

Public Health Preparedness Planning

Senior Advisory Committee Meeting
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Planning Value

Writing a plan forces you to think about what you would or should do in an emergency.

Plans help identify needed resources and define roles and responsibilities.

Written plans allow you to trace through steps to:

- *Ensure doing all things needed,*
- *Help identify what went well, and*
- *Help identify what went needs to be improved.*

Plans can capture lessons learned in exercises and real events so future responses are improved.

Primary Planning Functions

Manage public health emergency preparedness plan development and revision

Mentor the continued development of the Planning Section staff at the Health Operations Center (HOC)

Manage Vermont's radiological public health program

- *Vermont Yankee (VY)*
- *Non-VY radiological emergency planning*
- *Medical and industrial X-ray users*
- *Electromagnetic fields (EMF)*

Plan Development

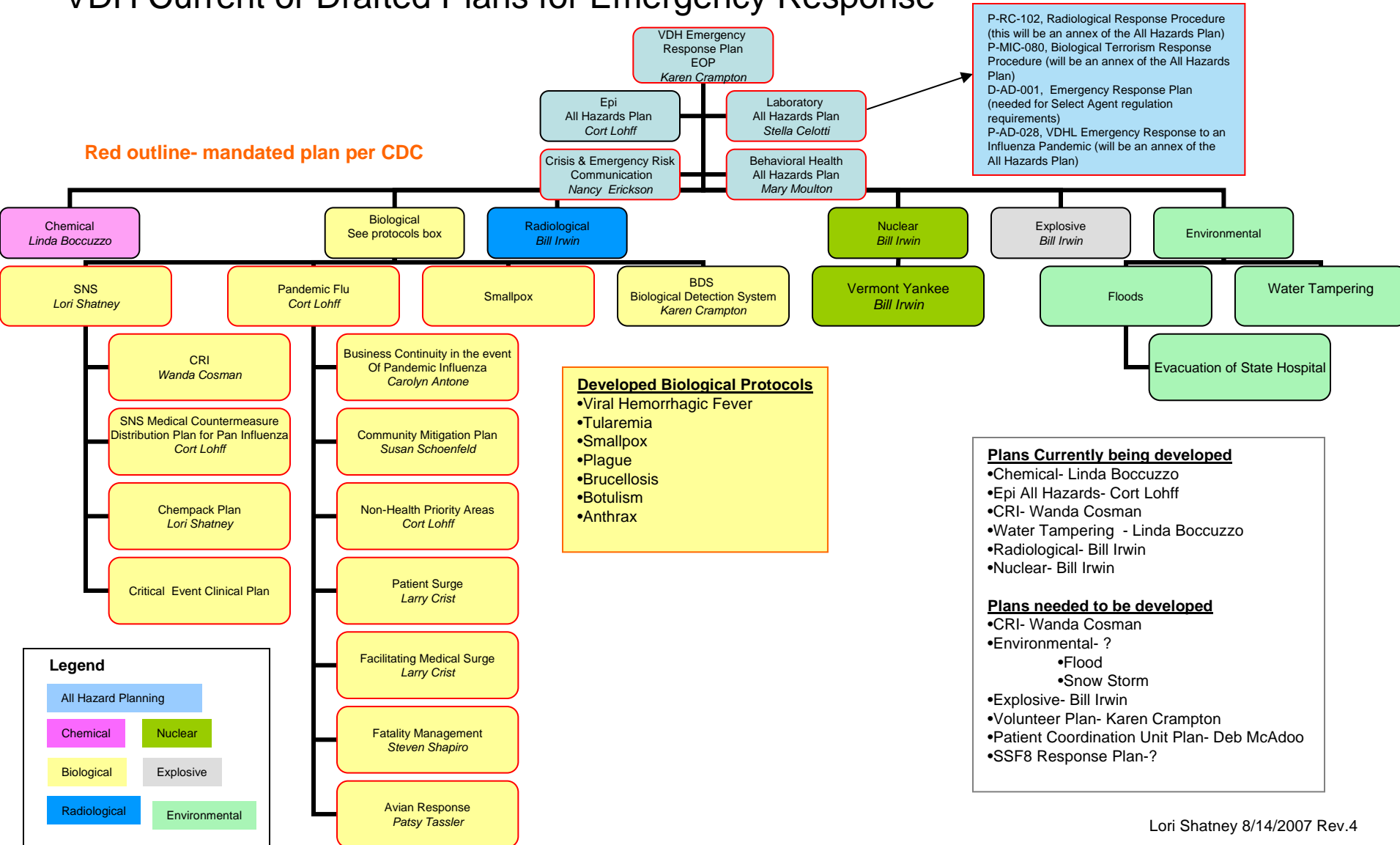
The VDH is currently working on 33 plans (see next page).

- *17 may be considered fully drafted*
- *10 are in in initial development*
- *6 need to be started*

A variety of formats were used to write them all.

All need revision to make them current.

VDH Current or Drafted Plans for Emergency Response



Planning Priority Project

The CDC requested grantees develop “Priority Projects” to address major gaps or to complete essential programs.

A Planning Priority Project was submitted for the 2007-2008 grant year.

Chosen on the basis of gaps in plan quality, plan completion status and plan revision needs.

Planning Priority Project, *cont.*

Using Microsoft Project, identify the precursors, timelines and milestones for each plan as it moves from unwritten, to draft form to operational readiness.

Identify the appropriate format to use for plans.

Write a procedure for plan writing, review, approval and revision.

Train plan writers on the procedure.

Plans and Training

Once written, plans must be validated through training and exercises.

Training and exercise after action reviews (AAR) collect recommendations to improve plans.

Corrective action plans describe means to incorporate AAR recommendations into plans when revised.

Plans to be revised annually.

VY Radiological Planning

Continue to revise plans and procedures for various Radiological Emergency Response Program plans and procedures.

Continue training individuals and teams on the new plans and procedures.

Continue to allocate needed resources for individuals and teams.

2008 effort to focus on VDH plan revisions for 2007 graded exercise lessons learned .

Non-VY Radiological Planning

Working with

Vermont Homeland Security Unit

to revise radiological and nuclear emergency response annexes to State Emergency Operations Plan.

Vermont Hazardous Materials Response Team

to develop procedures for radiological/nuclear responses, to obtain instrumentation for responses and to train team members for responses.

Vermont National Guard Civil Support Team

to improve integration of other resources with theirs.

Non-VY Radiological Planning, *cont.*

Recent submissions from VDH for the State Preparedness Report reveals that FEMA/DHS are also interested in Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive detection capability.

May want to expand the environmental surveillance activities that are used for VY to improve radiological/nuclear detection capabilities outside Windham County.

New England Radiological Health Committee

The NERHC, founded in 1967, has a mutual aid agreement, called the New England Compact, for radiological emergencies.

Originally, the NEC was written to address emergencies at the Yankee Atomic plants.

Currently, working to revise the NEC to deal with non-nuclear power plant emergencies.

Held its 38th annual conference in November 2007 and it focused on radiological dispersal device response – an 8-hour training program, a 4-hour tabletop exercise and an 8-hour full-scale functional exercise.