside the service areas of the two jurisdictions and provide expanded coverage for Alaska. Funds will also be used to provide on-site, non-regulatory technical assistance visits, ammonia and chlorine response training and exercises at communities which face the risk of an Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS) chemical release. Cooperative and successful Hazmat projects have been held in Petersburg, Kodiak, and Unalaska. The tentative schedule calls for two such projects per year at communities willing to participate in this type of training and assistance.

This project will also establish workgroups consisting of contingency plan holders, trustee agencies, and ADEC to draft Geographic Response Strategies (GRS) for the outer Kenai Peninsula coast line and for Lower Cook Inlet to improve local preparedness and response capability for the protection of environmentally sensitive and areas of public concern.

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The purpose of this project is to identify those environmentally sensitive areas or areas of public concern that have the highest priority for protection from oil spills, and to develop specific strategies and tactics at the local level to combat spills from any source that threatens these areas. After this phase of the project is completed GRS will be developed for other geographic areas of Alaska's coastline where risks from spills to high priority environmentally sensitive areas are identified. The project will include submittal of the GRS for inclusion in the appropriate Subarea Contingency Plan and will provide for deployment exercises to ground truth the tactics and revise the GRS as required.