Earthquake Incident Annex

Coordinating Agency

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)

Support Agencies

Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Mississippi Wireless Communication Commission (WCC)
Mississippi Public Service Commission (MPSC)
M.S. Rural Water Association (MsRWA)
Mississippi Department of Insurance(MID)
    State Fire Marshall's Office (SFMO)
Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS)
Mississippi Department of Education (MDE)
Mississippi Forestry Commission (MFC)
Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)
Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH)
Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS)
    Mississippi Office of Homeland Security (MOHS)
    Mississippi Highways Safety Patrol (MHSP)
Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks (MDWF&P)
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)
Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (MDAC)
Mississippi Board of Animal Health (MBAH)
Mississippi Public Utilities Staff (MPUS)
Mississippi Military Department (MMD)
    Mississippi National Guard (MSNG)

Non-Government Organizations

American Red Cross (ARC)
Salvation Army (S.A.)
Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES)
University of Illinois, MAE Center

Federal Coordinating Agency

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
    Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Federal Coordinating Agency cont.

United States Coast Guard (USCG)

Federal Cooperating Agencies

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Department of Commerce (DOC)
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
National Weather Service (NWS)
Department of Defense (DOD)
Civil Air Patrol (CAP)
Department of Energy (DOE)
Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
Department of the Interior (DOI)
United States Geological Survey (USGS)
Department of Transportation (DOT)
Department of Veterans Affairs (V.A.)

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Earthquake Incident Annex

1. INTRODUCTION. The possibility of a catastrophic earthquake directly affecting significant portions of Mississippi is real, as evidenced by history and described herein. It is, therefore, incumbent upon the state to have documents in place that detail its response actions for this type of event. Such an event, should it occur, could pose significant emergency response issues and problems never before faced by the State of Mississippi. This Annex provides an overview and references the important issues Mississippi expects to encounter for a no-notice catastrophic earthquake event.

This Earthquake Annex combines the State of Mississippi Earthquake Plan and the Earthquake Incident Annex. The Annex contains agency-level directives, guidance, and expectations for the State of Mississippi's Earthquake response activities. Functional area responsibilities are addressed in this plan. However, the vast majority of the processes, duties, and responsibilities referenced in this document are addressed in greater detail in separate state, agency, section, branch, or functional area policies, plans, and standard operating procedures (SOPs).

As a standard practice, the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) attempts to align its internal processes with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS) doctrine. Continually evolving, the MEMA's methods continuously strive for NIMS compliance and alignment with our federal partner's efforts, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). However, there are instances when the MEMA must adapt and improvise based on an incident or event's circumstances. MEMA's guiding priorities, principles, and leadership fundamentals provide variations in dealing with all non-standard incident eventualities.

a. Purpose. This Annex is developed to support an organized response to an Earthquake incident affecting the State of Mississippi. It is an overview of the emergency management processes and responsibilities approach. It is not intended to be a step-by-step plan that lists every possible action that could be taken. Instead, it is designed to guide state, tribal, local, and municipal officials, Emergency Support Functions (ESFs), and other key stakeholders in response and coordination efforts when faced with an earthquake. It establishes a framework for these officials and responders to ensure coordination, communication, and cooperation.

b. Scope. Due to a significant earthquake's inherent devastating and widespread effects, this Annex expands on the general concepts and operational procedures already detailed in the CEMP and the MEMA Response Framework. Specific operational policies, procedures, and guidelines developed by respective organizations to address the unique aspects of an earthquake will supplement this Annex and be intended to assist state, tribal, county, and municipal planners.

This Annex applies to all governmental functions of the State of Mississippi; this is accomplished through a detailed tasking of response actions according to the sixteen (16) ESFs detailed in the CEMP. The Annex provides structures for implementing state-level policy and operational coordination. It can be partially or fully implemented in response to an incident. The selective implementation allows for a scaled response, delivery of the needed resources, and coordination appropriate to the event. It is also used when Mississippi's capabilities are exceeded and a federal government response is requested.

State Emergency Response Team. For the purpose of this Annex, the term "State Emergency Response Team" and acronym "SERT" will refer to any forward deploying element emanating from a state emergency response entity. SERT does not refer to a specific element or capability.

2. OVERVIEW. This Earthquake Incident Annex is a scenario-based document. The scenario is based on a February 2022 Mid-America Earthquake Center (MAE Center) Analysis of a New Madrid Seismic Zone (NMSZ) magnitude 7.5 (M7.5) earthquake near the NMSZ in the Marianna areal source. This scenario generated a "worst-case" event for planning purposes.

The scenario in the 2022 MAE Center Report is intended to provide credible impacts for the NMSZ and is suitable for planning at the state level. The scenario represents one in a series of possible earthquakes and consequential impacts for the eight states and four FEMA regions affected by the NMSZ.

35 Mississippi counties are listed as impacted in the 2022 scenario: Alcorn, Benton, Bolivar, Calhoun, Carroll, Chickasaw, Clay, Coahoma, Desoto, Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Itawamba, Lafayette, Lee, Leflore, Marshall, Monroe, Montgomery, Panola, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tate, Tippah, Tunica, Union, Washington, Webster, Yalobusha, and Yazoo.

This list of impacted counties was compiled based on a cumulative review of direct damage, loss of functional infrastructure capabilities, social impacts, and direct economic losses. Within the affected counties, it is estimated there will be:

a. 92,225 Buildings damaged, including 11,676 destroyed.

(1) 79,567 Homes with at least moderate damage, including 9,182 destroyed.

(2) 8 Hospitals with at least moderate damage, none destroyed.

(3) 67 Fire Stations with at least moderate damage, including 7 destroyed.

(4) 47 Police Stations with at least moderate damage, including 4 destroyed.

(5) 128 Schools with at least moderate damage, including 19 destroyed.

(6) 54 Electric Power facilities with moderate damage.

(7) 4 Natural Gas facilities with moderate damage.

(8) 558 Communications facilities with moderate damage.

b. 160 Bridges damaged, including 17 destroyed.

c. 3.6 million tons of debris generated, including 1,780,800 tons generated in DeSoto County.

The counties listed above in Mississippi are estimated to incur the most severe damage, loss of operational capability, and direct economic losses throughout the region, according to the models used to generate the NMSZ scenario. Damage, losses of operational capabilities, and direct economic losses are not confined to these counties; instead, they are most severe in these areas. A New Madrid event impacts all counties in Mississippi, though the impacts are less severe outside the area identified by the designation "impacted counties."

The total economic loss estimated for the earthquake is 30 billion dollars, including building and lifeline-related losses based on the region's available inventory:

$16.3 billion – Utilities

$11.6 billion – Building

$2.1 billion – Transportation

Coordinated federal response in support of the State of Mississippi and its affected political subdivisions should not be expected for at least 7 – 10 days after a significant seismic event. It is vitally important that the state government's emergency response structure quickly mobilize to ascertain the damage sustained, provide SAR assistance, provide health and medical assistance, and provide mass care assistance to save as many lives as humanly possible.

For more information on the MAE Center Report, earthquake history, estimates, reports, or maps, see the MEMA Earthquake Program Manager in the MEMA Office of Preparedness or e-mail preparedness@mema.ms.gov.

3. SITUATION Though not typically considered a seismically active region, numerous earthquakes occur in the Central U.S. every year, primarily due to the NMSZ and the Wabash Valley Seismic Zone (WVSZ) activity. The NMSZ stretches from northeast Arkansas to southern

Illinois, passing through Missouri, western Tennessee, and western Kentucky. A NMSZ earthquake series occurred in the winter of 1811 and 1812, which included three very large earthquakes estimated to be between a magnitude (M)7 and M8 and several hundred aftershocks.

Structural damage was not significant during the 1811-1812 NMSZ earthquake series due to the absence of settlements. However, significant topological changes and ground deformation occurred, including landslides, liquefaction, ground uplift, and collapse. If similar events were to take place in the region today, the consequences would be much more significant, and damage would be much more severe regarding injuries and fatalities, structural damage, and economic and social impacts.

Today, the area is highly populated and densely covered with critical infrastructure, industry, commerce, and residences. Furthermore, damage to certain facilities, such as the Memphis airport, which hosts the largest FedEx hub in the U.S., would cause service interruption and negatively affect the regional, national, and global economies. Disastrous consequences would also result from the interruption of oil and gas services due to severely damaged pipelines. Events similar to the 1811-1812 New Madrid series would be catastrophic. Therefore, it is essential to accurately model and provide consequence assessment results that could be used to plan for and execute measures of mitigation, response, and recovery on all levels.

4. HAZARD AND THREAT ANALYSIS. An earthquake is the oscillating movement of the earth's crust caused by the rupturing of great masses of rock piles beneath the earth's surface. This generally takes the form of slipping or sliding along a rupture plane (a weakness in the earth's crust) called a fault. The NMSZ comprises numerous faults extending from Illinois to Arkansas several miles beneath the Mississippi embankment. Loosely compacted alluvial soils are located throughout the Delta. Probably the most disheartening feature in the aftermath of a damaging earthquake is the reported occurrence of aftershocks.

The two most common scales used to express the severity of an earthquake are the Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale (MMI) and the Richter Scale. MMI is a subjective expression of the intensity of observed damage, and Richter is a mathematical logarithmic expression of an earthquake's magnitude (total energy release). The MMI Scale is described from the lowest level, I, to the highest level, XII. On the Richter Scale, a reading of 2 is required before a quake can be felt, while a reading of 6 generally indicates a damaging earthquake.

a. Hazard Analysis. In the State of Mississippi, damage from earthquake activity along this seismic zone is expected to be the most significant in the northwestern part of the state, with the damage decreasing slightly in the northeastern and southern parts. However, the damage, or the effects thereof, could be catastrophic throughout the entire state.

Because of the growth and dispersal of the population and the accompanying development of critical infrastructure that is required to sustain this population, any significant earthquake event, especially over a magnitude 6.0, could cause a catastrophic disaster unlike any ever seen in the State of Mississippi, the central U.S., or the U.S. in general.

According to the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the Center for Earthquake Research and Information at the University of Memphis, the following probabilities of an earthquake in the NMSZ over a 50-year period are as follows:

(1) The probability of repeating the 1811–1812 earthquakes (Magnitude 7.7–8.0): 7–10%.

(2) The probability of a magnitude 6.0 or larger: 25–40%.

The nature and magnitude of damages and casualties will depend on the following factors:

(3) Magnitude of the earthquake.

(4) Time of day.

(5) Location of the epicenter.

(6) Construction practices.

(7) Soil conditions.

(8) Duration of the earthquake.

b. Threat of Liquefaction. Liquefaction is a phenomenon in which soils lose their ability to carry loads, such as buildings and other infrastructure, because the ground suddenly turns from a solid state to a liquid form.

Liquefaction is not a process that can occur partially, meaning it will either happen or not. It is not possible to have a partially liquefied area. It is not recommended that staging areas or response activities be located in areas specified as High or Very High liquefaction susceptibility. Areas with Very Low, Low, or None susceptibility levels are better suited for these activities. See the MAE Center Report, Mississippi Earthquake Impact Assessment, Analysis of M7.5 Event, Volume I, February 2022, for statewide liquefaction impacts.

5. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS. Assumptions and planning considerations on the unique circumstances of an earthquake include but are not limited to:

a. A catastrophic earthquake with at least a 7.6 measurement on the Richter scale and an epicenter on the southern end of the NMSZ fault will occur.

b. The NMSZ event will be a no-notice event impacting multiple FEMA Regions and States.

c. The resulting large number of casualties and damages to buildings and critical infrastructure over a multi-county or multi-state area will overwhelm local and state capabilities, and assistance will not be available from the federal or non-affected states until at least 72 hours after the earthquake.

d. Building (commercial, residential, and government) damage and/or total collapse will be extensive, with large numbers of trapped individuals.

e. Infrastructure damage – utilities, transportation, energy production and distribution, communications, dams, and levees – will be extensive and widespread.

f. Liquefaction will be widespread and result in further damages beyond areas experiencing greater seismic activity, which will restrict life-saving resources to the impacted areas.

g. There will be aftershocks and seismic activity potentially as large as or larger than the initial earthquake that will occur over many months. Cascading events may occur simultaneously or sequentially in areas in close proximity or bordering and those that are not.

h. Support to the impacted areas is immediately required to save lives, reduce human suffering, and reduce property damage.

i. Widespread fires (urban and wildland) will occur due to breaks in petroleum lines and debris.

j. Communication systems will be overwhelmed and may be partially disabled or destroyed.

k. Due to their locations and the potential loss of critical staff, local emergency operations centers may be rendered useless at the onset of the catastrophic earthquake.

l. Due to seismic activity, flooding will occur due to liquefaction and waterway infrastructure failures.

m. Hazardous material (HAZMAT) spills will occur due to breaks in chemical/petroleum lines and rupturing of storage facilities.

n. Casualties (fatalities and injuries) will be significant and include medically complicated survivors (crush victims, pediatric, access, and functional needs patients).

o. Minimal preparation by the general public and private industry will have been made.

p. Initially, there will be widespread confusion, mixed/competing messages, and reduced capacity to distribute messages to impacted communities.

q. Survivors will be self-evacuating, as well as communities evacuating as directed by the local Emergency Management Agency (EMA).

r. Families will be separated from each other.

s. Some people will not leave their homes or residences and must be cared for.

t. The local response capacity will be immediately exceeded, exhausted, or degraded.

u. Maximum and efficient utilization of all state and local resources is imperative to save the most lives following the earthquake.

v. The state will make every reasonable effort to respond in an emergency. However, state resources and systems will be overwhelmed. The responsibilities and tenets outlined in this Annex will be fulfilled depending on the situation, information exchange, extent of actual emergency capabilities, and available resources.

w. There will be aftershocks potentially as large as or larger than the initial earthquake, which may occur for many months. Multiple incidents may occur simultaneously or sequentially in contiguous and/or noncontiguous areas.

x. Secondary effects, such as fires and dam/levee breaches, will cause significant damage, compromise the safety of response and recovery personnel, and degrade the response effort in time and scope.

y. NIMS and ICS will be critical in maintaining an effective command, control, and management structure.

z. The ability to safely deploy and access the impacted area will be severely limited.

aa. Demand for information (public and governmental) will be extensive, but gaining situational awareness will take time, and information will be limited.

bb. Livestock and animals must be cared for, including those abandoned and accompanying shelter-seeking persons.

cc. In non-impacted states, infrastructure impacts will result in cascading effects (petroleum delivery systems, communications, energy generation, transmission, delivery, data pipelines, etc.).

dd. The state EMA is responsible for working with municipal, county, tribal, state, and federal agencies in the mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery of a catastrophic NMSZ earthquake.

ee. State requests for response assets will exceed the immediate Federal inventory of assets.

ff. All initial resources dedicated to Region IV will originate from east coast points of origin.

gg. Resources from the non-impacted Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) states will become available.

6. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS. A catastrophic incident will present a dynamic response and recovery environment requiring response plans and flexible strategies to address emerging or transforming needs and requirements effectively. Because of this fact, overlaps in time must be accepted when trying to identify (or estimate) specific phases with specifically assigned periods. Additionally, depending upon the magnitude of the initial event and the number and magnitude of aftershocks that may occur, all timelines identified may have to be significantly adjusted.

a. General Concepts.

(1) MEMA will coordinate state agencies from the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in Pearl, Mississippi.

(2) Depending on the event's magnitude, a forward area of operations may be established at Camp McCain in Elliott, Mississippi.

(3) SERT elements will be deployed to assist and advise from the forward area of operations.

(4) The SEOC will provide direction, control, and logistical support to affected areas and deployed assets.

b. Alert, Notification, and Warning.

(1) Earthquakes are no-notice events that occur at any time without warning. Seismologists can identify earthquake epicenters following an event but cannot predict the exact time and place they are likely to occur.

(2) The SEOC will activate immediately following notification of an occurrence, and MEMA officials will notify all response agencies to mobilize and deploy personnel.

c. Evacuation, Sheltering, and Other Response Operations.

(1) MEMA coordinates all emergency support functions outside the earthquake boundary or exclusion area with local authorities. Such functions include security of the area, monitoring, shelter measures, coordination of evacuation efforts, public information/warning statements, and logistic requirements for on-scene personnel.

(2) State and local governments must be prepared to support an unplanned evacuation and sheltering after the initial impact and before aftershocks through multiple ESFs. See the CEMP Evacuation and Sheltering Support Annexes for more information.

d. Recovery and Re-entry.

(1) MS SERT elements and other state response units will continuously communicate with the SEOC throughout the event to ensure the needed resources from other agencies to assist the recovery process through ESF #2 Communications.

(2) As needed, MEMA will provide recovery and re-entry information through Public Radio in Mississippi, the commercial broadcast media, and other sources through ESF #15 External Affairs and the Joint Information Center (JIC);

(3) Re-entry control points into the disaster areas following an earthquake must be established for the general public.

e. Direction and Control. Operations and missions required due to an earthquake will occur during the response and recovery phases.

(1) Response Phase. Because an earthquake is a no-notice event, the response phase begins with the incident and lasts until lifeline systems are partially restored. During this phase, functions critical to life-saving, protecting the populace, meeting basic human needs, securing critical infrastructure, and safeguarding state records are performed.

Phase I - Incident Occurrence through Day 14 (Life-saving and Life-Sustaining). The focus is on notification, situational awareness, and initiation of local response resources,

prioritizing life-saving and damage assessment. The continued priority remains on life-saving and life-sustainment operations, including medical treatment, sheltering/mass care services, and possibly evacuation. State/Federal supplemental resources will have been requested and may be activated and deployed in many cases.

Phase II - Day 14 through six months (Emergency Repair and Services to Basic Restoration and Human Services). Continue life-sustaining operations as required and focus on essential emergency repairs to critical infrastructure. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) disaster assistance programs will be implemented for housing, debris management, and repair/restoration of critical infrastructure. State and Federal supplemental assistance will have arrived. All ESFs are fully engaged in response to the event.

(2) Recovery Phase. There are usually no clear distinctions between when the response phase ends and when the recovery phase begins. This is even more difficult to distinguish during an earthquake due to possible aftershocks. Following an aftershock, the response phase must start again. There is typically a period after the earthquake in which both phases are in effect simultaneously. The recovery phase can last as long as two to three years or longer. During this phase, the Federal government provides disaster relief upon Presidential Disaster Declaration. Functions during this phase include federal relief under PL 93-288 for public and individual assistance, establishing Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs), temporary housing facilities, and federal disaster loans and grants. Long-term recovery includes restoration of affected areas to their normal or improved state.

Phase III – Six Months through Three to Five Years (Initial Recovery and Sustained Recovery). Continued support of Phase II with housing assistance, FEMA assistance programs, and initiation of long-term recovery strategy/programs with a goal toward fully implemented long-term recovery programs. This phase is considered a "recovery" phase, including implementing significant State/Federal assistance programs.

For this Earthquake Annex, recovery operations will touch on Damage Assessments and Debris Removal, as these are the two significant events that kick off the recovery phase of operations.

(a) Damage Assessments. During emergencies, the County EMA Directors will provide direction to County and City officials operating from the county EOC. In conjunction with the County EMA, county and city officials will coordinate all damage assessment activities. Damage assessment findings will be reported to the county EOC. Summary reports will be forwarded to the SEOC.

The utility liaison at the county EOC will collect information regarding private utility damages. Repairs to public facilities will begin as soon as possible. Priority will be given to facilities crucial to emergency response operations, such as roads and bridges.

Local government resources will be relied upon for most repair work with support from the state and federal governments. Immediately following a disaster, the county will assess public and private property damage to estimate damage based on actual observation and inspection.

Damage assessment usually occurs in two phases: Initial Assessment and Secondary Assessment.

- **Initial Assessment.** The initial assessment determines the general impact and damage to vital facilities and resources and provides a brief overview of the effects on citizens and businesses. The initial damage assessment should be augmented by "windshield" surveys and citizen reports to estimate the number of private homes and businesses affected.

An aerial survey of the county should be performed as soon as possible after the incident. The results of this survey will facilitate further damage assessment on the ground. Local building officials should direct damage assessment on vital facilities according to their assigned branch.

This survey should be completed as soon as possible since it will provide the supporting documentation for a disaster declaration and establish a base for the secondary assessment process. An assessment of damage to utilities and an evaluation of the immediate needs of the population, especially water and sanitation services, should be accomplished as soon as possible.

Potable water is a major concern following some emergencies. Power and gas for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning may also be extremely important, depending on the season.

- **Secondary Assessment.** Subsequent, in-depth assessments are conducted to determine the full extent of damage and the financial implications for disaster declarations and disaster assistance. Priorities in the initial assessment should be restoring emergency response, direction, and control capability, and saving lives.

The MEMA Offices of Housing and Individual Assistance and Public Assistance will gather costs associated with the damage to support disaster declarations and assistance requests. Resources and facilities vital to the county's economic recovery should be surveyed. These include hospitals, schools, financial institutions, and major employers. Some buildings or structures may require further engineering evaluation by a consultant hired by the owner.

Following local damage assessment, if the County EMA Director and Chief Executives detect a vast amount of damage, they should contact MEMA and request State/ Federal damage assessment teams. These teams will work with local officials to reassess the damage to see if there is enough damage to determine if the county is eligible for state or federal funds.

If state and federal teams are requested to assist with damage assessment, the County Board of Supervisors will designate various staging areas through the County EMA Director. Damage assessment teams would include at least one local, state, and federal official.

(b) Debris Removal. Removal of debris from public roads/highways is the responsibility of the agency responsible for its maintenance. Debris clearing and removal along state and federal re-entry routes will be the responsibility of MDOT. Care should be taken to ensure that debris removal efforts are coordinated with other agencies with an associated obligation.

MDOT typically removes debris from state, US, or interstate routes. Debris deposited on private property is the responsibility of the property owner. Information regarding pick-up times and locations for private property owners shall be distributed so debris removal activities can proceed efficiently.

MDOT cannot infringe on private property to remove debris without special authority (i.e., legislative or some agreement after an emergency declaration) and only then if the debris is considered an immediate threat to life, health, and safety. Ultimately, removing debris from private property is the property owner's responsibility.

Detailed Debris Management protocols are defined in the MDOT Debris Management Plan, found under separate cover in the MEMA Office of Public Assistance.

Contact the State Coordinating Officer (SCO), the MEMA Office of Housing and Individual Assistance, or the MEMA Office of Public Assistance for more information on Earthquake recovery operations.

For more information on the state's overall direction and control mechanisms, see the SEOC staff and/or the *MEMA Response Framework*.

7. ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES. All available state resources will be fully engaged to the maximum extent possible through the SEOC and the ESF concept. All agencies of state government will work with the federal government and its respective agencies to the fullest extent possible in responding to and recovering from an earthquake incident to expedite assistance, especially in life safety. Listed below is an overview of the primary earthquake incident responsibilities. As an earthquake incident will undoubtedly stress the "All-Hazards" response concept, see the CEMP base document and ESF Annexes for a comprehensive overview of state organizations and responsibilities.

a. State.

(1) Governor's Office.

(a) Provides direction and control to ensure the health and safety of the state's population.

(b) If needed, declare a state of emergency to enhance response and recovery.

(c) Requests federal assistance when needed.

(d) Issues executive orders, if required.

(e) Implements necessary protective actions and issues evacuation orders, if needed, through the MEMA Executive Director.

(2) Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (ESF #2, 5, 7, 14, 15).

(a) Co-Primary agency for ESF #2 (Communications), Primary agency for ESF #5 (Emergency Management), ESF #7 (Logistics), ESF #14 (Cross-Sector Business and Infrastructure), and ESF#15 (External Affairs).

(b) Convene Crisis Action Team (CAT) meetings to establish initial priorities.

(c) Staff the State Warning Point (SWP) 24/7/365.

(d) Activate and staff the SEOC, Business Emergency Operations Center (BEOC), and the Joint Information Center (JIC).

(e) Activate Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) radio operators.

(f) Coordinate with ESF #9 and FEMA RIV for SAR operations.

(g) Coordinate the medical hand-off of rescued victims with ESF #8 (Public Health and Medical Services) and ensure medical coverage for responders performing rescue services.

(h) Coordinate with ESF #7 to acquire ESF #9 SAR logistical needs for search and rescue efforts.

(i) Coordinate mental health services with ESF #8 for those performing SAR missions.

(j) Coordinate with other Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) states and FEMA to identify the availability of possible SAR resources.

(k) Provide continuity of technical, administrative, and material resources during

response operations.

(l) Coordinate the allocation and use of resources.

(m) Select state elements to deploy to Camp McCain or an alternate site to establish a forward emergency response element.

(n) Provide a Command and General Staff (C&GS) representative to the Forward Incident Command Post (ICP) with communications capability and decision-making authority as necessary.

(o) Deploy a Public Information Officer (PIO) with forward-deployed elements.

(p) The SEOC will provide direction, control, and logistical support to forward-deployed elements.

(q) Ensure the state emergency management process is organized in accordance with the NIMS, ICS, CEMP, and the MEMA Response Framework.

(r) Alert applicable state and local government agencies through established warning procedures.

(s) Implement the Incident Action Planning (IAP) Cycle to develop response objectives.

(t) Receive and disseminate signed State of Emergency (SOE) and Executive Order (EO).

(u) Provides adequate emergency communications.

(v) Assist state and local governments in developing and maintaining Earthquake critical transportation needs evacuation plans and procedures.

(w) Provide for collecting and disseminating public information in coordination with local government, neighboring states, and other agencies.

(x) Provide personnel for the JIC and Call Center.

(y) Establish liaisons with Congressional and National liaison groups.

(z) Coordinate emergency public information with the FEMA public affairs

representatives.

(3) Mississippi Department of Transportation (ESF #1).

(a) Coordinating and Primary Agency for ESF #1 (Transportation).

(b) Provide transportation assets to support the movement of supplies, equipment, and disaster workers.

(c) Assess damage to rail, pipeline, and port facilities.

(d) Contact the United States Coast Guard (USCG) for Mississippi River transit restrictions, limitations, or constraints.

(e) Assess damage to commercial airports immediately affected in the impacted area.

(f) Immediately evaluate the availability of transportation routes capable of use by response personnel.

(g) Manage transportation resources to support response requirements.

(h) Prioritize the use of existing or available transportation assets.

(i) Erect appropriate road/bridge closure signage for all roads and bridges deemed unsafe for travel.

(j) Perform expedient repairs of roads and bridges where deemed appropriate.

(k) Assist in the designation of safe evacuation routes.

(l) Assist ESF #6 (Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Temporary Housing, and Human Services) in moving emergency supplies into selected shelters or points of distribution (POD) areas identified as safe and on cleared secured routes.

(m) Assist ESF #8 with transportation requirements for access and functional needs populations.

(n) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(4) Mississippi Wireless Communication Commission (ESF #2).

(a) Primary agency for ESF #2 (Communications).

(b) Provide and maintain equipment and processes necessary to ensure interoperable communications.

(c) Mississippi Information and Technology Services (ITS) provides telecommunications systems, services, and support to state government agencies.

(d) Operates the Mississippi Wireless Information Network (MSWIN) 700 MHz P-25 statewide communication network and deploys Master Site-On-Wheels (MSOW) and Site-On-Wheels (SOWs) as necessary to the affected area.

(e) Maintains a cache of portable radios to be distributed during emergencies, training exercises, or special events.

(f) Coordinate with private-sector companies to restore and maintain communications networks and update SEOC with network status.

(g) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(5) Mississippi Public Service Commission (ESF #3).

(a) Primary agency for ESF #3 (Public Works and Engineering).

(b) Support agency for ESF#12 (Energy) to restore electrical power systems.

(c) Coordinate with the Mississippi Rural Water Association (MsRWA) and private companies to restore the affected areas' water and wastewater systems.

(d) Maintain public works and engineering systems status and provide system updates to SEOC.

(e) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(6) State Fire Marshal's Office (ESF #4).

(a) Coordinating Agency for ESF #4 (Firefighting).

(b) Support law enforcement as needed.

(c) Determine and coordinate resources with local government to suppress fires.

(d) Coordinate debris clearance with ESF #3 (Public Works and Engineering) to support fire and rescue services.

(e) Assess building and infrastructure for fire hazards.

(f) Support SAR operations.

(g) Provide damage information on economic damage to public/private forests.

(h) Coordinate with ESF #7 regarding procuring any specialized equipment, including heavy equipment needed for the firefighting effort.

(i) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(7) Mississippi Department of Human Services (ESF #6).

(a) Coordinating and Co-Primary Agency for ESF #6.

(b) As necessary, initiate and coordinate the State of Mississippi Multi-Agency Shelter Support Plan (MASSP).

(c) Relocate shelters from facilities determined by ESF #3 to be structurally damaged or otherwise unsafe.

(d) In coordination with ESF #7, support the request for resources for established feeding operations (including water, ice, and other essential commodities) at the designated shelter sites and other fixed sites through mobile feeding units and the bulk distribution of food at PODS.

(e) As safe shelters are identified, coordinate with ESF #1 to determine the status of safe routes to and around the shelter facility.

(f) As necessary, assist in the coordination of improvised emergency shelters.

(g) Assist in coordinating the reunification of families separated during the disaster.

(h) Coordinate with ESF #5 and ESF #6 on transitioning displaced persons from emergency shelters to short- and possibly long-term housing.

(i) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(8) Mississippi Department of Education (ESF #6).

(a) Co-Primary agency for ESF #6.

(b) Assist ESF #6 with sheltering and meals.

(c) Implement public school closure as directed by the Board of Education.

(d) Assist local school districts with getting schools back open.

(e) Coordinate with local school districts to use school buses, as feasible, when needed to support emergency evacuation. Note: School district-employed bus drivers may not be available in this situation. (In all probability, this will be the case in districts directly affected by the Earthquake).

(f) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(9) Mississippi Forestry Commission (ESF #7).

(a) Primary Agency for ESF #7 (Logistics).

(b) Provide an IMAT to establish and operate the SSA.

(c) Conduct commodity management and distribution in coordination with MEMA and the MSNG.

(d) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(10) Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration (ESF #7).

(a) Primary Agency for ESF #7 (Logistics).

(b) Provide contracting and procurement specialists to serve as members of the SEOC Logistics Section for each operational period when the SEOC is activated.

(c) Ensure expedient, streamlined contracting and procurement procedures are in place to facilitate a quick response to any Resource Manager Request.

(d) Provide an experienced property auditor/assistant to serve as a member of the Acquisition Management Team in the SEOC Logistics Section for each operational period when the SEOC is activated.

(e) Maintain a listing of Qualified Providers for goods and services that can be used in a State of Emergency.

(f) Evaluate and monitor long-term public and contractual resources.

(g) Assist in identifying and procuring logistics and supplies to support recovery operations.

(h) Provide timely reports on resource status.

(i) Coordinate needs with the federal ESF #7.

(11) Mississippi State Department of Health (ESF #8).

(a) Coordinating and Primary Agency for ESF #8.

(b) Coordinate and maintain the status of emergency medical triage and treatment, casualty collection sites, and transport services in the impacted area.

(c) Coordinate with ESF #1 regarding medical transportation issues as required.

(d) Coordinate with ESF #6 to provide essential medical services in emergency shelters using volunteers.

(e) Assist local emergency medical services in evacuating non-ambulatory patients to other medical facilities.

(f) Coordinate mass fatality operations.

(g) Coordinate mortuary services and family assistance centers.

(h) Coordinate mental health/crisis counseling services for disaster victims and emergency responders.

(i) Coordinate with ESF #7 regarding supplemental health/medical re-supply issues.

(j) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(12) Mississippi Office of Homeland Security (ESF #9).

(a) Coordinating and Primary Agency for ESF #9 in coordination with the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks (MDWFP) and MEMA.

(b) Identify logistical needs for search and rescue efforts and coordinate acquisition with ESF#7.

(c) Coordinate the development, notification, and mobilization of the Mississippi SAR Task Force(s) and the Response Logistical Task Force to support SAR operations.

(d) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(13) Mississippi Department of Wildlife Fisheries & Parks (ESF #9).

(a) Coordinating and Primary Agency for ESF #9 in coordination with the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security (MOHS) and MEMA.

(b) Identify logistical needs for search and rescue efforts and coordinate acquisition with ESF #7.

(c) Assist with security at POD sites.

(d) Assist local law enforcement as needed.

(e) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(14) Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (ESF #10).

(a) Coordinating and Primary agency for ESF #10.

(b) Survey impacted areas to assess the impact on critical facilities and locations where hazardous chemicals, flammable substances, and explosives are stored and/or used.

(c) Establish exclusion zones around hazardous material release sites and provide technical guidance on areas requiring evacuation.

(d) Provide directives and technical assistance to removing contaminated materials or injured persons and evacuating people from hazardous areas.

(e) Provide decontamination and substance removal guidance and assistance.

(f) Identify logistical needs for HAZMAT response efforts and coordinate acquisition with ESF #7.

(g) Assist ESF #3 by responding to emergency calls from dam owners and emergency response personnel to ensure the safety of dams that may have the potential to breach and impact the public.

(h) Coordinate with ESF #4 to identify fire situations threatening HAZMAT facilities or locations.

(i) Coordinate all HAZMAT response efforts with MDEQ field personnel who have responded to the affected areas.

(j) Assist ESF #3 with assessing, rehabilitating, and restoring public sewage collection and treatment systems.

(k) Develop and implement emergency debris removal and disposal guidance with ESF #3 and coordinate the siting and operation of emergency debris management sites with local governing authorities and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) when activated.

(l) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(15) Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (ESF #11).

(a) Coordinating and Co-Primary Agency for ESF #11 (Animals, Agriculture, and Natural Resources).

(b) Coordinate food safety response activities, including inspecting and verifying food safety aspects of slaughter and processing plants, products in distribution, and retail sites under the department's jurisdiction.

(c) Assist local farms and ranchers with the relocation of livestock.

(d) Assist local individuals with damage assessments to crops.

(e) Assist ESF #6 with shelter needs.

(f) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(16) Mississippi Board of Animal Health (ESF #11).

(a) Coordinating and Co-Primary agency for ESF #11 (Animals, Agriculture, and Natural Resources).

(b) Alert/activate any veterinary emergency personnel residing as provided by the current affected counties' CEMP.

(c) Coordinate the provision of companion/service animal sheltering with ESF #6.

(d) If required, identify potential animal carcass disposal sites and collection and disposal methods in coordination with ESF #8 and ESF #10.

(e) In coordination with ESF #15, issue animal health and care advisories.

(f) Initiate the rescue, transport, shelter, identification, triage, and treatment of domesticated animals in affected areas.

(g) As soon as possible, coordinate the identification of any supplemental animal health resources needed for the state from the federal level and provide them to the SEOC for submission to FEMA.

(h) Coordinate with the SEOC all domesticated animal response efforts with any MS Board of Animal Health (MBAH) field personnel who may have responded in the affected counties.

(i) Coordinate burial and/or disposal of animal carcasses.

(j) Review and authenticate out-of-state veterinary licenses and certification for in-state use as the state licensing board directs.

(k) Coordinate emergency medical care for all animals.

(l) Coordinate support for the sheltering of pets for persons within medical needs shelters.

(m) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(17) Mississippi Public Utilities Staff (ESF #12).

(a) Coordinating and Primary agency for ESF #12 (Energy).

(b) Determine damage impact and operating capabilities of utilities in the disaster area.

(c) Prioritize resource deployment to critical areas.

(d) Coordinate with private companies to restore the affected areas' electrical, water, and communications.

(e) Coordinate pipeline restoration.

(f) Coordinate logistical support requirements with utility restoration crews.

(g) Coordinate the use of state resources to support restoration efforts when applicable.

(h) Coordinate identifying any supplemental energy resources that may be needed for the state from the federal level and provide them to the SEOC for submission to FEMA.

(i) Continue to maintain an affected county's energy status report that reflects damage/outage information previously collected and projected power restoration dates.

(j) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(18) Mississippi Department of Public Safety (ESF #13).

(a) Coordinating and Primary agency for ESF #13 (Public Safety and Security).

(b) In coordination with ESF #1, establish a traffic management/control plan based on damage to primary/secondary roads and bridges.

(c) Provide security at critical facilities and other locations, including hospitals, shelters, casualty collection points, a major fire or HAZMAT locations, jails, government facilities, etc.

(d) Support SAR operations and traffic control.

(e) Provide security and property protection.

(f) In coordination with ESF #15, disseminate critical public safety information.

(g) Provide 24-hour backup communications capability.

(h) Assist the Mississippi Military Department (MMD) in providing 24-hour protection of critical highway facilities against sabotage.

(i) Provide for identification of any deceased persons with assistance from the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH).

(j) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

(19) Mississippi Military Department (ESF #16).

(a) Coordinating agency for ESF #16 (Military Support to Civil Authorities).

(b) Assist with the security of locations as needed.

(c) Assess damage to roads, bridges, and infrastructure.

(d) Conduct a structural safety assessment and structural demolition.

(e) Coordinate with ESF #1 for highway, bridge, and runway repair.

(f) In coordination with ESF #1 and ESF #10 (Oil and Hazardous Materials Response), develop a debris removal plan, including identifying possible disposal sites.

(g) Establish and operate POD sites for commodities;

(h) Assist with aerial and ground SAR.

(i) Remove debris from rights of way.

(j) Assist local governments and state agencies as directed by the Governor.

(k) Assist local law enforcement as needed.

(l) Coordinate response and recovery efforts with federal, state, local, private-sector, and out-of-state relief counterparts.

b. Tribal. The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (MBCI) tribal lands are generally away from direct Earthquake impacts. However, depending on the earthquake's strength, tribal land could sustain impacts. MBCI's responsibilities and actions will be similar to those outlined below in "c. Local."

c. Local.

(1) County Boards of Supervisors.

(a) Responsible for directing and controlling the county's response to an Earthquake incident.

(b) Declares a state of local emergency when conditions warrant such measures.

(c) Prepares a local resolution to the Governor requesting an SOE.

(d) Impose a curfew within designated boundaries to preserve public order and safety.

(e) Order the evacuation of select areas affected by the earthquake.

(f) Control or restrict egress, ingress, and movement within the disaster area to the degree necessary to protect life and property.

(2) Local Civil Defense/Emergency Management Agencies.

(a) Develop and maintain a local Earthquake Response Plan.

(b) Coordinates with MEMA, MSDH, Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS), and American Red Cross (ARC) to implement protective action decisions.

(c) Activate local Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

(d) Directs the county's response, assigns missions and tasks, and directs the action taken to control emergency operations.

(e) Coordinates with MEMA External Affairs on the dissemination of all public information.

(3) County Sherriff's Offices.

(a) Maintains the 24-hour county warning point, where applicable.

(b) Maintains communications with county EOC.

(c) Assists with evacuations.

(d) Maintains law and order within the jurisdiction.

(e) Provides a representative to the incident command post with communication and decision-making authority to establish and assume incident command as required.

(f) Establishes Traffic Control Points (TPCs) at pre-designated locations to limit ingress and control egress from affected areas within the county.

(4) County Department of Human Services.

(a) Supports the ARC and other county or volunteer organizations, staffing shelter facilities as needed.

(b) Provides a central location service to reunite separated family members.

(5) County Health Departments.

(a) Assists with any health hazard that might arise.

(b) Maintains coordination with the County Department of Human Services.

(c) Ensures first aid and other medical and dental support are available to the shelter facilities.

(6) County Road Maintenance/Departments. Provide personnel and equipment for traffic and access control at designated points within the county.

(7) County Public School Districts.

(a) Arranges for the termination of school activities as necessary.

(b) Assists the County Department of Human Services in reuniting families that have been separated during an evacuation.

(8) City Mayors.

(a) Responsible for directing and controlling the city's evacuation procedures and response to Earthquake effects.

(b) Impose a curfew within designated boundaries to preserve public order and safety.

(9) City Police Departments.

(a) Maintains law and order within their jurisdiction.

(b) Assists with the evacuation of residents.

(c) Maintains communication with the County EOC.

d. Volunteer.

(1) American Red Cross.

(a) Acts as the lead agency for shelter facility activities.

(b) Provides personnel and supplies to operate the shelter facilities.

(c) Provides EOC support.

(d) Provides family member location service.

(e) Provides food for evacuees as needed.

(2) Salvation Army. Provides support to shelter facility operations.

(3) Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (R.A.C.E.S). Provide backup communications capability to state and local EOCs.

e. Federal.

(1) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

(a) Deploy Liaison to SEOC upon request by the state.

(b) Deploy Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT) and collateral duty personnel to SEOC upon request by the state.

(c) Process pre-declaration requests.

(d) Deploy a Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) upon request by the state.

(e) Deploy appropriate Mobile Emergency Response Systems (MERS) resources to state if required/requested.

(f) Order commodities for affected states.

(g) Coordinate with ESF#8 to identify and pre-stage appropriate National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) capabilities/caches (National Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT), Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Teams (DMORT), etc.

(h) Coordinate with ESF#9 to identify and pre-stage appropriate SAR capabilities/caches.

(i) Coordinate with ESF#3 to identify and pre-stage appropriate Power Response Teams (PRTs), generators, and other personnel/resources.

(j) As requested, place ambulance/motor coach contract resources on alert.

(k) Establish an Air Operations Branch.

(l) Determine potentially impacted Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources (CIKR) and life-saving/sustaining facilities and estimate potential support requirements.

(m) Monitor state evacuation status.

(2) National Weather Service (NWS).

(a) Receive, evaluate, and disseminate to the state Primary Warning Points, forecasts, predictions, and other pertinent data regarding the possibility of adverse weather conditions.

(b) Broadcast weather information continuously and warn as required on the Statewide Weather Broadcast System.

(c) Alert the MEMA Director or the duty officer of all watches and warnings.

(d) Provides a National Weather Service (NWS) liaison to support 24-hour SEOC operations for Level 3 Activations and above.

(e) Issue statements when weather conditions no longer pose a significant threat.

(3) United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Carry out all FEMA-directed missions, such as but not limited to:

(a) Debris removal missions.

(b) Commodities distribution missions.

(c) Temporary roofing missions.

(d) Provide emergency power.

(e) Provide temporary public structure.

(4) United States Coast Guard (USCG).

(a) Provide river traffic advisories and updates.

(b) Conduct search and rescue operations.

(c) Provide LNOs to the SECO, as required.

8. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES. The procedures in this Earthquake Incident Annex are built on the core coordinating structures of the CEMP and references listed below. The specific responsibilities of each department and agency are described in the respective ESF, Support, and Incident Annexes, internal agency plans, policies, and procedures. See the CEMP Base Plan or the SEOC Operations Section for a comprehensive list of Authorities and References.

a. Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act; amended the Disaster Relief Act of 1974, PL 93-288.
https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-03/stafford-act_2019.pdf

b. Public Law 104-321, October 1996 (EMAC)
Public Law 104-321, October 1996

c. MS Code, Ann. Â§ 33-15(1972): Mississippi Emergency Management Act of 1995, Title 33-15, et al. [Successor to Mississippi Emergency Management Law of 1980]
MS Code 33-15

d. National Preparedness Goal, September 2015
https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/national_preparedness_goal_2nd_edition.pdf

e. National Incident Management System, Third Edition, October 2017
https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/148019

f. National Response Framework, Fourth Edition, October 2019
https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/NRF_FINALApproved_2011028.pdf

g. FEMA Incident Action Planning Guide, July 2015
https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-07/Incident_Action_Planning_Guide_Revision1_august2015.pdf

h. FEMA Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plan, Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 101, Version 3.0, September 2021
https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_cpg-101-v3-developing-maintaining-eops.pdf

i. MEMA Response Framework, June 2023
MEMA SharePoint/Response Framework

j. Mississippi Earthquake Impact Assessment: Analysis of M7.5 Event, Volume 1, February 2022
Office of Preparedness/Earthquake Program

k. Mississippi Earthquake Impact Assessment: Probabilistic Analysis, Volume 2, April 2022
Office of Preparedness/Earthquake Program

9. REVIEW AND MAINTENANCE. This Annex will be continuously reviewed and exercised to evaluate the state's and political subdivisions' ability to execute response and recovery operations and support tribal, local, and municipal emergency management agencies. Directors of primary state agencies are responsible for maintaining internal policies, plans, SOPs, checklists, and resource data to ensure a prompt and effective response to a disaster in support of this Annex. For training purposes and exercises, the MEMA Executive Director may activate this Annex as deemed necessary to ensure high operational readiness.

MEMA will revise this Annex on a biennial basis. The revision will include testing, reviewing, and updating the document and its procedures. This Annex will be updated every two years, or as necessary, to incorporate new presidential or state directives, legislative changes, and procedural changes based on lessons learned from exercises and actual incidents. This Annex will be rewritten every four (4) years.

MEMA coordinates updates, modifications, and changes to the Annex. Heads of state agencies with ESF coordinator responsibility will periodically provide information regarding changes with available resources, personnel, and operating procedures. Recommended changes will be submitted to MEMA for approval and distribution. Submit recommendations via e-mail to preparedness@mema.ms.gov.

This Annex applies to all state agencies, state boards, state commissions, and state departments assigned emergency responsibilities and to all elements of local government in accordance with current law and Executive Orders (EOs).