

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

**Border 2012—Emergency Preparedness and  
Response Border-Wide Workgroup**

**U.S.-Mexico Inland JRT Meeting**

February 16, 2006 • San Diego, California

# Border 2012 Emergency Preparedness & Response Border-Wide Workgroup (BWWG)

- BWWG works on federal border-wide issues
- Border 2012 created the Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-Wide Workgroup (BWWG) to coordinate and implement Border 2012's Goal #5 and its three objectives
- Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-Wide Workgroup (BWWG) created as the steering committee of Joint Response Team (JRT):
  - JRT established by Annex II of the 1983 La Paz Agreement
  - JRT co-chaired by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Procuraduría Federal de Protección al Ambiente (PROFEP)



# Border 2012 Emergency Preparedness and Response JRT Partners



## Goal and Objectives of BWWG (Border 2012 Goal #5)

- **Reduce exposure to chemicals as a result of accidental chemical releases and/or acts of terrorism**
  - **Objective 1:** By 2004, a chemical emergency advisory/notification mechanism between Mexico and the U.S. will be clearly established
  - **Objective 2:** By 2008, all 14 sister cities' joint contingency plans will be in place and operating (including exercises), with the establishment of bi-national committees for chemical emergency prevention
  - **Objective 3:** By 2012, 50% of sister city joint contingency plans will be supplemented with preparedness and prevention related efforts, such as risk and consequence analysis, risk reduction, and counter-terrorism

## BWWG 2006 Priorities

- Finalize the proposed revisions to the U.S-Mexico Joint Contingency Plan
- Successfully conduct JCP notification drills with updated notification system
- Finalize our U.S. proposed expedited cross border response protocol initiated in 2005 with DHS Customs and Border Patrol, U.S. EPA and U.S. Coast Guard
- Identify next steps for Mexico's cross-border response
- Continue to expand opportunities for training and exercises
- Invigorate the JRT by working in strengthened partnerships with US and Mexico federal, state and local offices
  - Work with USCG, DHS CBP, Northcom and all other JRT members
  - Mexico will work in partnership with Proteccion Civil, CENACOM, and Aduanas

## Action Items from Inland U.S.-Mexico JRT Meeting

- Revisions to the U.S.-Mexico Joint Contingency Plan (JCP)
  - Mexican and other U.S. Federal agencies within our workgroup will be reviewing the proposed changes to the JCP
  - Comments due by March 1 from the JRT meeting participants
  - Incorporate PROFEPA/SEMARNAT new emergency notification protocol for Appendix A
  - U.S. and Mexico are aiming to finalize the JCP by the end of April 2006 for the National Coordinator's Meeting
- Expediting cross-border emergency responses
  - EPA will identify the broad categories of response equipment and likely personnel (EPA and contractors) that may respond to a cross-border emergency by utilizing the revised ICS 204a form
  - Procedures for notifying Mexico will be established with the National Response Center
  - U.S. and Mexico customs officials, PROFEPA, and EPA will set up a meeting in March 2006 to identify next steps with Aduanas
- Establish a coordinated schedule of Mexico and US cross border exercises/drills
- Provide support in establishing an emergency training academy in Region VI
- Location for next JRT meeting

# Emergency Preparedness & Response BWWG Contact Information

## México

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