FERC NOTIFICATION PROCESS IN RESPONSE TO AN INCIDENT AT A FERC HYDRO FACILITY

- Coordination with Area Dam Owners & EOC (EAP)
- Public Safety, Emergency & Law Enforcement Notifications (EAP)
- State/Federal Dam Safety Agencies, DHS/FEMA & National terror threat database
  - E-notification to all licensees

Hydro Incident Occurs

Licensee Representative

FERC Regional Office D2SI RE ¹

FERC WO Office D2SI Division Director ²

OEP Office Director ³

FERC Chairman, Commissioners and Executive Director ⁴

FERC Office of External Affairs ⁵

- The Hill ⁶
- Media Requests
- Requests from Public

Local/State Emergency & Law Response ⁷

On-site State & Federal Response

FERC Emergency Response Team to Site & EOC ²

Bold lines represent Primary Lines of Communication within FERC.
All lines of communication are two way.
(Details on attached page)
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Authority

Part 12 of the Commission’s Regulations – Paragraph 12.4(b)(i-iv) – Establishes the supervisory authority of the Regional Engineer or other authorized representative over any condition affecting the safety of the project. Significant instances of sabotage are specifically cited in Paragraph 12.3(b)(4)(xi) as a condition affecting the safety of a project.

Notification Process

1. FERC Regional Office is notified of incident as soon as possible by telephone under 24/7/365 provisions.

2. FERC Washington Office is notified of incident by telephone immediately by Regional Office under 24/7/365 provisions. FERC D2SI Emergency Response Team, including at least one supervisor, is mobilized to field and local Emergency Operations Center as soon as logistically able (a function of distance and flight schedules). After all FERC notifications are made (see 4 through 7 below), other appropriate Federal and state agencies are notified by the FERC WO and all licensees are notified via email of the incident.

3. FERC OEP Office Director is notified of incident by FERC WO under 24/7/365 provisions.

4. FERC Chairman, Commissioners, and Executive Director are notified of incident by OEP under 24/7/365 provisions.

5. FERC Office of External Affairs (OEA) is notified of incident by OEP after under 24/7/365 provisions.

6. Congressional interests are notified of incident by FERC OEA.

7. Appropriate emergency response activities are conducted to reduce the consequences of the terrorist act and provide protection to the public under the provisions of the Emergency Action Plan (EAP).

The emergency event is terminated upon the successful conclusion of the emergency response by the licensee under provisions of the EAP. The FERC Regional Office is provided a written report of incident by the licensee.
1. Preplanning and licensee education is a continuing activity to enhance the emergency response via: 1) FERC EAP and security guidance; 2) EAP procedure outreach workshops and classes; 3) EAP exercising and maintenance; 4) Licensee outreach education regarding terrorist activities, security response, and threat information; and 5) Ensuring that licensees coordinate with emergency responders and law enforcement agencies.

2. The EAP is established and exercised for all major FERC dams with provisions for internal and external lines of communications and all other activities occurring during the emergency response.

3. The Security Plan is established for all major FERC dams with provisions to address security concerns and to increase the security stance if local threat increases. These plans are periodically reviewed by licensees and FERC staff and changes are made to the plans and additional security measures are put in place as needed. EAP training is coordinated semi-annually with licensees and emergency responders.

4. During an emergency, utilizing the pre-established “Preparations for Handling Emergencies and Potential Emergencies at Projects”, the FERC Emergency Response Teams will mobilize to the field as soon as logistically possible.

5. Depending on the magnitude of the event, from one to several dam safety engineers, a security specialist and a supervisor will mobilize to the site and to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The engineer(s) and security specialist will provide technical support to the licensee and the supervisor will provide administrative support while stationed in the EOC to the licensee, FERC Washington Office, local, state and federal agencies. State coordination will include provisions internal to the state to include notification and support up to the Governor.

6. The FERC supervisor will also address media requests in a general nature on a local level to a minimum, controlled level and will direct media requests for more details to OEA. FERC WO will notify state/federal dam safety agencies, DHS/FEMA and a national federal dam sector threat center. This center will in turn notify appropriate Washington D.C. Intelligence and Law Enforcement analysis departments. Other infrastructure sectors could be notified through DHS.

7. Emergency coordination efforts will continue through FERC until the emergency is declared terminated by the Emergency Operations Center and the licensee.
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When terminated, FERC and the licensee will make an assessment of the efficiency of the response, revise procedures accordingly, and coordinate the lessons learned with other state/federal agencies.

8. Appropriate staff has received either secret or top secret clearances to allow access to critical information during a terrorist event. The FERC Security Committee (FERC and licensee staff) meet periodically to make certain the dam security program is properly maintained and implemented. Periodic coordination with licensees occur to discuss necessary activities and to keep all licensees current.