

Boilerplate statements for News Release Writer

Event Categorization

Pantex Plant has categorized this event as an “**operational emergency.**” An operational emergency is declared when an event at the plant requires a special response. It is not likely that residents will have to take any action during an operational emergency.

Pantex Plant has categorized this event as an “**alert.**” An alert is an emergency condition with some potential to involve hazardous materials at the plant. An alert will have localized (if any) consequences and will not affect areas outside the plant boundary. It is not likely that residents will have to take any action during an alert.

Pantex Plant has categorized this event as a “**site area emergency.**” A site area emergency is an emergency condition with potential to involve the hazardous materials at the plant. Pantex Employees will take protective actions during a site area emergency. Residents should remain alert for further developments regarding this event.

Pantex Plant has categorized this event as a “**general emergency.**” A general emergency is declared when a very serious problem exists at the plant that may require protection of the public in affected areas. Some local residents will likely need to take action during a general emergency.

JIC Activation

A Joint Information Center (JIC) has been activated to coordinate the release of information about this event to the media. Located at the Amarillo College Business and Industry Center, 1314 S. Polk in Amarillo, Texas, the JIC will host periodic news conferences and provide news releases and other background information. The JIC is comprised of representatives from Pantex and other local, state and national emergency response organizations who are managing this situation. Residents with questions about Pantex’s response should call 806-477-7774 for the latest information.

ERTF

The Emergency Radiation Treatment Facility (ERTF) provides emergency medical treatment for all Pantex Plant personnel (including contractors, subcontractors, and visitors) who are injured or ill and are radiologically contaminated as a result of an incident at Pantex. The ERTF has been established and is maintained by the Amarillo Veteran’s Affairs Health Care System through an interagency agreement with the DOE.

Reception Center

If Emergency Alert System bulletins advise citizens to evacuate from their homes or work areas, they are directed to the Amarillo Reception Center. The Reception Center is located at the Tri-State Fairgrounds Sports Arena at the corner of Grand Avenue and East 3rd Avenue in Amarillo. It serves as a single location to receive and assist individuals and families displaced by an emergency incident. In the event of an emergency incident at the Pantex Plant, emergency response personnel will monitor potentially radiologically contaminated individuals and, when necessary, decontaminate those individuals. They are also registered to aid friends and relatives in finding them if necessary.

RAP Team

The purpose of the Pantex Radiological Assistance Program (RAP) is to provide support in the event of radiological incidents offsite. During emergencies at Pantex, the RAP supports the Pantex Plant Radiation Safety Department (RSD). While RSD has the primary responsibility for onsite response to radiological incidents, including emergencies, the RAP assists RSD in conducting onsite radiological monitoring, radiological assessment, decontamination, and contamination control support operations.

NOAA Weather Radios

Attention area residents and visitors located in the Pantex Plant 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone. An emergency event has occurred at the U.S. Department of Energy Pantex Plant. Residents and visitors that are located in sectors (sector numbers) or are (downwind direction) of the Pantex Plant are at greatest risk from this emergency and need to shelter-in-place immediately. Local officials also recommend shelter-in-place protective actions for all other residents and visitors in the Pantex Plant 10-Mile Emergency Planning Zone. Residents and visitors in the affected area should remain sheltered-in-place and stay tuned to NOAA Weather Radio, local radio, or local television stations for further information and instructions. Additional emergency information can be found in the Pantex Area Emergency Preparedness Calendar or inside the front cover of the Amarillo SBC Yellow Pages.