

Tempe Fire Department Policies and Procedures
Contacting ADEQ
208.011
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PURPOSE

With the increased problem of spills involving hazardous materials, the following will be policy on contacting the State of Arizona's Department of Environmental Quality.

To provide the incident commander with guidelines as to when and how to contact the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) during hazardous materials incidents.

POLICY

The Tempe Fire Department will make every effort to manage incidents within established local, state, and federal guidelines. Assistance in determining proper disposal methods may be obtained from the Department of Environmental Quality. Further assistance may be obtained from ADEQ in other areas, i.e., interpretation of state and federal laws, identifying reportable quantities, interaction with responsible parties or locating responsible parties, identification of unknown products, and securing the resources of additional outside agencies. At any working hazardous materials incident, upon the direction of the incident commander, the Alarm Room will contact the ADEQ Emergency Response Unit (ERU).

GUIDELINES

The incident commander will advise ADEQ when there is:

1. The presence of an unknown hazardous material which will require emergency planning.
2. The presence of a known material, which when released, is subject to reporting under the CERCLA Act of 1980 or is listed as an "Extremely Hazardous Substance" under SARA SFC. 302.
3. The presence of a hazardous material, which presents a clear threat to the environment or a waterway. (This means water treatment plants, SRP canals, or dry/wet riverbeds.)
4. The presence of a hazardous material which has been released to the environment and a responsible party cannot be identified.
5. The presence of a hazardous material incident on county, state, or federal property.

PROCEDURE

The purpose of contacting ADEQ is to provide the Fire Department with the coordinating capabilities of ADEQ personnel. ADEQ will assist the incident commander or hazardous materials sector officer in resolving questions presented in the above guidelines 1-5. The type and content of ADEQ response will be at the discretion of the ADEQ responder after consultation with the incident commander.

A list of telephone numbers for ADEQ's Emergency Response Units and a copy of the ERU's "duty watch" schedule are located on BC-7 and HM-72. The ERU member that is scheduled for the "duty watch" is assigned a portable cellular telephone that is to be carried at all times. The telephone number for the "duty watch" is located on the ADEQ telephone list.

When in contact with ADEQ's Emergency Response Unit and the incident commander or the hazard sector officer determines that ADEQ's response to an incident is appropriate or needed, the incident commander or hazard

sector officer needs to state in their conversation with the ADEQ Emergency Response Unit member that "ADEQ's response is requested to this incident."