

Emergency Planning Glossary

Congregate Care Center: Facility where shelter and food is provided to evacuees.

Disaster Preparedness Plan: A plan that details comprehensive emergency procedures for all types of disaster emergencies in the state – i.e., floods, hurricanes, etc. A portion of this plan is the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Plan (REPP).

Emergency Classification: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's classification of four levels of radiological emergencies – notification of unusual event, alert, site area emergency and general emergency.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC): A designated location at county and/or state headquarters from which a chief executive and staff can direct the action of state and local agencies and emergency services.

Emergency Operations Facility (EOF): A facility operated by the power plant licensee for evaluating and controlling emergency situations and coordinating responses with local and state representatives. Its location is normally outside of the plant exclusion area.

Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ): The area surrounding a nuclear power plant site designated for emergency planning purposes. The EPZ encompasses a radius of about 10 miles for the plume exposure pathway and about 50 miles for the ingestion exposure pathway.

Emergency Response Planning Area (ERPA): A subdivision of the plume exposure emergency planning zone. An emergency planning zone is made up of several ERPAs.

Exclusion Area: The area surrounding a nuclear power plant facility in which the facility operator has the authority to determine and control all activities. No residences exist within a nuclear power plant exclusion area.

Ingestion Emergency Planning Zone: For planning purposes, the area surrounding a site within an approximate 50-mile radius where the principal source of exposure from an accident would be the ingestion of contaminated food or water.

Nuclear Facility Operator (NFO): The organization licensed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to operate a nuclear facility.

Plume: A “cloud” of radioactive material made up of gases or particles.

Plume Exposure Pathway: The area surrounding a nuclear facility site (usually a radius of approximately 10 miles) where the principal exposure would be from: (a) whole body exposure to gamma radiation from the plume and deposited material, and (b) inhalation exposure from the assign plume.

Prevention/Mitigation: The first of three designated phases of activity in the state and county plans for radiological emergencies (response and recovery phases follow). Actions during this phase aim to eliminate or reduce the probability of an emergency situation occurring, and minimize the impact of an emergency on public health and property.

Protective Action: Any action taken to protect the public's health in response to a radiological emergency – i.e., recommending sheltering or evacuation/ingesting KI.

Reception Center: A pre-designated location outside the plume exposure pathway EPZ through which evacuees will pass to receive initial assistance, including personal monitoring, receipt of additional KI-potassium iodide, first aid or direction to a congregate care center or medical facility.

Recovery: The last phase of activity in the state and county plans for radiological emergencies; efforts during this phase are to return to pre-emergency conditions.

Response: The phase of activity in a radiological emergency when protective actions are taken to protect public health and mitigate effects of a radioactive release.