



Office for Domestic Preparedness Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER) Program Fact Sheet

July, 2002

Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER) Program

Background

The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP), in coordination with the Department of Energy, Office of Assets Utilization, National Center of Excellence for Materials Recycle (DOE), is pleased to announce the Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER) Program. The goal of the HDER Program is to provide surplus radiological detection instrumentation and other equipment, as well as training and technical support, to emergency responder agencies nationwide to enhance their domestic preparedness capabilities. The Program will be validated through a Pilot Project.

The HDER Program Pilot Project

The HDER Program will have an initial Pilot Project focusing on the ten (10) largest metropolitan areas in the United States. Based on 2000 U.S. Bureau of the Census data, these metropolitan areas are: *New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, Washington D.C., San Francisco, Philadelphia, Boston, Detroit, Dallas and Houston*. ODP will work with its state administrative agency (SAA) contacts in each state containing a selected area to establish a framework for administration of the HDER Program Pilot Project. Responder agencies in each of the selected areas will then have access to a substantial inventory of radiological detection instrumentation and other equipment that is no longer required by the Federal government. This equipment will be rehabilitated and provided at no cost to the recipient.

In addition, training on the use of the equipment items and long term support for their maintenance and calibration will also be available.

Pilot Project Equipment

Surplus instrumentation and equipment available through this program includes hand-held dose rate meters (e.g. ionization chambers), electronic pulsers, microrem meters, count rate meters used for contamination surveys, instrument probes (I.E. alpha and gamma scintillation and Geiger Mueller (G-M) probes) and pocket ionization chambers (self-reading pocket dosimeters). Additional instrumentation and equipment items will be added as the program matures.

Pilot Project Training

Training on the use of the equipment will be available to the emergency responders in the selected metropolitan areas through ODP's Domestic Preparedness Equipment Technical Assistance Program (DPETAP). DPETAP is a comprehensive, national equipment technical assistance program for emergency responders conducted in partnership with the U.S. Army's Pine Bluff Arsenal. This program assists responders in the proper operation and maintenance of their radiological, chemical, and biological detection and response equipment by providing detailed technical information and hands-on equipment operation and maintenance training.

Pilot Project Support

Local support for the equipment will also be available through a partnership with the Health Physics Society (HPS). HPS is a 6,000 member scientific organization of professionals who specialize in radiation safety. Volunteers from local HPS chapters in the selected metropolitan areas will be available to arrange annual calibration and basic maintenance for the equipment, provide hands-on refresher training if required and serve as a local source of expertise for questions regarding the instrumentation.

Participation in the Pilot Project

Each SAA point of contact will be provided with an initial inventory list of instrumentation and equipment available through the HDER Program Pilot Project, as well as a form for requesting the desired items and any associated training. ODP will coordinate with DOE on the delivery of the equipment and with DPETAP to schedule the requested training. Requests may be made quarterly, and an inventory list of available equipment will be provided at the start of each calendar quarter.

The quantity and type of items available through the HDER Program Pilot Project will vary. In addition, the specific number of each type of instrumentation that may be requested by each selected area per quarter may be limited to ensure equality in their distribution. All shipments of instrumentation and equipment will be made to the designated SAA point of contact for distribution. Finally, training will be provided on classes of equipment, not specific makes and models. Availability of this training for specific dates is also subject to the availability of the DPETAP mobile training teams. The inventory list provided each quarter to the SAA point of contact will clearly identify any restrictions.

HDER Contact Information

Questions about the HDER program may be directed to:

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Additional information may also be obtained by contacting the ODP Helpline at:
1-800-368-6498.