



## Business Plan 2007 – Division of Environmental Health - Florida Department of Health

Mission: "Promote and Protect Health"

Vision: "Healthier Floridians"

**Goal: To prevent disease of environmental origin**

### ***Bureau of Radiation Control – Environmental Radiation and Emergency Response***

#### **Trends and Conditions:**

The mission of the Bureau of Radiation Control is to protect people and the environment from unnecessary radiation exposure. Environmental Radiation helps to meet this by providing radiological surveillance and monitoring throughout the state, inspection of shipments of low level radioactive waste and providing and maintaining a laboratory for the analysis of all types of media for radiation levels. We also maintain a comprehensive emergency training, preparedness and response program.

**Division Cost: \$1,635,297**

**Division Positions: 25**

**County Program Cost: None**

**County Positions: None**

**One position is paid out of the general revenue fund for terrorism; all others are paid from the Radiation Protection Trust Fund.**

This past year we received funding from the Department of Homeland Security Office of Grants and Training. These funds were used to purchase three types of emergency response instruments for the inspection staff, satellite phones for each office and equipment for the laboratory. We were able to purchase a new alpha/beta proportional counter, a portable germanium gamma identifier, and a low range ion chamber for instrument calibration. Using other funds we were able to purchase a trailer, truck and digital air samplers for emergency response, a portable tritium analyzer and portable alpha beta counter for the mobile lab; a neutron dose rate meter to replace 30 year old equipment, and two extendable radiation detectors for the low level waste program.

Although we had openings in the training staff for the majority of the year, the training of staff, first responders and emergency personnel in developing skills necessary to respond to incidents and accidents involving radioactive materials and weapons of mass destruction (dirty bombs) has been very effective. Over 600 emergency management, firemen, county and state personnel spent a total of 4,570 man hours in classroom and field training. In addition, we have developed specific training for county government to assist in preparing for a radiological incident. During the months of October, November and December we provided this training to 157 personnel in preparation of a North Florida Regional Domestic Security Task Force radiological dispersion device exercise. In November the two trainer positions were filled, after vacancies of 5 months and 18 months. On other response issues, we believe that in a severe incident, additional trained personnel will be necessary to supplement the BRC's response. The BRC is moving forward with procuring additional radiation survey and detection instruments and portal monitors for population screening in order to build a response capability within the County Health Departments and other possible partners. BRC training courses have completed the DOH's tier 1 approval process and we intend to begin offering different levels of response courses over the next 18 months.

The Electronics and Calibration Laboratory continues to provide excellent support to staff and county personnel in repairing, calibrating and distributing radiation monitoring equipment to inspection personnel and first responders throughout the state.

The state radiological laboratory in Orlando continues to provide quality analysis capabilities for the detection and quantification of radionuclides in various media (water, soil, vegetation, air, foodstuffs) and samples provided by the inspection and compliance branch of the Bureau. In cooperation with the Department of Environmental Protection and other Department of Health bureaus, the laboratory has been very active in providing



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radiological analysis for drinking water samples from both public systems and private wells. The goal is to determine if the systems meet state and federal standards and guidance levels. A major change in the duties of the laboratory includes transferring the laboratory certification duties from the BRC to the Bureau of Labs. While this process has been intermittent due to turnover within the administration of the Bureau of Labs, we hope to conclude the process this calendar year.

The staff supported the launch of the New Horizons deep space probe to Pluto and the Kuiper Belt, launched at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in January 2006.

In August, staff traveled to Dothan, Alabama to participate in a Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center Full Field Exercise based on a radiological dispersal device.

Environmental Radiation staff have been working with the DHS Domestic Nuclear Detection Office and the Florida Department of Transportation on the Southeast Transportation Corridor Pilot Project, a preventative rad/nuke interdiction project based on radiation portal monitors located at weigh stations throughout the southeast. Work continues with the Florida Division of Emergency Management on developing a Florida program for preventative rad/nuke detection. Staff have also been working with the Regional Domestic Security Task Force Health Co-Chairs on Annex E, a response to radiological/nuclear terrorism which would be an addition to the state Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

#### **Short Term Objectives**

By January 1, 2008:

- Increase fee schedule for Pre and Post Phosphate Mining Program
- Increase the fee schedule for the Water Laboratory
- Under F.S. 381.0202 certify Calibration Laboratory as “necessary for the protection of the public health”, this will provide us the statutory authority to charge fees to calibrate radiation detection instruments.
- Work with the Bureau of Labs to coordinate the transfer of lab certification duties.
- Coordinate with Environmental Health Program office to develop typing, rosters and training schedule for DOH Radiation Assistance Strike teams.
- Develop additional office space to better utilize staff resources.

#### **Long Term Objectives**

By January 1, 2010:



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- Development of inspection procedures, transportation fees and shipment routes for the transportation of Florida’s electrical generators spent nuclear fuel to Yucca Mountain in Nevada.
- As the planning for the new Progress Energy Reactor continues, develop a pre-operational environmental surveillance plan for the new site that meets the requirements and needs of all stakeholders

**Measure #1: Secure Adequate Funding for Environmental Radiation Activities and Responsibilities**

Division Strategic Plan		Strategy (Program level)	Benchmark	Responsible Party	Target Date (up to 18 months)	Status (What is happening now)
Goal A. objectives 1-3, 5	Adequate funding and resources for staff and program.	Secure Adequate funding for Environmental Radiation.	Lab fee schedule increased, PPM fee schedule increased, Cal lab allowed to charge fees.	John Williamson	12 Months	Working with BRC administration on multiple projects to increase funding stream.

**Measure #2: Support Community Based Radiological Response Capability**

Division Strategic Plan		Strategy (Program level)	Benchmark	Responsible Party	Target Date (up to 18 months)	Status (What is happening now)
BRC Sub Goal b.	Support a comprehensive community based rad response.	Expand the role of Radiation emergency response beyond the BRC.	Develop CHD based teams to assist in radiation emergency response.	John Williamson	12 months	Working with EH division staff on new CHD roles in rad response.
BRC Sub Goal b.	Support a comprehensive community based rad response.	Train other local and state first responders, firemen, police, etc., in procedures to be used to respond to radiation accidents and incidents.	100% of non-bureau incident first responders are trained within 3 months of request for training.	John Williamson	Ongoing	Currently at 100%

**Measure #3: Protect People and the Environment From Unnecessary Radiation Exposure Through Surveillance and Monitoring**



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Division Strategic Plan		Strategy (Program level)	Benchmark	Responsible Party	Target Date (up to 18 months)	Status (What is happening now)
BRC Mission	Protect people and the environment from unnecessary radiation exposure	Collect and analyze environmental samples around nuclear power plants as required by agreement with nuclear utilities. Complete reports as required.	100% of required samples are collected and analyzed. All reports completed on schedule.	John Williamson	Ongoing	Currently at 100%. Last calendar year we collected and analyzed more than 825 samples per quarter with a total of 3340 for 2006. All quarterly reports completed within specified time during last calendar year.
BRC Mission	Protect people and the environment from unnecessary radiation exposure	Collect and analyze environmental samples on Florida phosphate lands before phosphate mining and after reclamation. Complete an annual report within eight months after the end of the fiscal year.	Representative sampling on 75% of reconciled premined lands are to be performed. Report distributed as required.	John Williamson	Ongoing	93% of reconciled premined land was surveyed in 2005. Twentieth year report should be ready for print by Feb 25. (Currently in 21st year).

**Measure #4: Participate in all scheduled emergency response exercises each year with no deficiencies.**

Division Strategic Plan		Strategy (Program level)	Benchmark	Responsible Party	Target Date (up to 18 months)	Status (What is happening now)
BRC Sub Goal b.	Support a comprehensive community based rad response.	Participate in all scheduled exercises at nuclear power plants each year as required by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission with no deficiencies.	As stated in strategy.	John Williamson	Ongoing	All scheduled exercises completed with no deficiencies.

**Measure #5: Coordinate response to radiation incidents and accidents.**

Division Strategic	Strategy (Program	Benchmark	Responsible	Target Date (up	Status (What is
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Plan		level)		Party	to 18 months)	happening now)
BRC Mission	Protect people and the environment from unnecessary radiation exposure	Manage and coordinate the response to all radiation incidents and accidents 24 hours a day, 7 days a week following approved procedures. Keep Bureau Chief informed of all incidents.	Severity of incident determines response times and actions.	John Williamson	Ongoing	N/A

**Measure #6: Calibrate radiation detection equipment within 14 days of receipt and repair equipment within 25 days of receipt.**

Division Strategic Plan		Strategy (Program level)	Benchmark	Responsible Party	Target Date (up to 18 months)	Status (What is happening now)
BRC sub goal b.	Support comprehensive community-based rad ER through detection equipment calibration.	Calibrate radiation detection equipment for use by Bureau staff and for the host and risk counties required by contract.	Calibration will be provided as per guidance promulgated by FEMA, NRC and ANSI. Calibration will be completed within 14 days of receipt.	John Williamson	Ongoing	In Calendar year 2006, 91% were calibrated in 8 days or less. During 2006 the Calibration Laboratory calibrated 1010 instruments.
BRC sub goal b.	Support comprehensive community-based rad ER through detection equipment maintenance.	Repair radiation detection equipment for use by Bureau staff and for the host and risk counties as required by contract.	Repairs will be completed within 25 days of receipt.	John Williamson	Ongoing	In Calendar year 2006, 90% were repaired in 25 days or less. During 2006 the Calibration Laboratory repaired 234 instruments.

**Measure #7: Inspect Low Level Radioactive Waste shipments as specified.**

Division Strategic Plan		Strategy (Program level)	Benchmark	Responsible Party	Target Date (up to 18 months)	Status (What is happening now)
BRC	Protect	Inspect low-level	100% of low-level	John Williamson	Ongoing	100% accepted in most recent



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Mission	people and the environment from unnecessary radiation exposure	radioactive waste shipments as required to ensure they are acceptable to the disposal facility and meet US DOT and FAC requirements.	radioactive waste shipments from Florida licensees and NPP are accepted by disposal facility.			quarter. Last calendar year 99 shipments were inspected.
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