

# RETAIL FOOD EMERGENCY PLANNING AND EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTION

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# AGENDA

- Review: Comprehensive Food Protection Plan
- Development: Emergency Action Planning Guidance for Retail Food Establishments
- Overview: Emergency Action Planning Guidance for Retail Food Establishments
- Application: Emergency Action Planning Guidance for Retail Food Establishments
- Development: Operation Food Distribution
- Overview: Operation Food Distribution
- Q &A

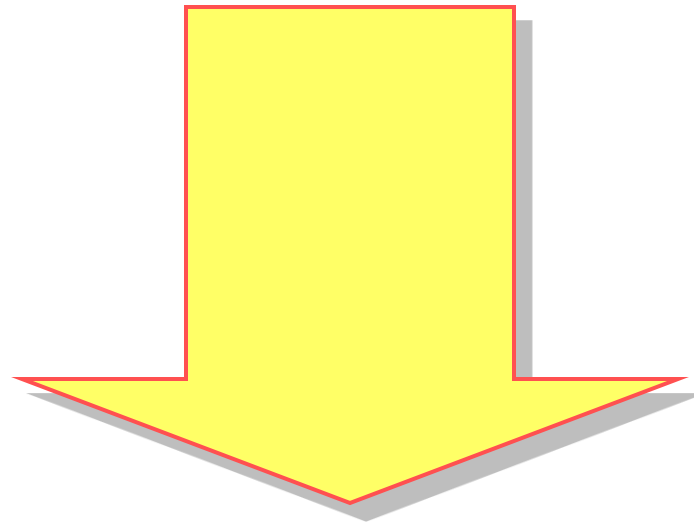
# PRESIDENT'S FOOD SAFETY WORKING GROUP

- Prioritizing prevention
- Strengthening surveillance and enforcement
- Improving response and recovery
- Need to modernize food safety statutes
- Merge food safety with FER



# A NEW PARADIGM

**Reactive**



**Proactive**

# FOOD AND EMERGENCIES

## *Who Cares?*

- **Economics:** 43% of companies struck by disaster never resume operations, 29% of those that resume business fail within two years.
- **Consumers:** food is a necessity and we love to eat and eat and eat some more.
- **Public Health Professionals:** foods must be safe, wholesome and available.

# **Development: Emergency Action Planning Guidance For Retail Food Establishments**

- The original document was produced by the Emergency Preparedness Committee of Council II during the 2004-2006 Conference of Food Protection.
- Revised by the same group during the 2006-2008 Conference of Food Protection.
- NJDSS revisions, additions and contact information

# Overview: Emergency Action Planning Guidance for Retail Food Establishments

- Practical guidance for retail grocery and food service establishments in planning and responding to emergencies that have the potential to create an imminent health hazard.

*No mandate - it is a guide*

- Location:

<http://nj.gov/health/foodanddrugsafety>

# Introduction: Emergency Action Planning Guidance for Retail Food Establishments(General Issues)

- Assess your own jurisdiction for special vulnerabilities
- **FEM** (**F**ood **E**stablishment **M**anagement) is responsible for assessing compliance with food safety requirements
- Plan should be site specific
- Power outages – most frequent man-made disaster

# General Responsibilities of the License Holder

- Assess the situation
- Determine if a safe operation can be maintained using an alternative procedure
- Contact local health department
- Discontinue operation/close facility if a safe operation cannot be maintained using an alternative procedure.

# General Responsibilities of the State Health Department

- Edit Emergency Action Planning Guide with State Specific information (ex contact info ; boiled water advisory, etc. )
- Make guide available
- Educate Retail Associations
- Educate Local Health departments
- Educate mayors, law enforcement?

# General Responsibilities of the Local Health Department

- Conduct education and outreach to regulated community on the Emergency Action Planning Guide.
- Distribute NJ State Department of Health and Senior Services One Page Emergency Preparedness Notice

FLOOD?



FIRE?



ELECTRICITY OUT?



# ARE YOU READY?

## Emergency Planning for Retail Food Establishments

Emergency Action Planning  
Guidelines  
for  
Retail Food Establishments

Developed by the New Jersey Department of Health  
in cooperation with the National Food Safety Inspection Service



### PROTECT YOUR FOOD BUSINESS IN AN EMERGENCY\*!

Get your NEW "Emergency Action Planning  
Guide for Retail Food Establishments"

at:

[http://www.state.nj.us/health/foodanddrugsafety/documents/emergency\\_actionplans.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/health/foodanddrugsafety/documents/emergency_actionplans.pdf)

### Contaminated Water Supply (Biological)

#### Drinking Water

##### Alternative Procedures

- Use commercially bottled water and/or water that has been boiled for at least 5 minutes  
At(OC)
- Use water from an approved public water supply in a covered sanitized container  
At(OC)
- Arrange to use a licensed drinking water tanker truck.



**LOOK INSIDE FOR  
GREAT EMERGENCY  
TIPS AND IDEAS!**

## PREPARE, ASSESS, RESPOND, and RECOVER

Learn how to :

- Be prepared for an emergency
- Assess an emergency
- Operate under limited conditions
- Recover quickly after an emergency

**YOUR LOCAL HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT CONTACT:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\*Emergencies may include natural disasters, power outages, sewage buildup, fire, toxic spills, or other incidents that affect or have the potential to affect your establishment's operations and the safety of your food.



Chris Christie  
Governor

Kim Guadagno  
Lieutenant Governor

Consumer, Environmental, & Occupational Health Service  
Food and Drug Safety Program  
Phone: 609-825-4935  
Web site:  
[www.state.nj.us/health/foodanddrugsafety/index.shtml](http://www.state.nj.us/health/foodanddrugsafety/index.shtml)



Poonam Alagh, MD, MSHCPM, FACP  
Commissioner

# General Responsibilities of the Local Health Department (continued)

- Promptly respond to isolated events and provide guidance to assist licensee and conduct targeted evaluation to ensure safety and wholesomeness of foods sold or distributed
- Allow license holders to assess food safety within their own establishments during a widespread emergency.
- Conduct surveillance during widespread emergency to determine if license holders are complying with action plan.
- Conduct enforcement as appropriate to protect public health.

***Assess: Isolated vs. community/county/statewide***

# Overview: Emergency Action Planning Guidance for Retail Food Establishments

## Emergency Situations:

- Loss of electrical services
- Loss of water services
- Sewage backup
- Fire
- Flood



# Overview: Emergency Action Planning Guidance for Retail Food Establishments

For each emergency type the Guide provides information as to:

- Planning
- Assessment
  - Confined vs. extensive
- Response
  - Confined vs. extensive
  - Guide states that when under the order of a regulatory authority to cease operations, may not reopen until granted authorization. (can be a condition(s) met)
- Recovery

# Overview: Emergency Action Planning Guidance for Retail Food Establishments

## EXAMPLE: Planning

- Emergency numbers
- Alternative refrigeration
- Emergency menu
- Temperature monitoring
- Ice
- Lighting, HVAC, computers, currency, etc.
- Communications
- Alternative cleaning & sanitizing
- Disposal of large quantities of food



# Overview: Emergency Action Planning Guidance for Retail Food Establishments

## EXAMPLE: Assessment

- Log date-time of loss
- Isolated vs. extensive within facility vs. community/county/state wide
- Scope of food operations
- Best incident duration information
- Impact on other critical services

# Overview: Emergency Action Planning Guidance for Retail Food Establishments

## EXAMPLE: Response

- Monitor, record temps every 2 hrs.
- Keep refrigeration doors closed
- Discontinue food operations requiring electrical ventilation
- Limit food operations to those appropriate for lighting conditions
- Shut down cooking and discard food as appropriate
- Discard all foods subject to hot holding when critical limits are reached
- Manual dishwashing and sanitizing

# Overview: Emergency Action Planning Guidance for Retail Food Establishments

## EXAMPLE: Recovery

- Evaluating food products for safety
- Evaluate equipment
- Flush lines
- Cleaning and sanitizing



# Operation Food Distribution Concerns

- A major disaster or catastrophic event, whether accidental, natural or deliberate could cause substantial disruption to the food supply and distribution network within NJ.
- A significant amount of the State's population may be unable to access food through normal commercial channels.

# Operation Food Distribution Development

- Hurricane Katrina
- MOA
- New Jersey Food Council, OHSP, NJOEM and NJDHSS

# Operation Food Distribution

## Purpose

- Maintaining Private Sector Capabilities for Feeding Impacted Populations
- Intended as an Incident Annex to the State's Emergency Operations Plan.
- Located State Regional Operations Intelligence Center (ROIC)/Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
- The New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM) is the primary State office responsible for this Incident Annex.

# Operation Food Distribution

## Purpose

### FEED PEOPLE BY:

- Identifies the needs of the food retail and distribution food sector to ensure business continuity during an emergency situation,
- resume full operational status in the aftermath of a disaster or emergency as quickly and efficiently as possible.



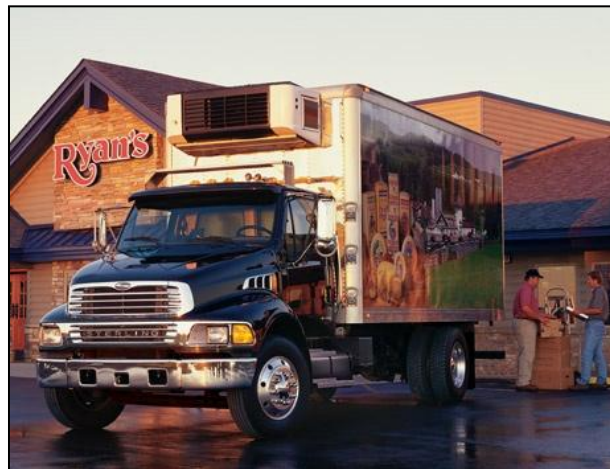
# Operation Food Distribution

## Industry Players

- This plan focuses on emergency planning for business continuity and restoration of operations for 12 large supermarket chains (839 locations), 2 major convenience store chains, and several smaller supermarket chains operating primarily in urban centers.
- Analysis shows that at least 97 percent of New Jersey's population resides within 5 miles of one of these food retail locations.
- This plan focuses on 29 food wholesale companies, comprising 53 warehouses and distribution centers.

# Operation Food Distribution Activation

- This Incident Annex addresses resource requests that have been elevated to the State level, or when the State deems it necessary to support the distribution and availability of food statewide.
- Local authorities → County OEMS → State



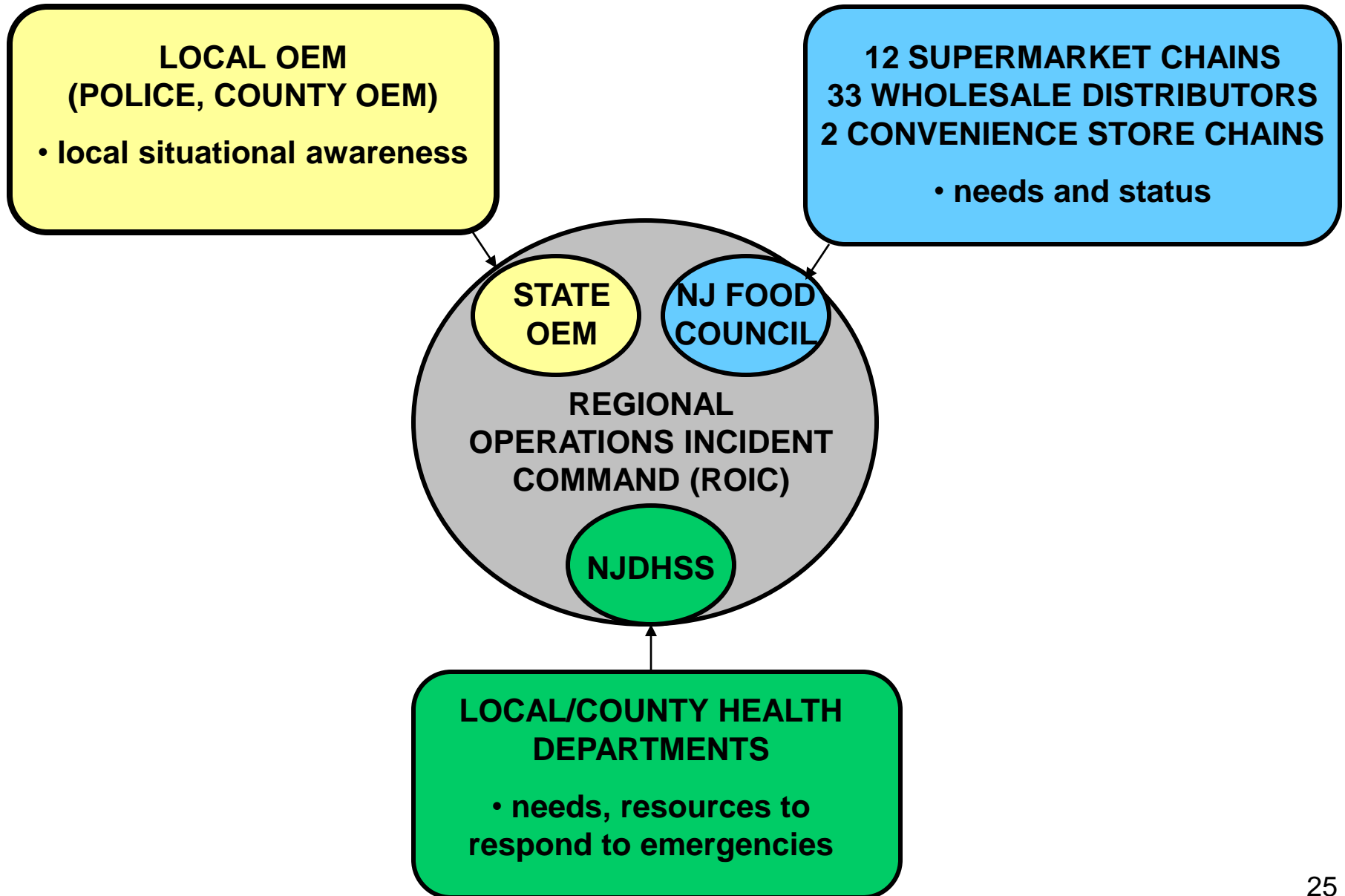
# Operation Food Distribution

## Objectives

- ***FEED PEOPLE DURING AN EMERGENCY***

- 1) Establish industry liaison(s) to facilitate communication between the food retail and distribution sector and public sector response agencies before, during, and after an emergency situation.
- 2) Assess the extent, severity, and anticipated duration of disruptions in operational status within the food retail and distribution sector.
- 3) Identify state resources and assistance necessary to facilitate the feeding of the general public by promoting continued access to food through the food retail and distribution sector.
- 4) Coordinate between state agencies and local governments to address the needs of the food retail and distribution sector during a disaster or emergency situation.

# Operation Food Distribution



# Operation Food Distribution Responses

- Identify priority areas for debris clearance
- Establish emergency power generation allocation priorities
- Establish priorities for water restoration
- Assess telecommunication deficiencies
- Assess the need for fuel
- Assess the need for security



# Operation Food Distribution Responses

- Transportation and credentialing
- Establish temporary housing priorities
- Regulatory
- Personal Health
- Staging Areas
- Shared knowledge of POD sites and staging areas



# Questions?

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