

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Public Works Emergency Response Mutual Aid Agreement is to permit signatory agencies to make the most efficient use of their assets by enabling them to coordinate resources and to maximize funding reimbursement during disasters/emergencies.

This Agreement will allow signatory agencies to support each other during disasters/emergencies to protect life and property, when the event is beyond the capabilities of the affected entity. This Agreement provides the mechanism for an immediate response to the Requesting Agency provided the Responding Agency has the necessary resources and expertise available.

When faced with a disaster or emergency, public works agencies have a responsibility to maintain service and recover in the most expedient way. This can best be accomplished by preparation, coordination and cooperation with other public works agencies. Agencies are charged with the responsibility of coordinating efforts and compiling damage and recovery information on disasters and then reporting to the appropriate authority. Then the State requests aid and assistance from the federal government.

The following definitions for disaster and emergency are from the State Comprehensive Disaster Plan and were used in this Public Works Emergency Response Mutual Aid Agreement:

Disaster - An event expected or unexpected, in which a community's available, pertinent resources are expended; or the need for resources exceeds availability; and in which a community undergoes severe danger; incurring losses so that the social or economic structure of the community is disrupted; and the fulfillment of some or all of the community's essential functions are prevented.

Emergency - An event, expected or unexpected, involving shortages of time and resources; that places life, property or the environment, in danger; and requires response beyond routine incidents.

The reference guide is designed to be useful to individual agencies during a proclaimed emergency -- whether it be to borrow a piece of equipment for a specific job or request crews to assist in repair of a major failure. The reference guide will be updated and revised periodically, please insert the revisions immediately.