

## PREFACE

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1. This Emergency Operations Plan is developed for use by state government officials to ensure mitigation and preparedness, appropriate response and timely recovery from hazards that may affect the State of South Carolina. Further, this plan was designed to include the Emergency Support Functions (ESF) identified in the National Response Framework. The last paragraph of each annex is dedicated to the federal response envisioned for that particular ESF.
2. This plan is predicated upon the concept that emergency operations will begin at the level of government most appropriate to provide effective response. State assistance shall be provided upon request when emergency or disaster needs exceed the capability of county and municipal governments. Federal assistance is supplemental to that of state and local governments and is available upon approval of a request by the Governor to the appropriate federal agency or to the President.
3. This plan has three major parts. The **EXECUTIVE ORDER** of the Governor adopts and approves the plan and assigns responsibilities. The **BASIC PLAN** outlines policies and general procedures that provide a common basis for joint state and local government operations in a natural, technological or purposive harm disaster. The **ANNEXES** provide guidelines and establish responsibility for the development of appropriate mechanisms to facilitate the prompt and efficient application of resources in any emergency or disaster situation. Annexes 1 through 19 and 24 correspond to the Federal (1 through 15) and State (1 through 19 and 24) Emergency Support Functions.
4. State agencies assigned functional responsibilities by this plan are required to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), which delineate their operational procedures for each assigned function/annex. A copy of each SOP will be forwarded to the Director, South Carolina Emergency Management Division.
5. It is intended that each participating state agency and governmental entity will use this document for preparing and mobilizing resources and providing services as appropriate in an emergency or disaster situation. Insofar as possible, this plan shall also serve as a model for the development of emergency operations plans at the county and municipal levels of government to facilitate uniformity, continuity and coordination of all emergency services.
6. An annual review of this plan will be conducted at the beginning of each fiscal year. The South Carolina Emergency Management Division will publish specific requirements in October. Agencies will be requested to submit updated annexes and standard operating procedures prior to April 15.

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