## I. INTRODUCTION

Reception centers and shelters are key elements in the evacuation process during a radiological incident. They serve as the focal point during evacuation and provide a place for coordination of registration, radiological monitoring and decontamination, and congregate care operations. All shelters listed herein have been selected based on Red Cross criteria and accessibility to evacuees.

### II. PURPOSE

To outline procedures for the operation of reception centers and/or shelters in the event that an incident at VEGP requires the evacuation of personnel from the 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone EPZ.

## III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. General
  - 1. In the event evacuation is required, the affected counties will open and operate reception centers and/or shelters. The county is responsible for staffing and managing radiological monitoring and decontamination operations at reception centers or shelters. The Red Cross, in coordination with the county mass care agencies, is responsible for managing shelter operations. The Department of Social Services (DSS), in coordination with local government, is responsible for shelter staffing and managing the registration process. State Emergency Support Function (ESF) 6 will coordinate with county mass care agencies to ensure the provision of sufficient human and/or material resources for augmenting reception center and shelter operations.
  - 2. Under ESF-10 (Environmental and Hazardous Materials Operations) technical guidance and advice, the county radiological officer will ensure that evacuees and their vehicles are monitored for radiation and decontaminated at reception centers or shelters. Radiological exposure control is outlined in the SCORERP, Basic Plan, Annex 6 (Radiological Exposure Control). Procedures are detailed in each County's SOP and the SC Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) South Carolina Technical Radiological Emergency Response Plan (SCTRERP).
  - 3. In the event residents begin to evacuate spontaneously, or if county officials deem it necessary, primary shelters/reception centers may be opened prior to a decision for evacuation.
  - 4. Reception centers and shelters may have indoor, sanitary facilities for processing and decontaminating evacuees. A facility may be a reception center and a co-located shelter. They have sufficient parking areas to provide

parking for evacuee vehicles while they are being processed. ESF-6, ESF-10, ESF-8 and county medical and radiological monitoring personnel will provide the following activities by location:

- a. Reception Center
  - (1) Radiological monitoring Teams: See responsibilities under SCORERP, Basic Plan, Annex 6 (Radiological Exposure Control).
  - (2) ESF-6:
    - (a) DSS: Assignment of evacuees to shelters.
    - (b) Red Cross: Assist DSS with assignment of evacuees to shelters.
  - (3) Local EMS: Provide immediate first aid and coordination of medical care for evacuees with ESF-8.
  - (4) ESF-8:
    - (a) Provide guidance to local EMS on the medical care of contaminated individuals.
    - (b) Distribute potassium iodide (KI) as needed.
  - (5) ESF-10: Provide technical guidance as needed.

## b. Shelter

- (1) Radiological monitoring Teams: See responsibilities under SCORERP, Basic Plan, Annex 6 (Radiological Exposure Control).
- (2) ESF-6:
  - (a) DSS:
    - i. Registration of evacuees if they have not been previously registered.
    - ii. Support registration of evacuees using Red Cross forms.
    - iii. Staffing and support of shelter operations.
  - (b) Red Cross:

- i. Shelter management
- ii. Registration of evacuees using Red Cross forms.
- iii. Ensure feeding of evacuees.
- iv. Basic personal needs of evacuees.
- (3) Local EMS: Provide immediate first aid and coordination of medical care for evacuees with ESF-8.
- B. Reception Centers
  - 1. Registration of evacuees.
    - a. Records may be utilized for purposes of:
      - (1) Notification for evacuee re-entry to the evacuated area,
      - (2) Notification of emergencies concerning evacuees,
      - (3) Accounting for fiscal aspects of the evacuation, and
      - (4) Support for establishing legal claims
    - b. Registration forms will be maintained for each reception center in Palmetto EOC or the County designated system.
      - (1) If Palmetto EOC is unavailable, registration forms will be completed on paper and maintained by the County.
    - c. County workers will register all evacuees that come into the reception center, including those who do not elect to stay in a shelter.
    - d. Affected counties, through their local government and DSS have the responsibility for maintain contact with evacuees for control and reentry purposes.
  - 2. Monitoring and decontamination of evacuees.
    - a. All evacuees, both ordered and spontaneous, will be processed through their respective shelters or reception centers, depending on which zones were evacuated.
    - b. All evacuees will be registered and processed including those who do not wish to stay in a shelter and choose to make other arrangements.
  - 3. The affected counties will coordinate re-entry permits for persona having to return temporarily to evacuated areas.

- C. Sheltering
  - 1. The organization and operation of shelters for radiological evacuation is similar to sheltering operations during a natural disaster. Some of the differences include:
    - a. Shower facilities used for decontamination will not be considered part of the shelter until decontamination activities are complete and the shower facilities are determined to be free of harmful radioactivity.
      - (1) In some cases, decontamination will occur outside the facility and evacuees will move inside once decontamination is complete for registration and assignment to the shelter if needed.
    - b. Evacuees assigned to shelters will have been monitored and decontaminated. Each evacuee entering a shelter must display or provide the identification used by the county to demonstrate that they have been monitored or decontaminated.
    - c. ESF-6 will register people if they have not been previously registered in a reception center or another shelter.
    - d. Shelter registration is maintained by the ESF-6.
    - e. ESF-6 will assist by assigning evacuees to an open shelter if needed.
    - f. ESF-6 will register evacuees into shelters in accordance with existing Red Cross procedures.
    - g. ESF-6 will report shelter status information according to the procedures outlined in the SCEOP.
    - h. A shelter may be opened as precaution before a radioactive release occurs.
      - (1) If a radioactive release occurs, shelters will not accept new evacuees that have not been properly monitored and decontaminated as necessary to assure that anyone entering the facility is not contaminated.
  - 2. Evacuees will be assigned shelter at least 5 miles from the VEGP.
  - 3. If a shelter is at capacity, evacuees will be assigned to additional predesignated shelters.
  - 4. Primary and backup shelters are listed in Attachment A.

# ATTACHMENT A, ANNEX 2 – SHELTERS AND CAPACITIES

# I. GENERAL

The shelters listed in this appendix have been surveyed to assure compliance with the Red Cross Disaster Services Guidelines and Procedures.

### II. PURPOSE

Shelters are identified as either primary or backup shelters. According to FEMA REP program guidance, counties must plan for a sufficient number of primary shelters based on their all-hazard sheltering experience and what is historically relevant for that particular area. Backup shelters will be based on need according to overflow from the primary shelters.

## III. SHELTER LISTING AND CAPACITIES

A. Capacity for all shelters should be calculated using any space that could feasibly be used as sleeping space for an event. In an evacuation shelter, capacity can be calculated using 15 to 20 square feet per person. In a general shelter that is expected to be open for more than 24 hours, 40 to 60 square feet per person is used to determine capacity.

|                         |                    | Shelter Capacity |             |
|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Location                | Addresses          | Evacuation       | Long-Term   |
|                         |                    |                  | (>24-hours) |
| AIKEN CO                |                    |                  |             |
| South Aiken High School | 232 E Pine Log Rd, | 368              | 184         |
|                         | Aiken, SC 29803    |                  |             |
| ALLENDALE CO            |                    |                  |             |
| Allendale-Fairfax High  | 3581 Allendale-    | 308              | 0           |
| School                  | Fairfax Hwy,       |                  |             |
|                         | Fairfax, SC 29827  |                  |             |

B. Primary Shelters

Note: Barnwell County evacuees are sheltered in Allendale County. County Emergency Management offices maintain a list of backup shelters with capacities.