



Australian Capital Territory

Biosecurity Emergency Plan

A supporting plan of the ACT Emergency Plan that outlines the standing and emergency arrangements for the approach to Biosecurity preparedness, response and recovery in the Australian Capital Territory

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Authorisation

This Biosecurity Emergency Plan for the Australian Capital Territory is a supporting plan of the ACT Emergency Plan. It has been prepared in accordance with section 148 of the *Emergencies Act 2004*, endorsed by the Security and Emergency Management Senior Officials Group (SEMSOG) and authorised by the relevant Director-General; Legislated Statutory Officer or responsible officer as decided by the responsible Directorate.

Authorised

) 
) **Ben Ponton**
) Director-General
) Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

) **17.9.17**
) Date

Approved

) **Alison Playford**
) Chair
) Security and Emergency Management Senior Officers Group

) Date

Approved

) **Dominic Lane**
) Commissioner
) ACT Emergency Services Agency

) Date

Amendments

Proposals to amend the ACT Biosecurity Emergency Plan should be forwarded to the:

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ACT Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

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No.	Details	Date	Amended by:
1	Initial release – Animal Disease Emergency Plan expanded to include all Biosecurity matters	Nov 2013	ACT Biosecurity Emergency Plan Working Group
2	Plan reviewed to reflect role of Chief Veterinary Officer consistent with the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement and AUSVETPLAN, reflect changes in responsible Directorate and changes in Government emergency coordination arrangements.	August 2017	ACT Biosecurity Manager

Part 1 – Introduction

1.1 Aim

The aim of the ACT Biosecurity Emergency Plan (the Plan) is to provide the structure and arrangements for an effective and co-ordinated response to a biosecurity emergency related to animal primary production, plant primary production, the natural and social environment in the ACT. These responses should be consistent with the terms of any national agreement to which the ACT is a signatory, as outlined in this document.

1.2 Objectives

The objective of the Plan is to provide the coordination arrangements for the effective eradication or control of a biosecurity pest or disease, which may cause:

- extensive animal losses and suffering;
- extensive environmental or social impacts;
- extensive agricultural impacts;
- extensive economic impacts; or
- health risks to humans.

1.3 ACT Emergency Plan

The ACT Emergency Plan provides the top level coordination arrangements for emergency management, response, and recovery efforts in the ACT. The Biosecurity Emergency Plan is a supporting plan of the ACT Emergency Plan.

1.4 Activation

Activation of this Plan will be initiated by the **Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate** after consultation with personnel identified throughout this document. A State of Emergency may be considered for declaration simultaneously with activation or deferred for future consideration. An Emergency Response Plan must be prepared when this Plan is activated.

The Plan will be activated at any time where there is detection or suspicion of a specified disease or emerging pest within the ACT, or when a specified disease or emerging pest occurs outside of the ACT but poses a threat to the biosecurity of the ACT. Actions to prevent or eradicate a specified disease or emerging pest may also occur prior to the official activation of the Plan as per the powers of enforcement under the relevant legislation.

Activation can result in a:

- **State of Response** – where action is taken involving a partial or full level of government, but where additional powers of control and command are not required; or
- **State of Emergency** – where exceptional powers of control and command are required. This will depend on the extent and seriousness of the disease or pest incursion and resource demands at the various levels of response. A State of Response may at any time evolve into a State of Emergency.

Activation can occur with or without a State of Emergency being declared and may result in a completed response without a State of Emergency ever being declared. This will depend on the extent and seriousness of the disease or pest incursion and resource demands at the various levels of response.

Activation will therefore result in the involvement and commitment of differing levels of government for various durations, subject to the extent of the response.

1.5 Testing and review

To ensure its effectiveness, this Plan (or aspects of it), is to be tested once every two (2) year to rehearse the co-ordination of response and support arrangements between participating agencies.

A full review of the Plan is to be conducted no less than every two years, preferably following a test of the Plan. The Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate will issue amended pages to all people and agencies included in the Distribution List.

Management staff of participating agencies are to provide sufficient resources for the testing and review process.

1.6 Emergency Preparedness

Directorates which may be called upon to provide human resources during activation of this Plan will identify and make available appropriate numbers of staff to be trained in biosecurity emergency response preparedness.

Part 2 – Command, Control, and Coordination

2.1 Command, Control and Coordination Arrangements

Once a Biosecurity Emergency has been confirmed, the Plan may be activated at the discretion of the Director-General, Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development with an Incident Management Team (IMT) established and an Incident Controller (IC) appointed. The response to the incident will normally be within the capabilities of the ACT responding services and controlled from an incident control point using the principles of the Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System (AIIMS) as detailed in the ACT Biosecurity Incident Management System (BIMS) document. The following Command, Control and Coordination arrangements apply. The positions have the following responsibilities:

2.2 Local Disaster Control Centre (LDCC)

**See Appendix Four for a model structure of a Local Disaster Control Centre*

An Incident Management Team may be established at a Local Disaster Control Centre at the Municipal Emergency Operations Centre, Strangways Street, Curtin, under the control of the LDCC Incident Controller. It is responsible for:

- Planning all operational activities in its geographical area of responsibility;
- Management of the field operations of the emergency;
- Determination of the logistics requirements for the successful management of the field operations;
- Management of the scientific aspects of the emergency;
- Liaison with relevant agencies and industry bodies through their Liaison Officers within the centre;
- Liaison with the Emergency Coordination Centre via the Incident Controller and;
- Liaison with the relevant biosecurity emergency Consultative Committee ACT representative where a national biosecurity incident response is activated.

2.3 Public Information Coordination Centre (PICC)

The Public Information Coordinator, through the PICC Manager is responsible for the operation of the PICC when activated. The scaling up of the PICC will be at the discretion of the Public Information Coordinator in consultation with the Emergency Controller (if appointed) or Lead Response Agency Controller. The level of activation of the PICC is determined by the scale of the emergency and the functions that may need to be undertaken as a consequence of the emergency.

The PICC will be maintained in readiness to coordinate the development, clearance and delivery of information to the community through multiple channels, including forward media briefing sites, internet, media/social and Canberra Connect.

2.4 Emergency Coordination Centre

The Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) will be the coordination centre for the Emergency Controller and Management Executive. The ECC, when activated, will initially include as a minimum representatives from ACT Government Directorates to maintain communications between the ECC and their Directorates. The ECC is responsible for the following functions:

- Coordination of public information;
- Coordination of supply of resources, equipment and personnel;
- Coordination of requests for interstate/commonwealth assistance;
- Coordination of the management of public health aspects through the Chief Health Officer;

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- Coordination of the welfare of affected persons through the Community Recovery Coordinator;
- Coordination of the management of the biosecurity response through the Director-General, Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development and the Biosecurity Manager;
- Attainment of the necessary authorisations from the Emergency Controller for tasks delegated under the ACT *Emergencies Act 2004*;
- Management of the financial implications of the relevant Cost Sharing Agreement;
- Management of legal advice and legislative enforcement; and
- Coordination with the National Management Group's ACT representative in the case of a national biosecurity incident response.

2.5 Security and Emergency Management Senior Officials Group (SEMSOG)

SEMSOG may be convened to support the government's planning for and response to, an emergency where there is a requirement for the sharing and prioritisation of government resources in response to the emergency and to consider and coordinate response to the strategic and policy implications of the emergency.

A meeting of the SEMSOG may be called by the chair following consultation with, or at the request of, other SEMSOG members, the Lead Response Agency Controller, the Emergency Controller if appointed or the ACT Chief Veterinary Officer in the case of an animal disease emergency.

Lead Response Agencies may nominate an appropriate officer to represent their agency in circumstances where the appointed official is unable to attend.

SEMSOG's principle focus during the Operations Phase of an emergency is to:

- assist in making available the necessary resources and commitment from the relevant Directorates to support an effective emergency response capability;
- consider the strategic and policy implications of the emergency on the operation and functions of the ACT Government, including the role of the ACT Government in providing support to the community;
- provide advice to the Lead Response Incident Agency Controller or Emergency Controller (if appointed) on matters requiring attention and the functioning of Directorates in responding to an emergency; and
- provide advice to Ministers and Cabinet on the strategic and policy implications of an emergency.

In the event an Emergency Controller is appointed, these functions will be undertaken as part of the Management Executive of the Emergency Controller.

SEMSOG's role during the Post Operations phase of an emergency is to assist in making available the necessary resources and commitment from the relevant Directorates to support the recovery of communities, business and the environment by:

- considering matters that relate to the longer term impacts that the emergency will have on the community and government. These considerations may occur concurrent with the Emergency Controller and the Management Executive actively managing the operations phase of the emergency;
- establishing and supporting the governance structures and resources required to manage the longer terms issues associated with recovery;
- supporting the functions of the Recovery Coordinating Committee or Taskforce if established;
- providing advice to Ministers and Cabinet on the strategic and policy implications of the ongoing management of the emergency and its consequences; and

- supporting Ministerial and ACT Government decision making in response to the emergency.

In the Post Operations Phase of an emergency, ECC operations will conclude and SEMSOG will be supported by its subordinate committee, the Security and Emergency Management Planning Group (SEMPG).

2.6 Minister responsible for the ACT Emergencies Act 2004

The Minister (currently the Minister for Police and Emergency Services) will be responsible for ensuring the effective response to and recovery from a major biosecurity Emergency, through the Emergency Controller.

The Minister will assign the functions and emergency powers, under the ACT Emergencies Act 2004, to the Emergency Controller.

2.7 Emergency Controller

Under a declared State of Emergency regarding a major biosecurity event, the Emergency Controller will control and co-ordinate all response and recovery efforts of the emergency. The Emergency Controller will report to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services on the progress of the emergency operations.

The Emergency Controller will make decisions in consultation with the Director-General Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, the ACT representative on the relevant national biosecurity Consultative Committee, the Security and Emergency Management Senior Officials Group, other relevant persons, as required.

The Emergency Controller will provide the necessary authorisations for tasks designated under the ACT Emergencies Act 2004.

** See Appendix One for the suggested Emergency Controller powers to manage a biosecurity emergency.*

2.8 Cabinet

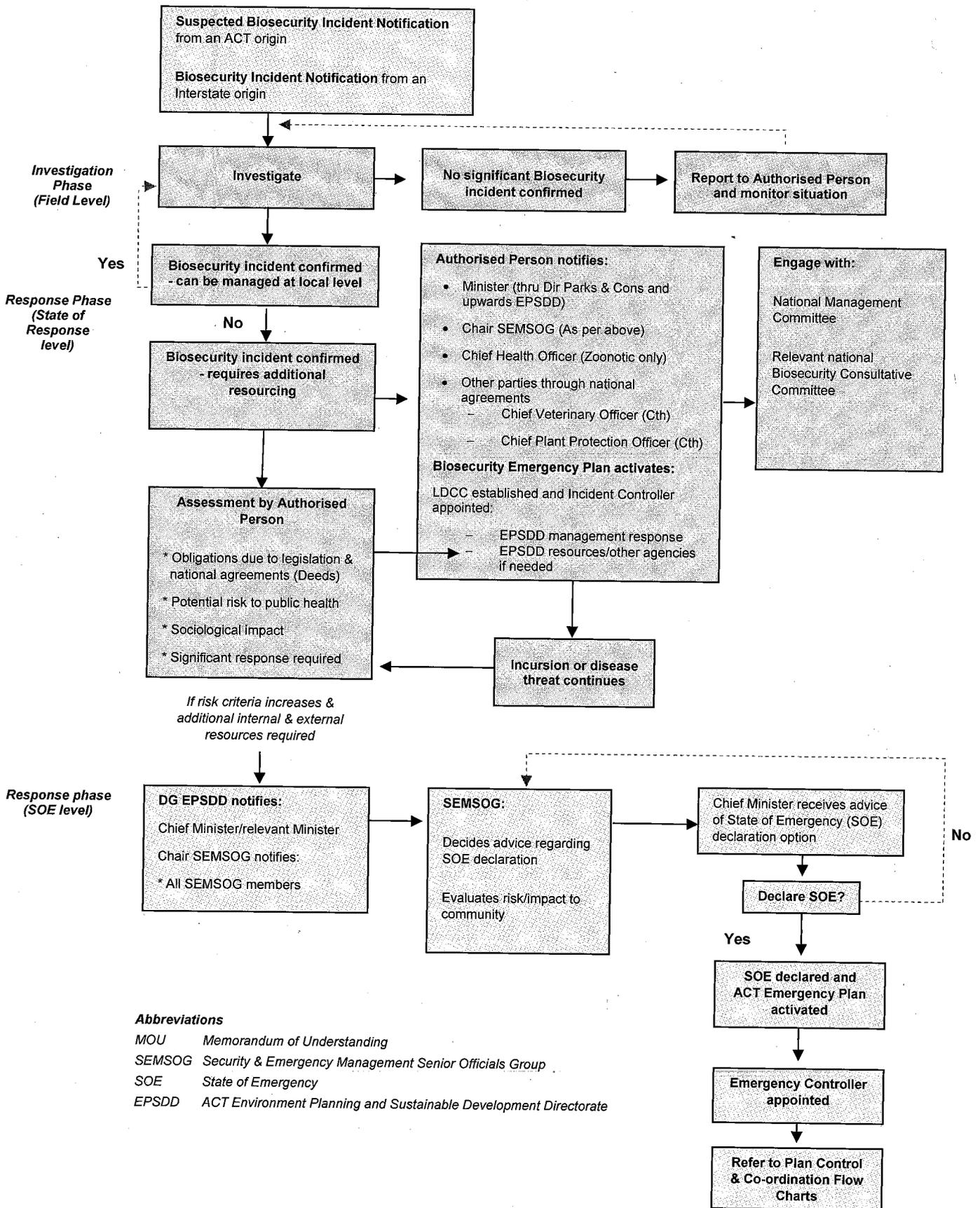
The Cabinet provides strategic leadership to the ACT Government's response to a major incident requiring whole-of-government coordination, as appropriate to the situation. In this role, it would be supported by advice from:

- the Emergency Controller (if one has been appointed under the Act), supported by the Security and Emergency Management Senior Officials Group (SEMSOG);
- SEMSOG in relation to the coordination of whole-of-government resources, particularly in relation to the strategy and policy implications of an emergency; or
- where no Emergency Controller has been appointed, the Director-General of Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development (or representative), the Emergency Services Commissioner, Chief Police Officer, or the Chief Health Officer (as appropriate to the incident).

2.9 Commonwealth Emergency Biosecurity Powers

The ACT supports the use of the Commonwealth's national emergency management powers in circumstances where the parties to the Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity (IGAB) agree that application of these emergency powers are necessary for a consistent national approach to control, reduce, or remove a threat associated with a biosecurity emergency.

Figure 1 – Plan Activation Flowchart (in the event of a State of Emergency)



Part 3 – Animal Disease Emergency

3.1 Animal Disease Emergency – Context

Animal disease emergencies can involve exotic diseases (diseases not known to occur in Australia, for example; Rabies, Foot and Mouth Disease) or significant endemic diseases (diseases known to occur in Australia, for example; Anthrax).

The Australian Government has the constitutional responsibility for preventing the entry of disease agents into Australia by developing and enforcing quarantine policies on the movement of animals, animal products and biological material into Australia. The States and Territories have the responsibility for emergency management and control for animal disease outbreaks within their jurisdictions. This means that each State/Territory is responsible for the "preparedness" and "response to" notifiable animal disease emergencies.

The Australian and State Governments, through the Agriculture Minister's Forum (AGMIN) and its various sub-committees have the responsibility for co-ordination of animal disease policies, plans, preparedness and responses. Their role is ongoing, being part of the normal government function.

The ACT is a signatory to an intergovernmental cost sharing deed or agreement called the Emergency Animal Diseases Response Agreement (EADRA). This legal agreement is structured so as to permit the sharing of costs between governments and industry incurred during the outbreak of those animal diseases defined in the agreement. This agreement has a number of conditions which have to be followed to qualify for the funding, so reference to this document is essential in understanding the terms of the agreement. An important component is the need to recognise joint party strategy plans and conditions as the basis of the deed. Unilateral action without reference to other funding parties may disqualify the ACT from the benefits of spreading the financial burden during a major disease outbreak. Diseases not defined in this agreement are exempt from this financial arrangement and are the sole responsibility of the jurisdiction.

Some animal disease outbreaks impact on international trade as they are specified in trade agreements and regulated by the World Organisation of Animal Health through the OIE (Office International des Epizooties). The failure of a State/Territory to address an animal disease issue quickly could result in international trade restrictions on the whole or part of the related industry within Australia.

A number of animal diseases also have implications for human health, including Rabies, Anthrax and Screw Worm Fly. Significant liaison with ACT health authorities will need to occur and a joint response may be necessary.

Once an emergency animal disease (EAD) has been detected it must be notified within 24 hours to the Commonwealth Chief Veterinary Officer (CCVO) and a response plan prepared. Two important intergovernmental committees are then formed in accordance with the EADRA to assist the local jurisdiction in the management of the crisis. The first is the Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Diseases (CCEAD), the key technical coordinating body providing the link between the Commonwealth, States and Territories, Animal Health Australia and the National Emergency Animal Disease Management Group (NMG). This committee is constituted from the members of the National Animal Health Committee. The second is the NMG which comprises senior executive level representatives of government and industry groups. The NMG receives advice from the CCEAD on technical issues relating to the EAD and considers policy and financial issues associated with the implementation of the EAD response plan. It also decides whether to activate the cost sharing arrangements in the EADRA. The ACT representative on the NMG is the Executive Director Environment.

The occurrence of a major animal disease emergency necessitates the immediate implementation of a professionally managed strategy to detect and eradicate all sources of infection. Most diseases are highly contagious and spread rapidly to susceptible animals by contact with infected animals, contaminated foodstuffs, buildings, equipment, people, vehicles or other things. This means that urgent and stringent action is required to contain the infection and limit its spread. This may involve rigid quarantine and movement controls on all potential things which could be considered as carriers of the disease.

Strategy options include vaccination or slaughter of affected and/or 'in-contact' animals, the destruction of the causal agent in the environment by decontamination, tracing for potential sources and spread of infection, surveillance for other cases or outbreaks, and, if necessary, control of free-ranging animals or insect vectors which might spread the disease.

Some diseases may be very difficult to eradicate and should a disease become technically or economically non-feasible to manage, alternate strategies such as zoning may result. Zoning involves the division of land masses where a disease may or may not be present.

3.2 Referral Legislation

The powers required to manage a major animal disease outbreak are contained within the *Animal Diseases Act 2005*. Under the current administrative arrangements, the Minister for Environment and Planning is responsible for administering this Act.

However when a State of Emergency has been declared for an animal disease emergency, this Plan is enacted under the provisions of the *ACT Emergencies Act 2004*. The *ACT Emergencies Act 2004* provides additional powers to the *Animal Diseases Act 2005* to manage a significant animal disease emergency, including the provisions for cross border assistance, and takes precedence over all other ACT legislation.

Other relevant legislation includes the *ACT Animal Welfare Act 1992* and Commonwealth legislation related to biosecurity.

3.3 Overarching Documents

3.3.1 Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan (AUSVETPLAN)

AUSVETPLAN is the nationally agreed technical response plan used to respond to an emergency animal disease incident. It provides nationally consistent guidelines for response procedures under the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA), outlining the phases of an incursion, as well as the key roles and responsibilities of industry and government during each of these phases.

Any local response plan must conform to AUSVETPLAN. Full AUSVETPLAN Disease Strategies are available on the Internet at <http://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/programs/emergency-animal-disease-preparedness/ausvetplan/>.

3.4 Command, Control, and Coordination Arrangements

3.4.1 Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

The Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate will primarily be responsible for strategic requirements of a major animal disease emergency, including environmental management aspects.

The Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, or delegate, will where necessary:

- Represent the ACT in the National Management Group;
- Oversee strategic aspects of the emergency;
- Liaise with the Emergency Controller, Minister for Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development and Chief Veterinary Officer to manage the animal health, animal welfare and economic implications to the Territory and the Nation;
- Liaise with Directors-General for access to government resources, authorised by the Emergency Controller, for emergency use;
- Liaise with Territory/National industry bodies;
- Liaise with the Chief Health Officer on public health aspects as a result of a zoonotic animal disease emergency;
- Ensure that the EADRA and any animal diseases MOUs are being adhered to;
- Liaise with the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) on the environmental impacts of the animal disease emergency;
- Ensure that tasks directed by the Emergency Controller are actioned; and
- Report to the Emergency Controller and Minister for Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development on the emergency operations, the socio-economic impacts on the related industry and other related Directorate functions.

3.4.2 Authorised Person – Chief Veterinary Officer

The Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) will be responsible for:

- Providing advice to SEMSOG
- Preparation of the Emergency Response Plan (ERP)
- Consultation with the CCEAD as required by membership obligations;
- Consultation with other relevant State and Federal Departments as required;
- Liaison with local Industry bodies;
- Appointing the Local Disaster Control Centre (LDCC) Incident Controller, Manager (Operations), Manager (Planning) and Manager (Logistics), in consultation with the Director-General or delegate;
- Ensuring the Local Disaster Control Centre Incident Controller adheres to the ERP;
- Reporting to the Director-General or delegate on emergency efforts and animal health and welfare issues;
- Attending briefings convened by the Emergency Controller, as requested; and
- Undertaking tasks as directed by the Emergency Controller if not in conflict with the Emergency Response Plan.

3.4.3 Local Disaster Control Centre Incident Controller

The Local Disaster Control Centre (LDCC) Incident Controller implements the Response Plan, reports directly to the Chief Veterinary Officer and is in overall control of the Local Disaster Control Centre and all associated field activities. The LDCC Incident Controller is assisted by three senior officers: Operations Manager, Planning Manager and Logistics Manager and will ensure that tasks directed by the CVO are actioned.

3.4.4 Chief Health Officer

The Chief Health Officer will: (subject only for a zoonotic disease)

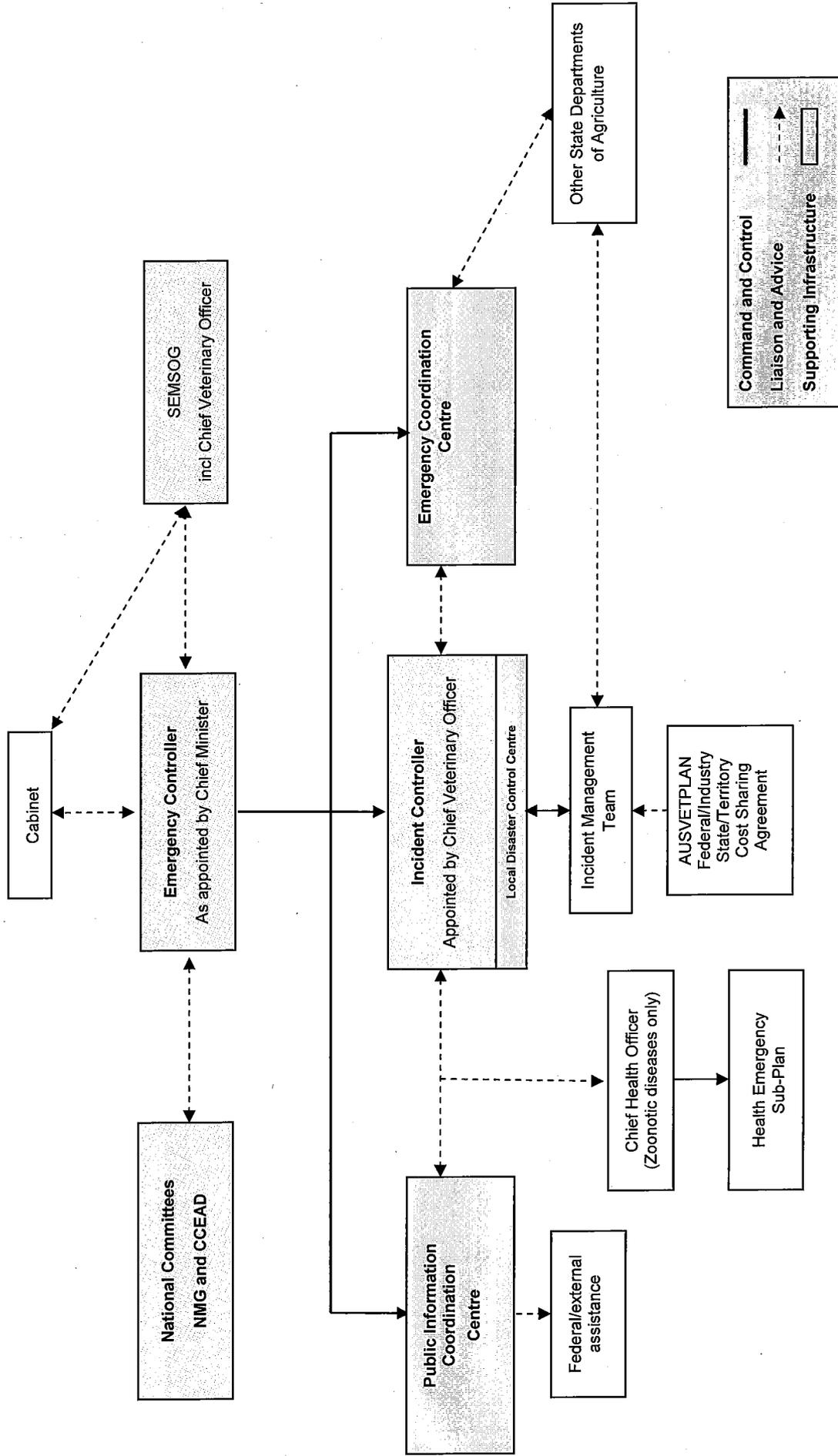
- Manage the potential and actual risks to public health;
- Liaise with the Director-General, Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development, and Chief Veterinary Officer on public health issues; and
- Report on the management of public health issues.

3.4.5 Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Disease (CCEAD)

The CCEAD will as per its terms of reference:

- Consult with the Chief Veterinary Officer on animal disease issues;
- Provide technical advice to the Chief Veterinary Officer on the disease;
- Advise NMG if an Emergency Animal Disease Response Plan (EADRP) is required;
- Recommend to NMG an EADRP;
- Consider regular reports on progress of an EADRP and develop a consensus on further actions required;
- Provide regular consolidated reports to the Affected Parties, and to the NMG, on the status of an EADRP
- In circumstances where rapid eradication of an EAD is judged no longer feasible, provide advice and recommendations to NMG on when the EADRP should be terminated; when cost-sharing should no longer apply and on options for alternative arrangements
- Determine when a disease has been contained or eradicated under an EADRP
- Recommend when proof of freedom has been achieved following the successful implementation of an emergency animal disease plan.

Animal Disease Emergency – Command, Control and Coordination Flowchart



3.5 Response

A Response Plan must conform to the AUSVETPLAN and any applicable species specific contingency plans. There are four response phases relating to animal disease emergencies: investigation, alert, operational and stand down.

The tasks involved in these phases and the people involved are described in detail in Part Two of the AUSVETPLAN Control Centres Manual. A Local Disaster Control Centre manages the response and recovery operations during an emergency; the functions can be separated into three (3) categories:

a. Planning

This section plans operations and provides specialists to support operations including:

- Epidemiology
- Planning: incident action planning, resource planning and situation reporting
- Local public relations
- Media management
- Technical specialists: risk enterprises, vectors and animal welfare
- Interstate liaison
- Industry liaison
- Legal support
- Relief and recovery

b. Operations

This section manages the field operations including:

- Veterinary investigations
- Tracing
- Surveillance
- Movement controls
- Training
- Infected premises
- Other field operations, such as vector control
- Animal destruction, disposal and decontamination

c. Logistics

This section provides the administrative and physical support to sustain operations, including:

- Administration
- Induction
- Information services
- Stores
- Finances
- Liaison with other key agencies, e.g. SES, Police

- OHS

3.6 Recovery

The Community Recovery Coordinator will coordinate recovery aspects in accordance with the arrangements outlined in the ACT Community Recovery Plan.

The Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate will work in consultation with the Community Recovery Coordinator and the Environment Protection Authority to dispose of animal remains.

3.7 Animal Disease Emergency Function Matrix

Category	Function	Lead Agency/ Coordinator	Support Agencies
Planning	Technical & Specialist support	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ CVO	CCEAD Additional Government Vets, Private Vets & interstate assistance
	Media Management & Public Relations	Media Coordinator PICC	Media Liaison Officer LDCC, AFP Media Unit
	Industry Liaison with affected industry	LDCC Controller	Economic Development Directorate (EDD) Industry Representatives
	Legal Assistance	EPSDD Legal Advisor	GSO, ACT Govt Legal Officers
Operations	Disease Investigation & Detection	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ CVO	Additional Government Vets, Private Vets & interstate assistance
	Wild Animal & Vector Control	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ Vertebrate Pest Officers	Conservation Research (EPSDD) & Interstate Assistance
	Movements & Quarantine Controls	EPSDD (Environment Division)	TCCSD, AFP, ESA, Interstate assistance & private security agencies
	Infected Premises operations	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ LDCC Controller	TCCSD, AFP, ESA, ACTF&B, EPA, Private Contractors, Vets & Interstate Assistance
	Animal destruction, disposal and decontamination	EPSDD (Environment Division)	TCCSD, Environment Protection Authority, Health Protection
Logistics	Administrative Support	EPSDD (Environment Division)	ESA, Shared Services
	Local Human Resource Coordination	LDCC/ECC	Various, Shared Services
	Financial Assistance	EPSDD Chief Finance Officer	Treasury, Shared Services
	Physical Resource Coordination	LDCC/ECC	ESA
	Interstate/Commonwealth Human Resource Coordination	Commissioner ESA / LDCC	EMA, DAWR
Public Health	Management of public health risks	Chief Health Officer (Health Directorate)	CSD & ACTAS
	Management of unsafe food produce	Chief Health Officer (Health Directorate)	CSD
Related functions	Environment Management	EPSDD (Environment Division)	Environment Protection Authority, Conservation Research (EPSDD)
	Animal Welfare	TCCSD (City Services)/ CVO	RSPCA
Recovery	Welfare of affected persons	TCCSD Animal Welfare Officer Community Recovery Coordinator, ECC	as per Community Recovery Plan

Part 4 – Plant Pest Emergency

4.1 Plant Pest Emergency – Context

Plant pest emergencies can involve exotic pests (pests not known to occur in Australia, for example; False Codling Moth, Dutch Elm disease and Sudden Oak Death) or significant endemic pests (pests known to occur in Australia, for example; Myrtle Rust).

The Australian Government has the constitutional responsibility for preventing the entry of disease agents into Australia by developing and enforcing quarantine policies on the movement of plants, plant materials and soil into Australia. The States and Territories have the responsibility for emergency management and control for plant pest outbreaks within their jurisdictions. This means that each State/Territory is responsible for the "preparedness" and "response to" notifiable plant pest emergencies.

The Australian and State Governments, through the Agriculture Minister's Forum (AGMIN) and its various sub-committees have the responsibility for co-ordination of plant pest policies, plans, preparedness and responses. Their role is ongoing, being part of the normal government function.

The ACT is a signatory to an intergovernmental cost sharing agreement called the Government and Plant Industry Cost Sharing Deed in respect of Emergency Plant Pest Responses (EPPRD). This legal agreement is structured so as to permit the sharing of costs between governments and industry incurred during the outbreak of those plant pests defined in the agreement. This agreement has a number of conditions which have to be followed to qualify for the funding, so reference to this document is essential in understanding the terms of the agreement. An important component is the need to recognise joint party strategy plans and conditions as the basis of the deed. Unilateral action without reference to other funding parties may disqualify the ACT from the benefits of spreading the financial burden during a major plant pest outbreak. Pests not defined in this agreement are exempt from this financial arrangement and are the sole responsibility of the jurisdiction.

Once an emergency plant pest (EPP) has been detected it must be notified within 24 hours to the Commonwealth Chief Plant Protection officer and a response plan prepared. Two important intergovernmental committees are then formed in accordance with the EPPRD to assist the local jurisdiction in the management of the crisis. The first is the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (CCEPP), the key technical coordinating body providing the link between the Commonwealth, States and Territories, Plant Health Australia and the National Emergency Plant Pest Management Group (NMG). This committee is constituted from the members of the National Plant Health Committee. The second is the NMG which comprises senior executive level representatives of government and industry groups. The NMG receives advice from the CCEPP on technical issues relating to the EPP and considers policy and financial issues associated with the implementation of the EPP response plan. It also decides whether to activate the cost sharing arrangements in the EPPRD. The ACT representative on the NMG is the Executive Director Environment.

The occurrence of a major plant pest emergency necessitates the immediate implementation of a professionally managed strategy to detect and eradicate all sources of infection. Many pests can spread rapidly to other areas by wind bird or water dispersal, contaminated foodstuffs, equipment, people, vehicles or other things. This means that urgent and stringent action is required to contain the outbreak and limit its spread. This may involve rigid quarantine and movement controls on all potential things which could be considered as carriers of the pest.

Strategy options include destruction of infected plants or crops, treatment with pesticides, tracing for potential sources and spread of infection, surveillance for other cases or outbreaks, and, if necessary, control of insect vectors which might spread the pest.

Some pests may be very difficult to eradicate. Should a pest become technically or economically non-feasible to manage, alternate strategies such as zoning may result. Zoning involves the division of land masses where a disease may or may not be present.

4.2 Referral Legislation

The powers required to manage a major plant disease outbreak are contained within the *Plant Diseases Act 2002*. Under the current administrative arrangements, the Minister for Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development is responsible for administering this Act.

However when a State of Emergency has been declared for a plant disease emergency, this Plan is enacted under the provisions of the *ACT Emergencies Act 2004*. The *ACT Emergencies Act 2004* provides additional powers to the *Plant Diseases Act 2002* to manage a significant plant disease emergency, including the provisions for cross border assistance, and takes precedence over all other ACT legislation.

4.3 Overarching Documents

4.3.1 Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan (PLANTPLAN)

PLANTPLAN is the nationally agreed technical response plan used to respond to an emergency plant pest incident. It provides nationally consistent guidelines for response procedures under the EPPRD outlining the phases of an incursion, as well as the key roles and responsibilities of industry and government during each of these phases. Any local Response Plan must conform to PLANTPLAN.

4.4 Command, Control, and Coordination Arrangements

4.4.1 Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

The Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate will primarily be responsible for strategic requirements of a major plant pest emergency, including environmental management aspects.

The Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, or delegate, will where necessary:

- Represent the ACT in the National Management Group;
- Oversee strategic aspects of the emergency;
- Liaise with the Emergency Controller, Minister for Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development and ACT Chief Plant Protection Officer to manage the operational, plant health, and economic implications to the Territory and the Nation;
- Liaise with Directors-General for access to government resources, authorised by the Emergency Controller, for emergency use;
- Liaise with National / Territory industry bodies;
- Ensure that the EPPRD is being adhered to;
- Liaise with EPA on the environmental impacts of the plant pest emergency;
- Ensure that tasks directed by the Emergency Controller are actioned; and
- Report to the Emergency Controller and Minister for Transport Canberra and City Services on the emergency operations, the socio-economic impacts on the related industry and other related Directorate functions.

4.4.2 Authorised Person – Chief Plant Protection Officer (CPPO)

The EPSDD Chief Plant Protection Officer will be responsible for:

- Providing advice to SEMSOG
- Preparing the Emergency Response Plan;
- Consultation with the CCEPP as required by membership obligations;
- Consultation with other relevant State and Federal Departments as required;
- Liaison with local Industry bodies;
- Advising on field operations through the Local Disaster Control Centre Incident Controller;
- Appointing the Local Disaster Control Centre (LDCC) Incident Controller, Manager (Operations), Manager (Planning) and Manager (Logistics), in consultation with the Director-General or delegate;
- Ensuring the Local Disaster Control Centre Incident Controller adheres to the ERP;
- Reporting to the Director-General or delegate on the emergency response;
- Attending briefings convened by the Emergency Controller, as requested; and
- Undertaking tasks as directed by the Emergency Controller if not in conflict with the Emergency Response Plan.

4.4.3 Local Disaster Control Centre Incident Controller

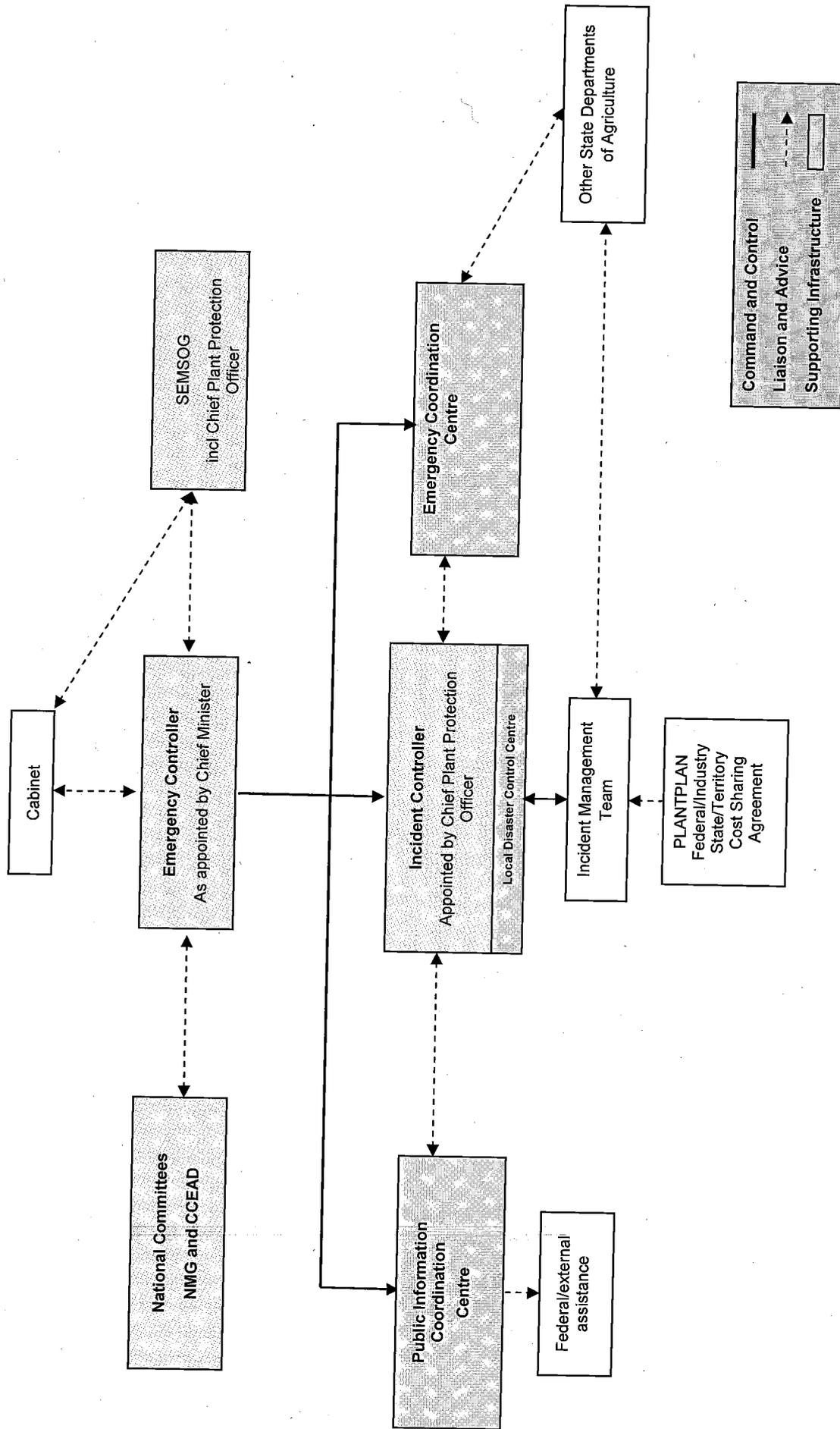
The Local Disaster Control Centre (LDCC) Incident Controller reports directly to the EPSDD Chief Plant Protection Officer and is in overall control of the Local Disaster Control Centre and all associated field activities. The LDCC Incident Controller is assisted by three senior officers: Operations Manager, Planning Manager and Logistics Manager and will ensure that tasks directed by the EPSDD Chief Plant Protection Officer are actioned.

4.4.4 Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (CCEPP)

The CCEPP will as per its terms of reference:

- determine if the Incident concerns an EPP;
- provide technical advice to the ACT Chief Plant Protection Officer on the pest;
- advise the NMG if an Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan (EPPRP) is required;
- make recommendations to the NMG in respect of the detail of an EPPRP;
- consider regular reports on progress of a EPPRP and develop a consensus on what further actions are required;
- advise the NMG as to the investigation and diagnostic costs that are relevant and reasonable in the circumstances of the Incident Definition Phase of the Response Plan;
- provide regular consolidated reports to the Affected Parties, and to the NMG, on the status of a Response Plan;
- in circumstances where rapid eradication of an EPP is judged no longer feasible, provide advice and recommendations to NMG on when Cost Sharing should no longer apply and on options for alternative arrangements;
- determine and advise the NMG when an EPP has been eradicated

Plant Disease Emergency – Command, Control and Coordination Flowchart



4.5 Response

A response plan must conform to PLANTPLAN and any applicable species specific contingency plans. A template for the response plan can be found in Schedule 4 of the EPPRD at <http://www.planthealthaustralia.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/PLANTPLAN-2011.pdf>.

There are four response phases relating to plant pest emergencies: investigation, alert, operational and stand down. The tasks involved in each of these phases and the people involved are described in detail in Section Two of PLANTPLAN.

A Local Disaster Control Centre (LDCC) manages the response and recovery operations at the Territory level during an emergency and the functions can be separated into three (3) categories:

a. Planning

This section plans operations and provides specialists to support operations including:

- Epidemiology
- Planning: incident action planning, resource planning and situation reporting
- Local public relations
- Media management
- Technical specialists: risk enterprises, vectors
- Interstate liaison
- Industry liaison
- Legal support
- Relief and recovery

b. Operations

This section manages the field operations including:

- Plant health investigations
- Tracing
- Surveillance
- Movement controls
- Training
- Infected premises
- Other field operations, such as vector control
- Plant destruction, disposal and decontamination

c. Logistics

This section provides the administrative and physical support to sustain operations, including:

- Administration
- Induction
- Information services

- Stores
- Finances
- Liaison with other key agencies, e.g. SES, Police
- OHS

4.6 Recovery

The Community Recovery Coordinator will coordinate recovery aspects in accordance with the arrangements outlined in the ACT Community Recovery Plan.

The Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate will work in consultation with the Community Recovery Coordinator and the Environment Protection Authority to dispose of infected plant material.

4.7 Plant Pest Emergency Function Matrix

Category	Function	Lead Agency/ Coordinator	Support Agencies
Planning	Technical & Specialist support	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ Chief Plant Protection Officer	CCEPP CSIRO and NSW plant pathologist & other interstate assistance
	Media Management & Public Relations	Media Coordinator PICC	Media Liaison Officer LDCC, AFP Media Unit
	Industry Liaison with affected industry	EPSDD/ LDCC Controller	Economic Development Directorate (EDD) Industry Representatives
	Legal Assistance	EPSDD Legal Advisor	GSO, ACT Govt Legal Officers
Operations	Pest Investigation & Detection	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ Chief Plant Protection Officer	CCEPP CSIRO and NSW plant pathologist & other interstate assistance
	Vector Control	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ Environmental Weeds Officers	TCCSD, Conservation Research (EPSDD) & Interstate Assistance
	Movements & Quarantine Controls	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ LDCC Controller	TCCSD, AFP, ESA, Interstate assistance & private security agencies
	Infected Crop operations	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ LDCC Controller	TCCSD, AFP, ESA, ACTF&R, EPA, Private Contractors, & Interstate Assistance
	Crop or plant destruction, disposal and decontamination	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ LDCC	TCCSD, Environment Protection Authority (EPSDD), Private pest control contractors
Logistics	Administrative Support	EPSDD (Environment Division)	ESA, Shared Services
	Local Human Resource Coordination	LDCC/ECC	Various, Shared Services
	Financial Assistance	EPSDD Chief Finance Officer	Treasury, Shared Services
	Physical Resource Coordination	LDCC/ECC	ESA
	Interstate/Commonwealth Human Resource Coordination	Commissioner ESA /ECC	DAWR, EMA, NSW Dept Primary Industries.
Public Health	Management of public health risks	Chief Health Officer (Health Directorate)	CSD & ACTAS

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Category	Function	Lead Agency/ Coordinator	Support Agencies
	Management of unsafe food produce	Chief Health Officer (Health Directorate)	CSD
Related functions	Environment Management	EPSDD (Environment Division)	Environment Protection Authority, Conservation Research (EPSDD)
Recovery	Welfare of affected persons	Community Recovery Coordinator, ECC	as per Community Recovery Plan

Part 5 – Aquatic Disease Emergency

5.1 Aquatic Disease Emergency – Context

Aquatic disease emergencies are emergency responses to aquatic animal diseases in the commercial context for example aquaculture, aquaponics, fish breeding (both commercial and hobby sectors), laboratory research animals or commercial harvested species. Aquatic pests and diseases that primarily impact the environment are dealt with under Part 6 - Pest Plant and Animal (Environmental) Emergency. In most cases an Aquatic Disease Emergency is responded to in the same way as an Animal Disease Emergency (See Part 3). Aquatic animals covered under an aquatic disease emergency include fin fish, aquatic crustaceans (yabbies and crayfish) and molluscs. Aquatic disease emergencies can involve exotic diseases not yet known to occur in Australia (for example; Whirling disease) exotic diseases already established in Australia (for example Goldfish ulcer disease) or significant endemic diseases (diseases known to occur in Australia, for example; Epizootic Hemipogic Necrosis Virus).

Once an emergency aquatic disease (EAD) has been detected it must be reported to the Commonwealth Chief Veterinary Officer (CCVO) and a response plan prepared. An Aquatic Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Diseases (AQCCEAD) is then convened to assist in managing the outbreak. This is the key technical coordinating body providing the link between the Commonwealth, States and Territories, Animal Health Australia and industry. This committee is constituted from Commonwealth nominations from DAWR (CVO, Biosecurity Australia, AQIS) and CSIRO and state nominees from agriculture or fisheries agencies. Affected industries can participate with observer status. Note that there is no intergovernmental cost-sharing deed or agreement in place for aquatic diseases and hence no National Management Group.

5.2 Referral Legislation

The powers required to manage a major aquatic disease outbreak are contained within the *Animal Diseases Act 2005*. Under the current administrative arrangements, the Minister for Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development is responsible for administering this Act.

However when a State of Emergency has been declared for an aquatic disease emergency, this Plan is enacted under the provisions of the *ACT Emergencies Act 2004*. The *ACT Emergencies Act 2004* provides additional powers to the *Animal Diseases Act 2005* to manage a significant aquatic disease emergency, including the provisions for cross border assistance, and takes precedence over all other ACT legislation.

Other relevant legislation includes the *ACT Fisheries Act 2000*, *ACT Lakes Act*, *Animal Welfare Act 1992*, and Commonwealth legislation related to biosecurity.

5.3 Overarching Documents

5.3.1 Aquatic Disease Emergency Plan (AQUAPLAN)

The Aquatic Disease Emergency Plan (AQUAPLAN) is a strategy agreed at a national level to build and enhance capacity for the management of aquatic animal health within Australia. AQUAPLAN and the associated AQUAVETPLAN focus on the health of fish, molluscs and crustaceans in both aquaculture, commercial and recreational fisheries. AQUAPLAN is available on the Internet at <http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/aquatic/aquaplan>

5.3.2 Aquatic Veterinary Emergency Plan (AQUAVETPLAN)

The Australian Aquatic Veterinary Emergency Plan is a series of resource documents on a variety of major aquatic diseases agreed at a national level, which provides consistent procedures for managing major aquatic animal diseases within Australia. It also provides guidelines for response and operational

procedures such as disposal and decontamination. Current and under review *AQUAVETPLAN* disease strategies are available on the Internet at <http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/aquatic/aquavetplan>.

5.4 Command, Control, and Coordination Arrangements

5.4.1 Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

The Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate will primarily be responsible for strategic requirements of a major aquatic disease emergency, including environmental management aspects.

The Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, or delegate, will where necessary:

- Oversee strategic aspects of the emergency;
- Liaise with the Emergency Controller, Minister for Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development and Chief Veterinary Officer to manage the animal welfare and economic implications to the Territory and the nation;
- Liaise with Directors-General for access to government resources, authorised by the Emergency Controller, for emergency use;
- Liaise with National / Territory industry bodies;
- Liaise with the Chief Health Officer on public health aspects as a result of a zoonotic animal disease emergency;
- Ensure that the EADRA and any animal diseases MOUs are being adhered to;
- Liaise with EPA on the environmental impacts of the aquatic disease emergency;
- Ensure that tasks directed by the Emergency Controller are actioned; and
- Report to the Emergency Controller and Minister for Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development on the emergency operations, the socio-economic impacts on the related industry and other related Directorate functions.

5.4.2 Authorised Person - Chief Veterinary Officer

The Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO), assisted by an aquatic ecologist from Conservation Research in EPSDD will be responsible for:

- Providing advice to SEMSOG
- Preparation of the Emergency Response Plan;
- Consultation with the AqCCEAD as required by membership obligations;
- Consultation with other relevant State and Federal Departments as required;
- Liaison with local industry bodies;
- Directing field operations through the Local Disaster Control Centre Incident Controller;
- Appointing the Local Disaster Control Centre (LDCC), Incident Controller, Manager (Operations), Manager (Planning) and Manager (Logistics), in consultation with the Director-General or delegate;
- Reporting to the Director-General or delegate on emergency efforts and animal health and welfare issues;

- Attending briefings convened by the Emergency Controller, as requested; and
- Undertaking tasks as directed by the Emergency Controller if not in conflict with the Emergency Response Plan.

5.4.3 Local Disaster Control Centre Incident Controller

The Local Disaster Control Centre (LDCC) Incident Controller reports directly to the Chief Veterinary Officer, and is in overall control of the Local Disaster Control Centre and all associated field activities. The LDCC Incident Controller is assisted by three senior officers: Operations Manager, Planning Manager and Logistics Manager and will ensure that tasks directed by the Chief Veterinary Officer are actioned.

5.4.4 Aquatic Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Disease (AqCCEAD)

The CCEAD will as per its terms of reference:

- Consult with the Chief Veterinary Officer on aquatic disease issues;
- Provide technical advice to the Chief Veterinary Officer on the disease;
- Consider and provide input into EADRP;
- Consider regular reports on progress of an EADRP and develop a consensus on further actions required;
- Provide regular consolidated reports to the Affected Parties on the status of an EADRP
- In circumstances where rapid eradication of an EAD is judged no longer feasible, provide advice and recommendations on when the EADRP should be terminated and options for alternative arrangements
- Determine when a disease has been contained or eradicated under an EADRP
- Recommend when proof of freedom has been achieved following the successful implementation of an emergency animal disease response plan.

5.4.5 Chief Health Officer

The Chief Health Officer will: (subject only for human health issue such as a zoonotic disease or risk to water quality)

- Manage the potential and actual risks to public health;
- Liaise with the Director-General, Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development, and Chief Veterinary Officer on public health issues; and
- Report on the management of public health issues.

5.4.6 Director of the Environment Protection Agency

The Director of the Environment Protection Agency will:

- Manage the potential and actual risks to environmental health and human health from water quality issues;

- Liaise with the Director-General, Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development, Chief Veterinary Officer and Chief Health Officer on water quality and disposal issues; and
- Report on the management of water quality issues.

5.5 Response

A Response Plan must be prepared which conforms to the AQUAPLAN and AQUAVETPLAN and any applicable species specific contingency plans.

A Local Disaster Control Centre manages the response and recovery operations during an emergency; the functions can be separated into three (3) categories:

a. Planning

This section plans operations and provides specialists to support operations including:

- Epidemiology
- Planning: incident action planning, resource planning and situation reporting
- Local public relations
- Media management
- Technical specialists: risk enterprises, vectors and animal welfare
- Interstate liaison
- Industry liaison
- Legal support
- Relief and recovery

b. Operations

This section manages the field operations including:

- Veterinary investigations
- Tracing
- Surveillance
- Movement controls
- Training
- Infected premises
- Other field operations, such as vector control
- Animal destruction, disposal and decontamination

c. Logistics

This section provides the administrative and physical support to sustain operations, including:

- Administration
- Induction
- Information services

- Stores
- Finances
- Liaison with other key agencies, e.g. SES, Police
- OHS

5.6 Recovery

The Community Recovery Coordinator will coordinate recovery aspects in accordance with the arrangements outlined in the ACT Community Recovery Plan.

The Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate will work in consultation with the Community Recovery Coordinator and the Environment Protection Authority to dispose of infected animal material.

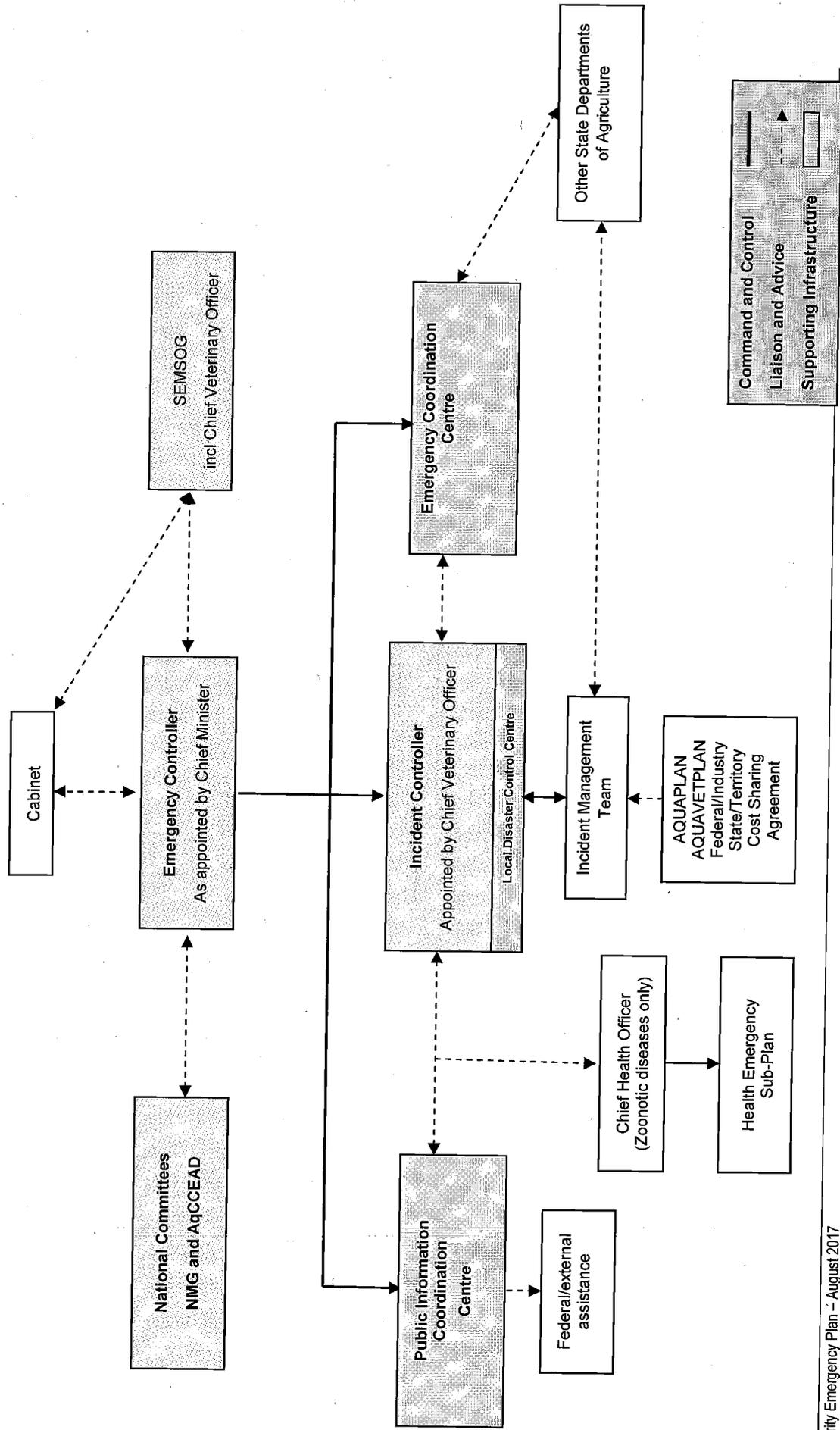
5.7 Aquatic Pest Emergency Function Matrix

Category	Function	Lead Agency/ Coordinator	Support Agencies
Planning	Technical & Specialist support	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ Chief Veterinary Officer	AqCCEAD CSIRO and NSW aquatic pathologist & other interstate assistance
	Media Management & Public Relations	Media Coordinator PICC	Media Liaison Officer LDCC, AFP Media Unit
	Industry Liaison with affected industry	EPSDD/ LDCC Controller	Economic Development Directorate (EDD) Industry Representatives
	Legal Assistance	EPSDD Legal Advisor	GSO, ACT Govt Legal Officers
Operations	Pest Investigation & Detection	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ Chief Veterinary Officer	AqCCEAD CSIRO and NSW plant pathologist & other interstate assistance
	Vector Control	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ Environmental Weeds Officers	TCCSD, Conservation Research (EPSDD) & Interstate Assistance
	Movements & Quarantine Controls	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ LDCC Controller	TCCSD, AFP, ESA, Interstate assistance & private security agencies
	Infected Water body operations	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ LDCC Controller	TCCSD, AFP, ESA, ACTF&R, EPA, Private Contractors, & Interstate Assistance
	Animal destruction, disposal and decontamination	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ LDCC	TCCSD, Environment Protection Authority (EPSDD), Private pest control contractors
Logistics	Administrative Support	EPSDD (Environment Division)	ESA, Shared Services
	Local Human Resource Coordination	LDCC/ECC	Various, Shared Services
	Financial Assistance	EPSDD Chief Finance Officer	Treasury, Shared Services
	Physical Resource Coordination	LDCC/ECC	ESA
	Interstate/Commonwealth Human Resource Coordination	Commissioner ESA /ECC	DAWR, EMA, NSW Dept Primary Industries.
Public Health	Management of public health risks	Chief Health Officer (Health Directorate)	CSD & ACTAS

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Category	Function	Lead Agency/ Coordinator	Support Agencies
	Management of unsafe food produce	Chief Health Officer (Health Directorate)	CSD
Related functions	Environment Management	EPSDD (Environment Division)	Environment Protection Authority, Conservation Research (EPSDD)
Recovery	Welfare of affected persons	Community Recovery Coordinator, ECC	as per Community Recovery Plan

Aquatic Disease Emergency - Command, Control and Coordination Flowchart



Part 6 – Pest Plant and Animal (Environmental) Emergency

6.1 Pest Plant and Animal Emergency – Context

An outbreak of a pest plant or animal can have a serious impact on Australia's environment, people, including social amenity and human infrastructure or business activity. For example the Red Imported Fire Ant outbreak in Brisbane has the potential to render outdoor recreational activity all but impossible in infested areas and could seriously impact the environment. The emergency response to eradicate this pest has cost hundreds of millions of dollars to date and is still ongoing. A Benefit Cost Analysis estimates the cost to the Australian community, if fire ants were left uncontrolled, would reach \$43 billion over 30 years.

Pest plants and animals dealt with under this part of the Plan are those which primarily impact the environment or social amenity values. Pest plants and animals which impact primary production are dealt with under Parts 3, 4 and 5 of this Plan

The ACT is a signatory to an intergovernmental cost sharing agreement called the National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement (NEBRA) in respect of emergency pest plants and animals. The Commonwealth and all states and Territories are signatories to this agreement. This legal agreement is structured so as to permit the sharing of costs between governments incurred during the outbreak of those pest plants and animals defined in the agreement. This agreement has a number of conditions which have to be followed to qualify for the funding, so reference to this document is essential in understanding the terms of the agreement. Pest plants and animals not defined in this agreement are exempt from this financial arrangement and are the sole responsibility of the jurisdiction.

Once an emergency pest plant or animal has been detected it must be notified within 24 hours to the Commonwealth Chief Veterinary Officer (in the case of a pest animal) or the Chief Plant Protection Officer (in the case of a pest plant) and a response plan prepared.

Two important intergovernmental committees are then formed in accordance with the NEBRA to assist the local jurisdiction in the management of the crisis. The first is the National Biosecurity Management Consultative Committee (NBMCC), the key technical coordinating body providing the link between the Commonwealth, States and Territories and the National Biosecurity Management Group (NBMG). This committee is constituted from the members of either the Australian Weeds Committee or the National Vertebrate Pests Committee depending on the nature of the emergency. The second is the NBMG which comprises senior executive level representatives of Commonwealth, State and Territory governments. The NBMG receives advice from the NBMCC on technical issues relating to the incursion and considers policy and financial issues associated with the implementation of the response plan. It also decides whether to activate the cost sharing arrangements in the NEBRA. The ACT representative on the NBMG is the Executive Director Environment.

The occurrence of a major pest plant or animal emergency necessitates the immediate implementation of a professionally managed strategy to detect and eradicate all sources of infection. Many plant pests or animals can spread rapidly to other areas by wind, bird or water dispersal, contaminated, equipment, people, vehicles or other things. This means that urgent and stringent action is required to contain the outbreak and limit its spread. This may involve rigid quarantine and movement controls on all potential things which could be considered as carriers of the plant pest or animal.

Strategy options include destruction of pest plants, treatment with herbicides, baiting and culling programs, tracing for potential sources and spread of infestation, surveillance for other cases or outbreaks, and control of vectors which might spread the pest.

Some pests may be very difficult to eradicate and should it become technically or economically non-feasible to manage, alternate strategies such as zoning may result. Zoning involves the division of land masses where a pest plant or animal may or may not be present.

6.2 Referral Legislation

The powers required to manage a major animal or plant pest outbreak are contained in the *Pest Plants and Animals Act 2005*. Note that currently the Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate can only give the occupier of premises a pest animal direction to do or not do something in respect to the pest if a pest management plan has been prepared for the pest. As of August 2016 no pest management plan exists.

6.3 Overarching Documents

No national emergency plan similar to AUSVETPLAN or PLANTPLAN exists for emergency pest plants and animals. It is the ACT Government's position that response to an incursion of this type will be made in accordance with provisions of the NEBRA utilising similar response methodologies to that of PLANTPLAN and AUSTVETPLAN. This is detailed in Part 6.5 of this Plan.

6.4 Command, Control, and Coordination Arrangements

6.4.1 Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

The Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate will primarily be responsible for strategic requirements of a major pest plant or animal emergency.

The Director-General, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, or delegate, will where necessary:

- Represent the ACT in the National Management Group;
- Oversee strategic aspects of the emergency through the ACT Biosecurity Manager;
- Liaise with the Emergency Controller, Minister for Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development and the ACT Biosecurity Manager to manage the environmental, social amenity and economic implications to the Territory and the Nation;
- Liaise with Directors-General for access to government resources, authorised by the Emergency Controller, for emergency use;
- Liaise with National / Territory industry bodies;
- Ensure that the NEBRA is being adhered to;
- Liaise with EPA on the environmental impacts of the plant pest emergency;
- Ensure that tasks directed by the Emergency Controller are actioned; and
- Report to the Emergency Controller and Minister for Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development on the emergency operations, the socio-economic impacts on the related industry and other related Directorate functions.

6.4.2 Authorised Person – Biosecurity Manager

The EPSSDD Biosecurity Manager will be responsible for:

- Providing advice to SEMSOG
- Preparing the Emergency Response Plan (ERP);
- Consultation with the NBMCC;

- Consultation with other relevant State and Federal Departments as required;
- Liaison with local Industry bodies;
- Advising on field operations through the Local Disaster Control Centre Incident Controller;
- Appointing the Local Disaster Control Centre (LDCC) Incident Controller, Manager (Operations), Manager (Planning) and Manager (Logistics), in consultation with the Director-General or delegate;
- Ensuring the Local Disaster Control Centre Incident Controller adheres to the ERP;
- Reporting to the Director-General or delegate on emergency efforts and animal welfare issues;
- Attend briefings convened by the Emergency Controller, as requested; and
- Undertake tasks as directed by the Emergency Controller if not in conflict with the Emergency Response Plan.

6.4.3 Local Disaster Control Centre Incident Controller

The Local Disaster Control Centre (LDCC) Incident Controller reports directly to the EPSDD Biosecurity Manager, and is in overall control of the Local Disaster Control Centre and all associated field activities. The LDCC Incident Controller is assisted by three senior officers: Operations Manager, Planning Manager and Logistics Manager and will ensure that tasks directed by the Biosecurity Manager are actioned.

6.4.4 National Biosecurity Management Consultative Committee (NBMCC)

The NBMCC will as per its terms of reference:

- Receive notification of pest and disease outbreaks;
- Provide timely advice to the affected parties via the Chief Veterinary Officer or Chief Plant Protection Officer on whether it considers an NBMG should be convened;
- Advise the NBMG on whether the outbreak requires a national biosecurity incident response;
- Consider and recommend a national response plan;
- Consider regular reports on progress of the response and develop a consensus on whether further actions are required;
- Provide regular, consolidated reports to the NBMG on the status of the national biosecurity incident response;
- When eradication is judged to be no longer technically feasible or cost beneficial, provide advice and recommendations to the NBMG on when a national biosecurity incident response should cease;
- Determine when a pest or disease has been eradicated;
- Advise the NBMG when proof-of-freedom has been achieved following successful implementation of a national biosecurity incident response plan; and
- Ensure incident responses comply with Australia's international rights and obligations, including those contained in the SPS agreement.

6.5 Response

Due to no national biosecurity incident response plan template being available, it is the ACT Government's position that response to an incursion of this type will be made in accordance with provisions of the NEBRA utilising similar response methodologies to that of PLANTPLAN and AUSTVETPLAN.

This will be conducted in a four-tiered response phase: investigation, alert, operational and stand down. A Local Disaster Control Centre (LDCC) manages the response and recovery operations at the Territory level during an emergency and the functions can be separated into three (3) categories:

a. Planning

This section plans operations and provides specialists to support operations including:

- Epidemiology
- Planning: incident action planning, resource planning and situation reporting
- Local public relations
- Media management
- Technical specialists: risk enterprises, vectors
- Interstate liaison
- Industry liaison
- Legal support
- Relief and recovery

b. Operations

This section manages the field operations including:

- Environmental investigations
- Tracing
- Surveillance
- Movement controls
- Training
- Infected premises
- Other field operations, such as plant or animal destruction, disposal and decontamination

c. Logistics

This section provides the administrative and physical support to sustain operations, including:

- Administration
- Induction
- Information services
- Stores
- Finances
- Liaison with other key agencies, e.g. SES, Police
- OHS

6.6 Recovery

The Community Recovery Coordinator will coordinate recovery aspects in accordance with the arrangements outlined in the ACT Community Recovery Plan. The Environment Planning and Sustainable Development

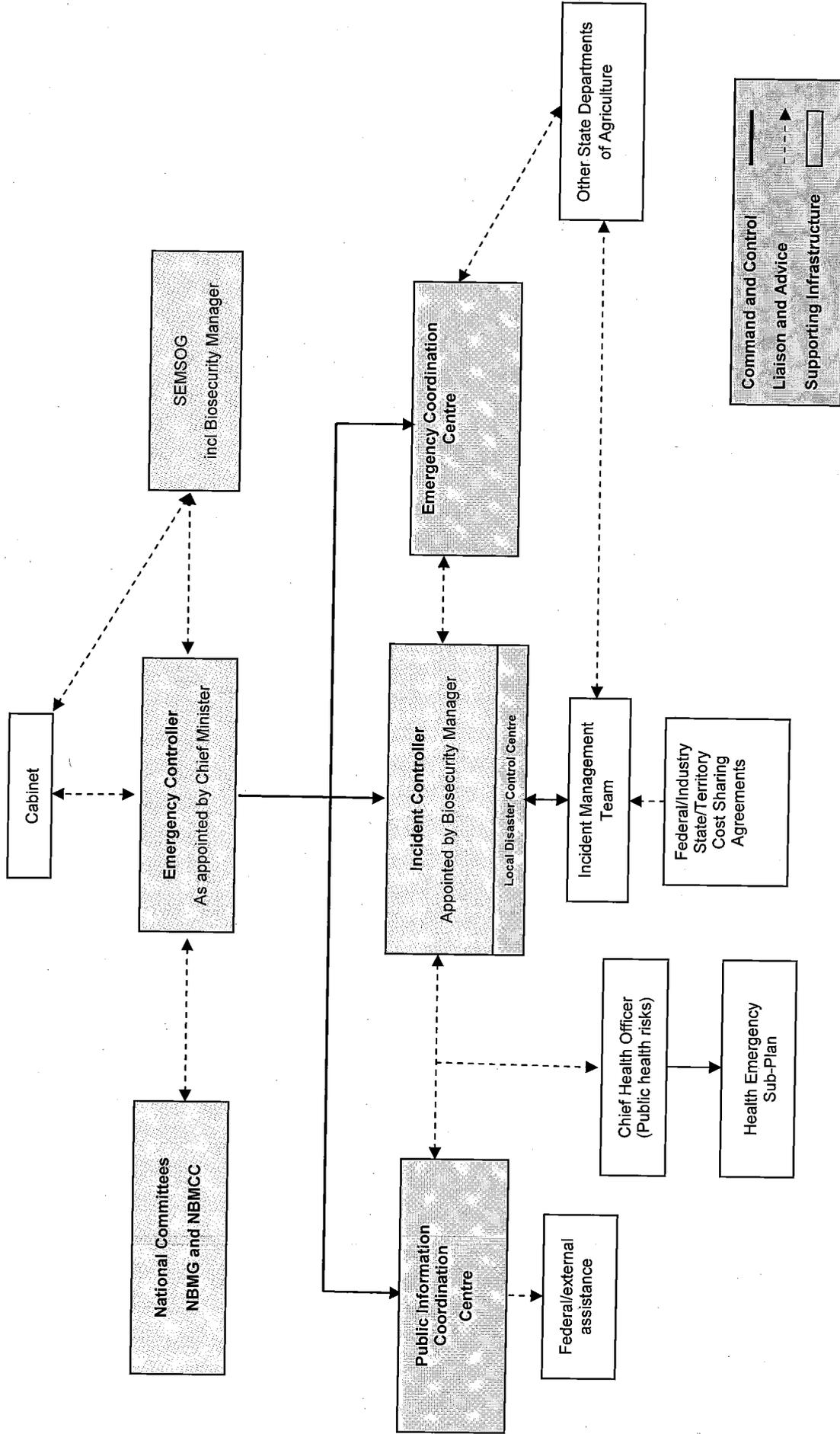
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Directorate will work in consultation with the Community Recovery Coordinator and the Environment Protection Authority on pest-related incursions.

6.7 Pest Plant and Animal Emergency (Environmental) Function Matrix

Category	Function	Lead Agency/ Coordinator	Support Agencies
Planning	Technical & Specialist support	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ Biosecurity Manager	NBMCC CSIRO and NSW invasive plant and animal specialists & other interstate assistance
	Media Management & Public Relations	Media Coordinator PICC	Media Liaison Officer LDCC, AFP Media Unit
	Industry Liaison with affected industry	EPSDD/ LDCC Controller	Economic Development Directorate (EDD) Industry Representatives
	Legal Assistance	EPSDD Legal Advisor	GSO, ACT Govt Legal Officers
Operations	Pest Investigation & Detection	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ Biosecurity Manager	NBMCC CSIRO and NSW invasive plant and animal specialists & other interstate assistance
	Movements & Quarantine Controls	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ LDCC Controller	TCCSD, AFP, ESA, Interstate assistance & private security agencies
	Infected Crop operations	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ LDCC Controller	TCCSD, AFP, ESA, ACTF&R, EPA, Private Contractors, & Interstate Assistance
	Plant or animal destruction, disposal and decontamination	EPSDD (Environment Division)/ LDCC	TCCSD, Environment Protection Authority (EPSDD), Private pest control contractors
Logistics	Administrative Support	EPSDD (Environment Division)	ESA, Shared Services
	Local Human Resource Coordination	LDCC/ECC	Various, Shared Services
	Financial Assistance	EPSDD Chief Finance Officer	Treasury, Shared Services
	Physical Resource Coordination	LDCC/ECC	ESA
	Interstate/Commonwealth Human Resource Coordination	Commissioner ESA /ECC	DAWR, EMA, NSW Dept Primary Industries.
Public Health	Management of public health risks	Chief Health Officer (Health Directorate)	CSD & ACTAS
	Management of unsafe food produce	Chief Health Officer (Health Directorate)	CSD
Related functions	Environment Management	EPSDD (Environment Division)	Environment Protection Authority, Conservation Research (EPSDD)
Recovery	Welfare of affected persons	Community Recovery Coordinator, ECC	as per Community Recovery Plan

Pest Plant and Animal Emergency – Command, Control and Coordination Flowchart



Part 7 – Agencies and Organisations Involved in Response

7.1 Background

Substantial human, physical and financial resources might be required to cope with a biosecurity emergency. The exact nature, extent and source of resources will depend on the type and scope of the emergency, but many of the resources will be sought from supporting agencies. Trained and qualified staff across directorates can be utilised proportionate to the level of the emergency response. The following list, although by no means exhaustive, provides some guidance on who is likely to be involved in combating a biosecurity emergency and what they are likely to do.

7.1.1 ACT Emergency Service Agency

The ACT Emergency Service Agency will:

- Provide and maintain radio communications between control centres and field operations;
- Provide specialist NSW/ACT regional mapping, PR and media maps;
- Provide liaison officers and support staff as requested by the Emergency Controller; and
- Manage the Emergency Coordination Centre and Public Information Coordination Centre.

7.1.2 Australian Federal Police – ACT Policing

The Australian Federal Police will:

- Provide personnel to assist with;
 - Enforcement of quarantine restrictions and movement controls
 - Traffic control, checkpoints and security
 - Tracing of animals, plants, people, vehicles and infected materials
 - Obtaining information and co-operation
 - Investigation of offences and prosecutions
- Support the Incident Controller to approve road signs pertaining to movement controls; and
- Provide liaison officers as required.

7.1.3 ACT Fire & Rescue

The ACT Fire & Rescue will:

- Provide personnel and/or resources to assist with decontamination and cleaning;
- Provide personnel and resources necessary to transport large volumes of water for decontamination and cleaning; and
- Provide liaison officers as required.

7.1.4 ACT Rural Fire Service

The ACT Rural Fire Service will:

- Provide personnel and resources necessary to transport large volumes of water for decontamination and cleaning; and
- Provide liaison officers as required.

7.1.5 Bureau of Meteorology (BOM)

The Bureau of Meteorology will:

- Provide specialised meteorological data; and
- Provide liaison officers if requested.

7.1.6 Australian Government and Interstate Assistance

Australian Government and Interstate Assistance will be requested and coordinated as specified in the ACT Emergency Plan.

7.1.7 Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Diseases (CCEAD); Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (CCEPP); Aquatic Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Diseases (AqCCEAD) National Biosecurity Management Consultative Committee (NBMCC)

The Consultative Committees:

- Advise on biosecurity incident eradication and management procedures with recommendations to the NMG; and
- Determine national strategies and policies related to the biosecurity incident.

7.1.8 National Management Group (NMG)

The NMG receives advice from the relevant Consultative Committee on technical issues relating to the emergency and considers policy and financial issues associated with the implementation of the Emergency Response Plan. It also decides whether to activate the cost sharing arrangements in the relevant cost sharing deed. The ACT representative on the NMG is the Executive Director Environment EPSDD.

7.1.9 ACT Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD)

As the lead agency, the Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate will:

- Provide veterinary and regulatory staff to undertake biosecurity investigations and movement controls;
- Provide personnel and resources to assist with the surveillance, tracing and control of free ranging biosecurity populations and vectors;
- Provide resources for destruction of animals, plants, and pests plus their safe disposal;
- Provide trained personnel to staff the Local Disaster Control Centre and undertake other operational activities

- Provide specialised ACT maps and leasing information;
- Provide specialist advice on native fauna and flora issues and impacts
- Provide advice on animal, plant and pest disposal and decontamination; and
- Manage other related EPSDD responsibilities, including managing the environmental impacts arising from a biosecurity emergency.

7.1.10 ACT Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate (TCCS)

The Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate will:

- Provide specialised ACT maps and data management services;
- Provide trained personnel and vehicles to staff the Local Disaster Control Centre and undertake field operational activities;
- Make the Curtin Municipal Emergency Operations Centre available and provide a Centre manager and centre support; and
- Provide resources for destruction of animals, plants, and pests plus their safe disposal;

7.1.11 Industry Associations

Industry Associations will:

- Provide advice concerning industry structure, product marketing, livestock, plant and product movements;
- Disseminate authorised information to their members;
- Assist with tracing information; and
- Provide liaison officers as required.

7.1.12 Biosecurity Specialists

Biosecurity Specialists such as private veterinary surgeons, plant pathologists, entomologists etc will:

- Provide expertise and advice as required.

7.1.13 Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA)

RSPCA may:

- Provide advice on the humane destruction of animals and other related animal welfare matters.

7.1.14 WorkSafe ACT

WorkSafe ACT will:

- Monitor and regulate safe work practices during the biosecurity emergency.

7.1.15 ACT Health Directorate

ACT Health Directorate will:

- Manage public health aspects arising from a biosecurity emergency.
- Provide liaison officers as required.

7.1.16 Private Contractors

Private contractors may:

- Be engaged to provide essential services and increased response capacity.

Appendix One – Emergency Controller Emergency Powers

*relevant for Animal Disease emergencies

The following list contains the emergency powers that the Minister for Police and Emergency Services may assign to the Emergency Controller in the event of a State of Emergency, under Section 27(1) of the ACT *Emergencies Act 2004*. The powers that are recommended for managing an animal disease emergency are ticked below.

Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, for the purpose of managing a declared emergency, the Controller, by instrument, may authorise a member of an agency or a member of an organisation:

✓	a) to direct the movement of persons, animals or vehicles within, into or around the emergency area;
✓	b) to give directions to regulate or prohibit the movement of persons, animals or vehicles within, into or around the emergency area;
✓	c) to enter land, a building, structure or vehicle within the emergency area using such force as is necessary and reasonable in the circumstances;
✓	d) to excavate land or form tunnels;
✓	e) to construct earthworks, erect barriers or temporary structures;
✓	f) to turn off, disconnect or shut down any motor or equipment;
✓	g) to open any receptacle, or dismantle any equipment, using such force as is necessary and reasonable in the circumstances;
✓	h) to bring any apparatus or equipment onto land or into a building, structure or vehicle;
✓	i) to evacuate persons or animals from the emergency area, or part of the emergency area, to such place as the controller thinks fit;
✓	j) to contain any animal or substance within the emergency area;
✓	k) to control, use, close off or block any drainage facility within the emergency area;
✓	l) to control, shut off or disconnect any supply of fuel, gas, electricity or water;
✓	m) to appropriate, acquire or abstract from, any supply of fuel, gas, electricity or water and use any such supply;
✓	n) to take possession of any land, building, structure, vehicle, animal, substance or other thing;
✓	o) to direct the owner of any property, by notice in writing to the owner, to place the property under the control, or at the disposal, of the controller;
✓	p) to remove, dismantle, demolish or destroy any building, structure or vehicle within the emergency area;
✓	q) to remove or destroy any animal, substance or vegetation within the emergency area; and
✓	r) to maintain, restore, or prevent disruption of, essential services.

Appendix Two – Glossary

Term	Definition
<i>Affected Parties</i>	"Affected Parties" are those of the Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments and any Industry Parties who are affected by an Incident or an outbreak of an emergency disease or pest.
<i>Control of disease</i>	The partial elimination of the disease and where necessary the disease agent so as to reduce the occurrence of the disease.
<i>Decontamination</i>	The process of cleaning an environment or location where a disease agent exists.
<i>Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement</i> <i>Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed</i> <i>National Emergency Biosecurity Response Agreement</i>	Agreements signed by the ACT Government which include Federal, State jurisdictions as well as industry. The agreement allows for the contribution of funding on a shared basis when a defined disease or pest event occurs within a jurisdiction. The idea being to spread the cost associated with handling the disease or pest event provided the defined terms and conditions are followed.
<i>Endemic disease or pest</i>	A disease or pest which does presently occur in Australia.
<i>Eradication of disease</i>	The complete elimination of the disease and where necessary the disease agent.
<i>Exotic disease or pest</i>	A disease or pest which does not presently occur in Australia.
<i>Lead Agency Controller</i>	All emergency incidents will have a single controlling individual, consistent with the concept of Unified Control. The title of this individual may differ depending on who is the lead agency and the scale of incident; however the functions and responsibilities do not. In most cases it will be the incident controller
<i>Municipal Emergency Operations Centre (MEOC)</i>	Commonly known as a Local Disaster Control Centre. Located at Curtin ACT.
<i>Significant disease or pest</i>	A disease or pest which can have a major social or economic impact as noted in the relevant Cost Sharing Agreement/Deed.
<i>SPS agreement</i>	The World Trade Organisation Sanitary and Phytosanitary SPS Agreement
<i>Surveillance</i>	The process of sampling a population to detect a disease.
<i>Tracing</i>	The process of following information to and from a disease detection, so as to discover the disease origin or disease destination.
<i>Vector</i>	An insect or other organism capable of carrying or transmitting the disease agent.
<i>Zoonotic disease</i>	A disease caused by infectious agents that can be transmitted between (or are shared by) animals and humans.

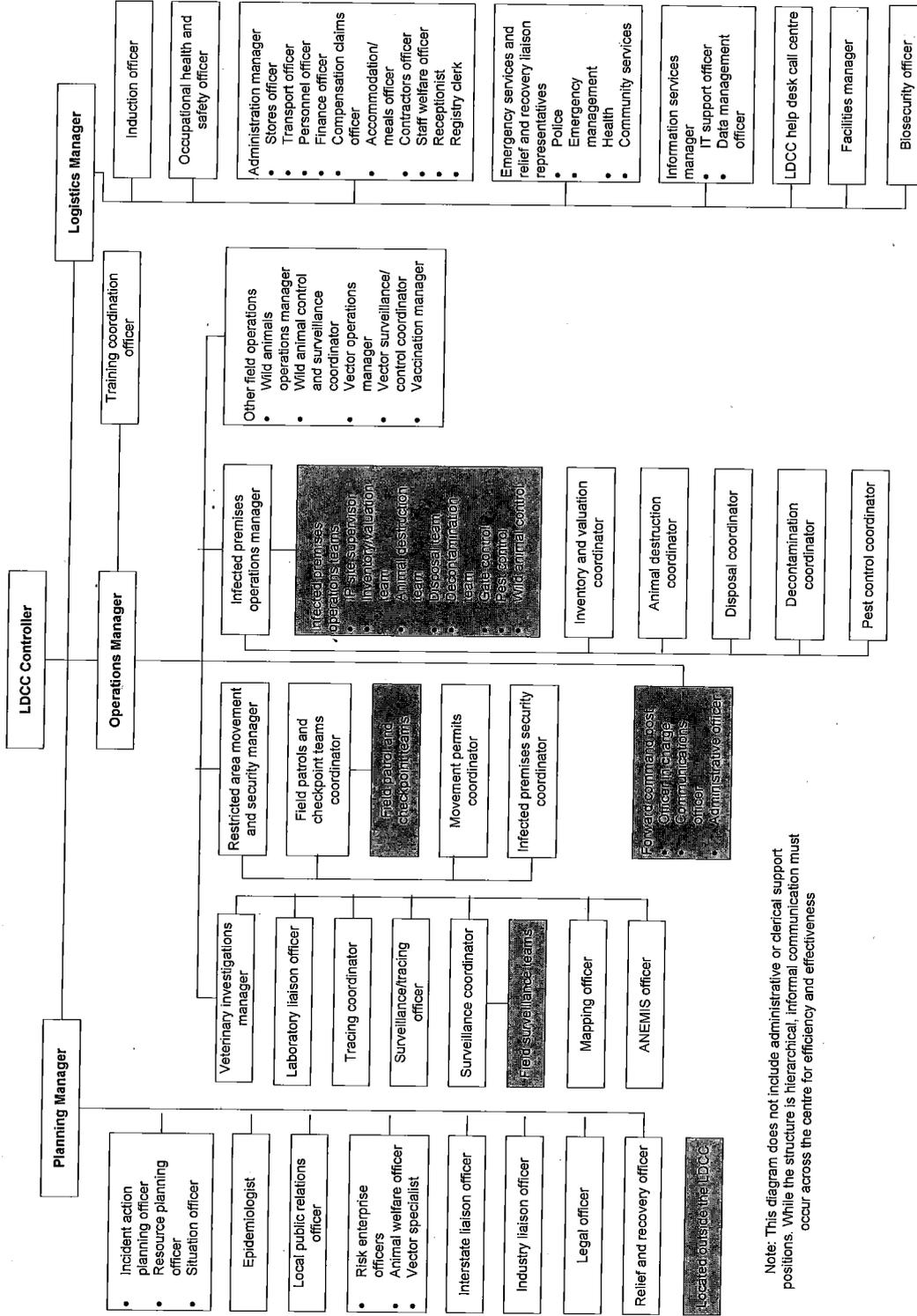
Appendix Three – Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Term
ACTAS	ACT Ambulance Service
ACTF&R	ACT Fire & Rescue
ACTP	ACT Policing
AFP	Australian Federal Police
AGMIN	Agriculture Minister's Forum
AQIS	Australian Quarantine Inspection Service (Australian Government)
AQUAPLAN	Aquatic Disease Emergency Plan
AQUAVETPLAN	Aquatic Veterinary Emergency Plan
ANEMIS	Animal Emergency Management Information System
AUSVETPLAN	Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan
BOM	Bureau of Meteorology
CCEAD	Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Disease
CCEPP	Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests
CHO	Chief Health Officer
CISM	Critical Incident Stress Management
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer
DAWR	Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (Australian Government)
DCC	Disease Control Centre
CSD	ACT Community Services Directorate
EAD	Emergency Animal Disease
EADRA	Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement
ECC	Emergency Coordination Centre
EPP	Emergency Plant Pest
EPPRD	Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed
EPSDD	ACT Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate
ERP	Emergency Response Plan
ESA	Emergency Services Agency
ETD	ACT Education and Training Directorate
Health Directorate	ACT Health Directorate
JACSD	ACT Justice and Community Safety Directorate
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NBMCC	National Biosecurity Management Consultative Committee
NEBRA	National Emergency Biosecurity Response Agreement

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NMG	National Management Group
PLANTPLAN	Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan
SEMSOG	Security and Emergency Management Senior Officials Group
SOE	State of Emergency
RSPCA	Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
TCCSD	Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate

Appendix Four – Model Structure of a Local Disaster Control Centre (animal disease example)



Note: This diagram does not include administrative or clerical support positions. While the structure is hierarchical, informal communication must occur across the centre for efficiency and effectiveness



Australian Capital Territory

Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan

A supporting sub plan of the ACT Emergency Plan that outlines the standing energy emergency management arrangements in the Australian Capital Territory.

A supporting plan of the ACT Emergency Plan

Version	2.0
Replaces	1.0
Date of release	2015
Date for review	2018
Contact	Director, Energy & Waste Policy, Environment and Planning Directorate

Document Control

Government Distribution List

The following ACT Government personnel have been issued with a copy of the Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan:

Position

Director-General, EPD

Deputy Director-General, EPD

SEMPG Representative, EPD

SEMSOG Representative, EPD

Executive Director, Sustainability and Climate Change, EPD

Director, Energy and Waste Policy, EPD

Director, Finance and Operational Support, EPD

Executive Director, Construction and Workplace Protection, Access Canberra

Director, Utilities, Land and Lease Regulation, Access Canberra

Manager, Utilities Technical Regulation, Access Canberra

ACT Emergency Services Commissioner, ACT Emergency Services Agency

ACT Emergency Management Officer, ACT Emergency Services Agency

In addition, a copy will also be provided to each Security Emergency Management Senior Officials Management Group and Security Emergency Management Planning Group member.

External Distribution List

The following external stakeholders have been issued with a copy of the Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan:

Position

Chief Executive Officer, ActewAGL

General Manager Energy Networks, ActewAGL

Manager, Asset and Network Performance, ActewAGL

Manager Gas Networks, ActewAGL

General Manager Gas & Water, Jemena

Managing Director, Transgrid

Chair, National Gas Emergency Response Advice Committee

Chair, National Electricity Market Emergency Management Forum

Chair, National Oil Supply Emergency Committee

Note: A contact list is to be provided in circulation with this document. Updates to the list should be forwarded to EnergyPolicy@act.gov.au.

A copy can be found at G:\Policy\CCESP\Electricity, Gas and Liquid Fuel Emergency

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AUTHORISATION

This Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan for the Australian Capital Territory is a supporting sub plan of the ACT Emergency Plan. It has been prepared in accordance with section 148 of the *Emergencies Act 2004*, endorsed by the Security and Emergency Management Senior Officials Group (SEMSOG) and authorised by the relevant Director-General; Legislated Statutory Officer or responsible officer as decided by the responsible Directorate.

Authorised:

Date:

Dorte Ekelund
Director-General
Environment and Planning Directorate

Endorsed:

Date:

Alison Playford
Chair
Security and Emergency Management Senior Officers Group

Approved:

Date:

Dominic Lane
Commissioner
ACT Emergency Services Agency

PART ONE: OVERVIEW

Aim

The Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan (EEP) is a supporting plan of the ACT Emergency Plan. The EEP provides a framework for a coordinated approach by Government, noting the important role of non-government stakeholders, to electricity, gas and liquid fuel emergencies in the ACT.

Objectives and Purpose

The EEP is designed to provide a unifying framework for Government detailing how the ACT Government responds to energy emergencies.

An *energy emergency* is an actual or imminent event relating to the supply of electricity, gas or liquid fuel at a local or national level that requires a coordinated response.

In accordance with the ACT Emergency Plan, the EEP:

- Describes key energy emergency governance and administrative arrangements in the ACT;
- Identifies the supporting Territory and Commonwealth legislation and plans relevant in an energy emergency;
- Identifies the roles and functions of the EEP Leader and the Emergency Management Team (EMT);
- Provides guidance on communications, including public messages, relating to national and local energy emergencies;
- Provides the indicative escalation, activation and execution processes in an energy emergency impacting the ACT; and
- Describes the review and maintenance requirements for the EEP.

The response to an emergency at any level under the EEP is based on the following priorities:

- Maintain a duty of care to all persons;
- Protect the community and the environment;
- Provide services in a timely, ethical, equitable and flexible manner;
- Meet stakeholder expectations;
- Maintain control and coordination of an emergency response at the lowest effective management level;
- Maintain legal and regulatory compliance; and
- Learn to prevent reoccurrence.

Scope

The EEP is prepared in line with Annexure B of the ACT Emergency Plan, which identifies the Sub Plans required to be prepared under the Plan.

The EEP provides high level policy direction and guidance for all participating Government Agencies, and is to be read in conjunction with other relevant supporting and hazard plans of the ACT Emergency Plan, in particular the ACT Recovery Plan, the Community Communication and Information Plan.

Context

The EEP covers the ACT Government's obligations in responding to a predicted or actual electricity, gas or liquid fuel supply constraint, specifically in relation to the obligations under:

- the *Utilities Act 2000* and the *Utilities Technical Regulation Act 2014*, in relation to the implementation of electricity and gas restrictions and the broader regulation of utilities with respect to safety;
- the National Electricity Law, in relation to the appointment of a Jurisdictional System Security Coordinator for the management of national electricity emergencies;
- the Use of Emergency Powers (National Electricity Market Emergency Powers) Memorandum of Understanding, in relation to national coordination and cooperation of electricity emergencies; and
- the Natural Gas Supply Shortage (National Gas Emergency Response Protocol) Memorandum of Understanding, in relation to national coordination and cooperation of gas emergencies.
- Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) National Liquid Fuel Emergency 2006, which sets the guiding principles, roles and responsibilities, and processes all Governments agree to follow in implementing the *Liquid Fuel Emergency Act 1984* (the LFE Act) and corresponding National Liquid Fuel Emergency Response Plan (NLFERP). The IGA requires jurisdictions to develop, implement and review jurisdictional plans consistent with the NLFERP.

The energy emergency management arrangements outlined in this plan are based on the core principles for emergency management in the ACT, as outlined in the ACT Emergency Plan. These principles are intended to guide balanced, effective and efficient emergency management, as applied to the EEP below.

Comprehensive Approach

The *comprehensive approach* encompasses the spectrum of Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery. This approach allows ACT Government agencies and the community to approach emergency management in a comprehensive and structured manner. Flexibility in this framework is necessary and emphasis on a particular category may vary between individuals, organisations and locations, and over time.

All Agencies Approach

The ACT energy sector incorporates a diverse range of stakeholders including State and Territory and national governments, private sector and non-government agencies, service providers and the ACT community.

The *all agencies* approach recognises that all stakeholders may be involved to some extent in energy emergency management. The context of emergency management for different agencies varies and this Plan relies on cooperative, coordinated and consultative relationships between the ACT Government and its agencies, the Commonwealth Government, other State and Territory governments and the private sector and community organisations.

All Hazards Approach

An *all hazards* approach for managing the possible effects of emergencies will be applied. Specific responses to energy emergencies may vary with different hazards or circumstances. The EEP establishes a single set of management arrangements capable of encompassing all hazards or emergencies.

Many hazards require specific response and recovery measures along with specific prevention and mitigation measures. Examples of energy specific hazards include:

- Loss of Major Asset and/or Infrastructure including information technology failure, natural disaster or terrorism;
- Manual load shedding of electricity or gas supply in both planned and emergency situations;
- Extensive outages or supply restrictions on electricity, gas or liquid fuels, including impacting essential services;
- A total collapse of an energy network following a de-stabilising event requiring the restoration of electricity or gas supply;
- Critical, widespread or prolonged disruption of energy reliant essential services; and
- Terrorism.

Public safety and community engagement

Public safety and community engagement is fundamental to effective emergency management in the ACT.

The EEP establishes the basis for communication and media strategies to ensure effective and timely provision of accurate information to the public. The ACT Government will maintain effective relationships with the community of the ACT to enable the public and the private sector to mitigate the impact of emergencies.

Activation of the EEP

The Environment and Planning Directorate (EPD) is the lead agency in relation to energy aspects of emergencies in the ACT (noting that an energy emergency may be part of a broader emergency).

The EEP is active at all times and the ACT Electricity Jurisdictional System Security Coordinator (JSSC)/Gas Jurisdictional Contact Officer (JCO)/ ACT National Oil Supply Emergency Committee (NOSEC) representative is the default EEP Leader ('the Leader') responsible for coordinating EPD's response to an incident, planned event or declared emergency.

The type and severity of an emergency involving energy will dictate the response required by Government and key stakeholders. Depending on the incident, the plan may be escalated to Response Level 1, 2 or 3 under the governing structure of the ACT Emergency Plan, drawing on the principles outlined in this Plan.

Specifically, the Response Level should be determined by the EEP Leader in close consultation with key stakeholders, including the EPD Executive, SEMSOG and the Emergency Controller, if appointed—noting the Chief Minister may appoint an Emergency Controller.

The appointment of an Emergency Controller will usually be made on the recommendation of SEMSOG. In certain circumstances, this recommendation may come directly from the Emergency Services Commissioner, the Chief Police Officer or the Chief Health Officer. In making this recommendation, the matters considered should be discussed between these officers where the nature of the emergency permits.

PART TWO: GOVERNANCE

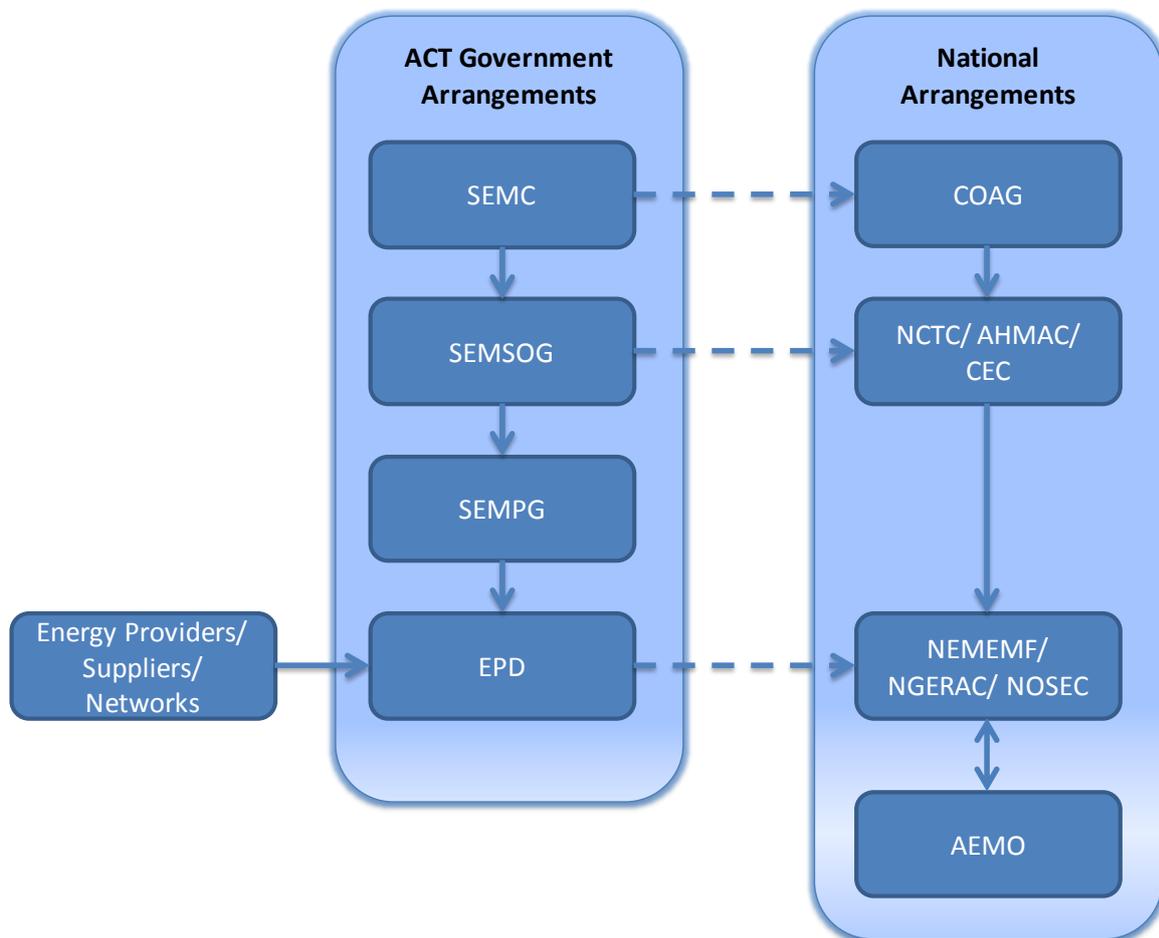
Overview

The EEP is read in conjunction with the *Emergencies Act 2004* (the Act) and the *ACT Emergency Plan*, which provide the broad emergency governance arrangements in the ACT.

The governance arrangements established in the EEP provide the necessary forums, mechanisms and procedures for communication, liaison and coordination between the ACT Government, its Agencies, the community, private sector and national emergency management bodies in the context of an energy emergency.

The Governance hierarchy in relation to energy emergencies is summarised below in *Figure 1: Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan Governance Arrangements*.

Figure 1: Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan Governance Arrangements



SEMC – Security and Emergency Management Committee of Cabinet
SEMSOG – Security and Emergency Management Senior Officials Group
SEMPG – Security and Emergency Management Planning Group
EPD – Environment and Planning Directorate
COAG – Council of Australian Governments
NCTC – National Counter Terrorism Committee

AHMAC – Australian Health Ministers Conference
CEC – COAG Energy Council
NOSEC – National Oil Supplies Emergency Committee
NEMEMF – National Electricity Market Emergency Management Forum
NGERAC – National Gas Emergency Response Advisory Committee
AEMO – Australian Energy Market Operator

ACT Arrangements

Security and Emergency Management Committee of Cabinet (SEMC)

The Security and Emergency Management Committee of Cabinet (SEMC) provides general strategic direction to the ACT Government's prevention and preparedness arrangements for emergencies under the all-hazards planning framework. Membership and governance of SEMC is established in the ACT Government Cabinet Handbook (2009), or subsequent revisions¹.

Security and Emergency Management Senior Officials Group

The Security and Emergency Management Senior Officials Group (SEMSOG) is the primary mechanism for ensuring cooperation and coordination of activities between ACT Government agencies in planning for and responding to emergencies.

Security and Emergency Management Planning Group

The Security and Emergency Management Planning Group (SEMPG) comprises officials from all relevant ACT Government agencies. SEMPG reports to SEMSOG and is tasked with developing, implementing and reviewing specific protective security, counter terrorism and emergency management plans and procedures.

Environment and Planning Directorate – Lead Agency

EPD is responsible for both energy policy and the Director-General, EPD, is the Utilities Technical Regulator for electricity and gas distribution and supply in the ACT. This is supported by the Construction Environment and Workplace Protection Division of Access Canberra.

EPD Energy Policy represents the ACT at national forums for electricity, gas and liquid fuel emergencies, while the Utilities Technical Regulator is responsible for energy safety and approving the emergency plans of utilities.

EPD is the lead agency in relation to responding to energy supply issues in an emergency, and is responsible for the development and maintenance of the EEP.

It is important to note that the responsibility for maintaining physical energy systems stays with energy providers/suppliers and networks as is the case under business-as-usual conditions.

WorkSafe ACT, Access Canberra

WorkSafe ACT (Access Canberra) administers the *Dangerous Substances Act 2004* and the *Dangerous Goods (Road Transport) Act 2009*. These Acts provide a statutory framework for regulating the way that dangerous goods and hazardous substances (including liquid fuels) are managed and transported.

¹ Part 4.2.1.1 of the ACT Emergency Plan outlines Cabinet will provide strategic leadership to the ACT Government's response to emergencies requiring whole-of-government coordination, as supported by advice from officials, SEMSOG and the Emergency Controller if one has been appointed under the Act.

The Acts provide for several functions relevant to preparing for and responding to a liquid fuel emergency in the ACT. In summary:

- The *Dangerous Substances (General) Regulation 2004* requires that the Director-General must maintain a register of premises where there is, or is likely to be, a dangerous substance in at least the placard quantity (i.e. a service station). This must include the class or kind, and the expected average and maximum quantities, of all the dangerous substances that are, or are likely to be, at the premises;
- The *Dangerous Substances Act 2004* provides for the appointment of inspectors who may enter premises used in relation to the handling of dangerous substances or where there are documents relating to the handling of dangerous substances;
- Inspectors may examine things, make copies, take samples, open packages, operate plant or equipment, take measurements, conduct tests, make records, seize items, and ask questions or obtain information. Inspectors may also ask another person at the premises for assistance in doing any of these things;
- The inspector may exercise these powers in relation to a vehicle; and
- The *Dangerous Goods (Road Transport) Act 2009* provides for the appointment of authorised persons who may direct a driver to stop or move a vehicle identified or believed to be carrying dangerous goods on a road, public place or premises occupied or owned by the Territory.

In the event of a liquid fuel emergency impacting the ACT, WorkSafe inspectors may be called on to assist with monitoring the quantity of fuel stored at premises/being transported in order to assist the Emergency Controller to maintain, restore, prevent disruption of, and control and coordinate the distribution of liquid fuel as an essential service.

National Arrangements

Council of Australian Governments

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) is the peak intergovernmental forum in Australia. COAG comprises the Prime Minister, State Premiers, Territory Chief Ministers and the President of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA). The role of COAG is to initiate, develop and monitor the implementation of policy reforms that are of national significance and which require cooperative action by Australian governments.

There are also a number of Ministerial Councils and committees that provide advice and report to COAG that may be of relevance in an Energy Emergency, as outlined below.

The Standing Council on Police and Emergency Management and the National Emergency Management Committee

The Standing Council on Police and Emergency Management (SCPEM) oversees national emergency management arrangements. The objectives of the SCPEM are to oversee the implementation of the natural disaster resilience framework, provide national leadership and strategic direction on emergency management and encourage best practice in emergency management among jurisdictions. SCPEM is supported by the National Emergency Management Committee (NEMC).

SCPEM is chaired by the Commonwealth Attorney General and the ACT is represented by the Attorney-General/Minister for Police and Emergency Services.

National Counter Terrorism Committee

A terrorist attack could pose a significant threat to key energy infrastructure across Australia. The National Counter Terrorism Committee (NCTC) is a senior officials group and the national coordinating body for counter terrorism in Australia. The NCTC reports directly to COAG and provides for the coordination of a nation-wide cooperative framework for counter terrorism and its consequences. It is co-chaired by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and a State/Territory senior official and comprises senior representation from relevant Australian Government agencies and police services from each jurisdiction.

The ACT is represented on the NCTC by the Chief Police Officer and the Justice and Community Safety Directorate.

The Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council and the Australian Health Ministers Conference

A key concern in any emergency is the health of the community, and an energy emergency may impact key health infrastructure and essential services. The Australian Health Ministers Conference (AHMC) has the role and objective of providing a forum for Australian, State and Territory Governments to discuss matters of mutual interest concerning health policy, health services and programs and promote a consistent and coordinated national approach to health policy development. The Conference is advised by the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council (AHMAC).

Membership comprises Australian Government, State, Territory and New Zealand Ministers.

COAG Energy Council

The COAG Energy Council (CEC) is responsible for pursuing priority issues of national significance in the energy and resources sectors, seeking the safe development of energy markets and optimised long-term economic, social and environmental benefits. The CEC does not have an operational role in an energy emergency, but may investigate longer term strategic policy responses to issues that have emerged during emergency incidents.

Membership comprises Australian Government, State, Territory and New Zealand Ministers. The ACT is represented by the Minister for the Environment.

National Electricity Market Emergency Management Forum

Emergency procedures and responsibilities for the management of electricity supply disruptions that constitute a threat to the system security of the National Electricity Market (NEM) are established under the National Electricity Market Emergency Protocol (the Electricity Protocol).

The National Electricity Market Emergency Management Forum (NEMEMF) is established to coordinate jurisdictional responses in an electricity emergency involving more than one jurisdiction. The Power System Emergency Management Protocol (PSEMP) has been

developed through the forum to coordinate responses with the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO).

The NEM External Communications Committee (NEMECC) sits under NEMEMF, with the purpose of developing a coordinated, leading-edge approach to public information management and dissemination prior to and during emergencies.

The ACT is represented on the NEMEMF and NEMECC by the EPD.

National Gas Emergency Response Advisory Committee

The National Gas Emergency Response Advisory Committee (NGERAC) was established in May 2005 as part of the *Memorandum of Understanding on the National Gas Emergency Response Protocol*. NGERAC provides a platform for coordinating efficient and effective responses to major natural gas supply shortages that impact multiple jurisdictions. The Committee is also able to provide expert analytical capacity to support the development of specific emergency response options.

NGERAC membership comprises representatives of governments and all sectors of the gas industry and gas users. The ACT is represented by the EPD.

National Oil Supplies Emergency Committee

The National Oil Supplies Emergency Committee (NOSEC) was established in 2001 and is guided by the terms of reference for the COAG Energy Council, formal Agreements between Australian Governments and state/territory governments on the Management of a Liquid Fuel Emergency, the National Liquid Fuel Emergency Response Plan, and *the Liquid Fuel Emergency Act 1984* and Guidelines.

NOSEC is responsible for providing advice to governments and industry in the lead up to or after the declaration of a national liquid fuel emergency under relevant legislation.

NOSEC provides advice to the COAG Energy Council on fuel supply and the management of a national liquid fuel emergency. During an emergency, NOSEC will meet as often as required to assist with the implementation of the National Liquid Fuel Emergency Response Plan (NLFERP).

During non-emergencies NOSEC meets to conduct emergency simulation exercises, learn from any supply incidents or disruptions, and support harmonisation of jurisdictional and national emergency responses.

Its members are officials from all Australian governments and representatives from the liquid fuel supply industry.

The ACT is represented by the EPD.

External Parties

Electricity and Gas providers/ network operators

Energy providers (distributors) and operators also play a key role in the management of electricity and gas in the ACT.

ActewAGL Distribution is the major utility providing electricity and gas services in the ACT. Jemena is responsible for managing the ActewAGL gas network under the ActewAGL

distribution partnership, with Transgrid responsible for operating the transmission electricity networks supplying electricity from New South Wales.

Both ActewAGL and Jemena are key stakeholders in an energy emergency and would provide physical responses in managing the safety of the electricity and gas networks in the ACT, including managing customer loads. ActewAGL and Jemena would also be the first to know if an incident occurred on an ACT network. An effective relationship and open communications between energy providers and the Government is therefore critical in ensuring a coordinated response in an emergency.

The *Utilities (Emergency Planning Code) Determination 2011* made under part 3 of the *Utilities Technical Regulation Act 2014* requires that each utility providing a transmission or distribution service under the Act (Jemena and ActewAGL) submit a draft emergency plan to the Government by 30 April each year. The utilities plan must meet the requirements of the Code, including consistency with the *Emergencies Act 2004* and must have regard to experience of any emergency events and exercises during the previous year. The plan is approved by the Director-General, EPD, who may require the plan be amended if not satisfied that it meets the requirements of the Code.

Australian Energy Market Operator

The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) is an independent organisation that operates the energy markets and systems and also delivers planning advice in eastern and south-eastern Australia.

The Power System Emergency Plan (PSEMP) deals with AEMO's roles and responsibilities and its power system emergency management arrangements with each of the National Electricity Market (NEM) jurisdictions. AEMO also provides emergency management services for the entire interconnected eastern Australian gas grid through NGERAC.

Liquid fuel providers

The Australian liquid fuel industry supply chain includes the production, refining, import, wholesale, transport and retailing of fuel. If the ACT is impacted by a liquid fuel supply emergency it will be because an upstream supply issue (in Australia or overseas) is significant enough to reach the fuel retail sector (i.e. the end of the supply chain).

Almost all supply problems are capable of being managed through market and commercial responses and the impact of supply disruptions is rarely felt by fuel users. Refiners and major fuel suppliers are adept at managing these issues as part of normal operations and rapid and comprehensive industry response strategies are in place to address or replace any lost supply.

However, there can be supply shortages that may be difficult for industry to manage alone and require Government intervention. In the instance of a predicted serious and prolonged fuel supply shortage industry will contact the NOSEC member for a jurisdiction or the NOSEC chair to coordinate any Government intervention, noting the industry will maintain responsibility for the on-the-ground response.

The Australian Institute of Petroleum (AIP) is the peak industry body, providing a key link between industry and government to promote awareness and understanding of the petroleum products industry and encourage and influence supportive policies and programs.

PART THREE: PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS

Legislation

Legislation and statutory arrangements relevant for energy are the:

- *ACT Emergencies Act 2004*
- *National Electricity Act 1996*
- *ACT Utilities Act 2000*
 - Utilities (Electricity Restrictions) Regulation 2004
 - Utilities (Gas Restrictions) Regulation 2005
- *ACT Utilities Technical Regulation Act 2014*
- *ACT Electricity Safety Act 1971*
- *ACT Gas Safety Act 2000*
- *National Gas Act 2008*
- *Dangerous Substances Act 2004*
- *Dangerous Substances (General) Regulation 2004*
- *Liquid Fuel Emergency Act 1984 (Cth)*, Section 49 (4a) in relation to delegation of powers under the Act to the ACT Energy Minister or an officer of the ACT.

Training and Exercises

Training is essential to ensure coordinated prevention, preparation, response and recovery activities, and is to be tailored for each component of the EEP in accordance with the minimum competencies.

Annual emergency exercises promote competence through practice and promote accountability.

Exercises should be conducted at least annually in order to:

- familiarise all personnel, likely to be requested to participate in the event that the EEP is activated, with the plan and create competence in the role they are likely to perform;
- test the ability of the team to liaise effectively with business units;
- assess the team's capability;
- exercise the Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan; and
- familiarise and review the adequacy of the emergency facilities and equipment.

Annual exercises held at a national level through NGERAC, NEMEMF and NOSEC contribute to the training requirements, noting that arrangement and training for a Response Level 3, whole-of-government response, are tested through SEMSOG exercises.

Following each exercise, an evaluation should be conducted in order to identify actions to be taken to address any weaknesses. “Lessons Learned” and improvements required should be shared and promptly addressed with follow-up actions assigned to individuals and signed off by the EEP Leader.

Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System

Energy sector staff that are likely to be appointed roles in emergency operations should undertake Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS) training. AIIMS provides a common incident management framework that can be applied to any size incident as the framework provides for an expanded response as an incident grows in either size or complexity.

Energy sector planning

ACT

This plan is supported by an internal set of procedures within EPD for responding to Energy Emergencies. These procedures include information on ACT networks and supply chains, national protocols and plans, response checklists and templates for implementing voluntary or mandatory restrictions for electricity, gas or liquid fuel use.

National plans—Electricity

The Power System Emergency Management Protocol (PSEMP) has been developed through the National Electricity Market Emergency Management Forum (NEMEMF) with the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO). The PSEMP is the primary reference document in the event of a national coordinated electricity emergency.

The PSEMP:

- Defines the roles and responsibilities of jurisdictions and key stakeholders in relation to a multi-jurisdictional electricity emergency;
- Outlines the emergency communication process between stakeholders;
- Outlines the key considerations in relation to communication with the public during a multi-jurisdictional electricity emergency; and
- Defines the principles to be used to determine the allocation of available electricity supplies between jurisdictions, including equitable load shedding arrangements.

National plans—Gas

The Gas Emergency Procedures Manual (EPM) has been developed by NGERAC in keeping with the rules and principles contained in the National Gas Emergency Response Protocol and the associated Memorandum of Understanding.

The Gas EPM:

- Defines the roles and responsibilities of NGERAC members in relation to a multi-jurisdictional gas emergency;
- Outlines NGERAC’s emergency communication process;

- Defines NGERAC processes for advice to relevant jurisdictional Ministers during a major gas supply shortage;
- Defines the principles to be used to determine the allocation of available gas supplies between jurisdictions following a Minister's enactment of jurisdictional emergency powers; and
- Defines the methods to be used by NGERAC for gathering and disseminating emergency-related information (such as Supply-Demand information, Situation Reports and Incident Action Plan).

National Plans—Liquid Fuels

The National Liquid Fuel Emergency Response Plan (NLFERP) was developed by the Commonwealth Government, in partnership with State and Territory governments and fuel industry representatives (including the Australian Institute of Petroleum, Viva Energy, ExxonMobil, Caltex, BP, Woolworths Petrol) via NOSEC.

The NLFERP aims to ensure that, during a liquid fuel shortage, available fuel supply is managed and allocated in the most efficient and fair way, to help minimise the economic impacts of the shortage on fuel users and customers.

Parties to the Liquid Fuel IGA agree that the liquid fuel industry is best placed to implement market based supply balancing mechanisms as the preliminary response to a national liquid fuels supply shortfall, and policies that use market mechanisms as a means of allocating fuel supplies should be used wherever possible.

ActewAGL Emergency Plan

ActewAGL's Electricity Networks Emergency Management Plan, as approved by the Director-General of EPD, describes the structure, activation and escalation processes, the roles and responsibilities for the Electricity Networks Emergency Management Team to be considered, prioritised and applied to enable an effective emergency response where an event has escalated beyond a routine incident and is deemed an emergency.

The CEO of ActewAGL is ultimately accountable for the Electricity Networks Emergency Management Plan.

This EEP aligns with ActewAGL's plan – in particular in relation to notification and escalation mechanisms.

Jemena Emergency Plan

Jemena is not a licensed utility in the ACT and does not create an emergency plan under the *Utilities Act 2000*, however, Jemena is contracted by ActewAGL to manage the ActewAGL gas network and publishes its emergency plan for both NSW and the ACT as a utility of NSW. The *Jemena Emergency Management Plan* provides a framework for gas related incidents and emergency management arrangements for Jemena in NSW and the ACT.

TransGrid Emergency Plan

The TransGrid Network Management Plan provides a framework for the safe operation and management of assets within the electricity transmission network operated by TransGrid

across NSW and the ACT. Specifically TransGrid operate the Canberra Substation at Holt and the recently commissioned substation at Williamsdale, which forms the second point of supply for the ACT.

Liquid Fuel Industry Plans

The liquid fuel supply chain is highly flexible and able to respond to predicted or actual supply issues. As outlined in the Liquid Fuel IGA, jurisdictions support a strong market based approach to responding to fuel supply emergencies, and that maximum use is made of existing commercial and business practices along the supply chain (such as bulk allocation) to respond to an emergency.

Coordination with industry is primarily achieved through NOSEC, which includes representatives from the downstream petroleum industry – including the Australian Institute of Petroleum, Shell, ExxonMobil, Caltex, BP and Woolworths. All companies actively participate in NOSEC and national emergency exercises.

Business continuity and agency preparedness

While many government and community services are recognised as ‘essential services’ and will be the last to lose energy supply under electricity and gas load shedding and liquid fuel essential user guidelines, this Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan does not replace, but is aligned with, existing EPD and ACT agency organisational Plans. All Directorates are required to comply with the *ACT Government Risk Management Framework 2010* and the Director-General has responsibility for compliance with the *Financial Management Act 1996*². This extends to planning for business continuity in the event of an electricity, gas or liquid fuel supply shortage.

² EPD plans can be found at http://epdintranet.act.gov.au/corporate_governance.

PART FOUR: RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

Concept of Operations

EPD is the lead agency in relation to energy aspects of emergencies in the ACT (noting that an energy emergency may be part of a broader emergency). Additionally, the (non-government) energy sector would play a critical supporting role in the whole-of-government response to energy emergencies through the effective management of energy infrastructure.

The type of incident will determine the level of response required, including who leads the response and from where. Ultimately this will be determined by the governing structure under the ACT Emergency Plan, however, principles for determining the response required in relation to energy emergencies are provided below.

Levels of activation and response

The type and severity of an emergency involving energy will dictate the response required by Government and key stakeholders. Three key levels of response and activation have been identified below in *Figure 2: Response Levels under the Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan*.

The criteria for determining the power system emergency response level of any incident include:

- The potential for injuries or fatalities;
- Physical damage to the environment or assets;
- The duration and magnitude of power outages;
- Disruption to the community and level of public interest;
- Financial impact on the community and businesses;
- Immediate impact on other NEM participants; and
- Resources required to address the problem, including those required by the broader emergency response community.

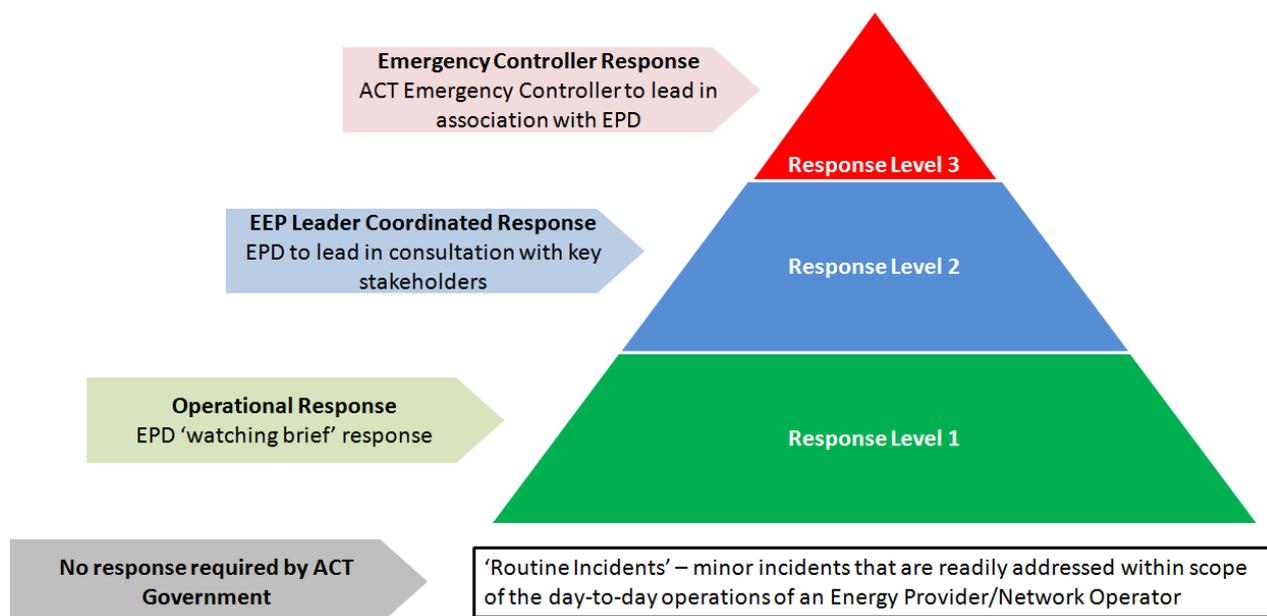
Escalation and Operational Planning

Depending on the incident, the plan may be escalated to Response Level 1, 2 or 3 under the governing structure of the ACT Emergency Plan, drawing on the principles outlined in this section.

Specifically, the Response Level should be determined by the EEP Leader in close consultation with key stakeholders, including the EPD Executive, SEMSOG and the Emergency Controller, if appointed—noting the Chief Minister may appoint an Emergency Controller on the recommendation of SEMSOG, the Emergency Services Commissioner, the Chief Police Officer or the Chief Health Officer.

Operational level planning shall be undertaken following activation of the EEP and the Incident Action Plan (described below). The level and complexity of operational planning undertaken should correlate to the nature, scale, complexity and inerrant / residual risk of the particular hazard that necessitated activation. Thorough and timely risk assessments remain an integral component of both informing and directing operational planning.

Figure 2: Response Levels under the Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan



Note: These levels do not correspond with the levels identified under the National Plans or Electricity/Gas Restriction Levels.

Routine Incidents

An incident is classified 'routine' if the situation can be addressed within a reasonable timeframe by the relevant Energy Provider or Network Operator within the scope of their day-to-day operations.

Response Level 1

This is an incident which may escalate in the foreseeable future, however, there is no imminent threat to property or lives in the ACT. An example of this may include a major fault in gas infrastructure in another jurisdiction, which may result in constrained supply across the broader gas network over a number of days.

Response Level 2

There is an imminent or actual supply shortage or system issue that can be managed by EPD, in consultation with Energy Providers and Network Operators and other relevant stakeholders, within the responsibilities of the Minister for the Environment. An example of this may be an incident in another jurisdiction that constrains supply so as to require voluntary or mandatory restrictions for electricity or gas over a number of days.

In relation to liquid fuel, a level 2 response may require voluntary restrictions.

Response Level 3

A whole-of-government response is required to address the situation, coordinated by an Emergency Controller appointed by the Chief Minister. This *may* include the declaration of a State of Emergency. An example of this may be a serious bushfire that results in the loss of powerlines or key energy infrastructure; sustained electricity or gas supply restrictions that have the potential to impact on life or property; or an event requiring the mandatory restriction of fuel use.

Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan Leader (Level 1/2)

The EEP is active at all times and the ACT Electricity Jurisdictional System Security Coordinator (JSSC)/Gas Jurisdictional Contact Officer (JCO) is the default EEP Leader ('the Leader') responsible for coordinating EPD's response to an incident, planned event or declared emergency.

The Leader will ensure open communication with the EPD Executive and the Minister, noting the Director-General, or the Minister, may appoint an alternative Leader at any point for a particular incident. The Leader is supported by a number of key position holders, as outlined in *ANNEX A: Key Emergency Response Positions*.

Emergency Controller (Level 3)

The *Emergencies Act 2004* provides that the Chief Minister may appoint an Emergency Controller with the following functions (unless otherwise directed in writing by the Chief Minister):

- to manage the response to, and the recovery from, the emergency by ensuring that entities dealing with the emergency are appropriately deployed;
- to coordinate the disposition of other resources to manage the emergency;
- to advise the Minister and the Chief Minister about the emergency; and
- to advise the community on anything relating to the state of emergency that the Emergency Controller considers appropriate.

The functions and powers of an Emergency Controller are identified in Sections 150B and 150C (no declared emergency) and Sections 160 and 160A (declared emergency) of the *Emergencies Act 2004*.

Of particular relevance to this plan, the Emergency Controller may in relation to essential services (including electricity, gas or fuel)—

- maintain, restore or prevent disruption of the services; and
- control and coordinate the distribution of services.

Energy Emergency Control Centre (Level 1/2)

In the event of an energy emergency that is likely to, or has, resulted in the loss of power to the Energy Emergency Controller's working location, the Emergency Controller may move their response operations to Level 5 of Macarthur House, Wattle St Lyneham.

Emergency Access to Macarthur House is provided for under the Emergency Access Memorandum of Understanding between Territory and Municipal Services Directorate and EPD.

Macarthur House has been identified as a suitable location as it provides access to backup power supply and IT facilities.

Emergency Coordination Centre (Level 3)

In the event of a level 3, whole-of-government response, the ACT Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC), administered and maintained by the ACT Emergency Services Agency (ESA) would be activated.

The ECC is located at 9 Amberley Avenue, Fairbairn Business Park, Majura, ACT.

Public Information Coordination Centre (Level 3)

In the event of a broader emergency (Level 3) in the ACT, the Public Information Coordination Centre (PICC) may be operationalised to coordinate the development, clearance and delivery of information.

As noted in the ACT Emergency Plan, The Public Information Coordinator, through the PICC Manager is responsible for the operation of the PICC when activated. The scaling up of the PICC will be at the discretion of the Public Information Coordinator in consultation with the Emergency Controller (if appointed) or Lead Response Agency Controller. The level of activation of the PICC is determined by the scale of the emergency and the functions that may need to be undertaken as a consequence of the emergency.

The PICC will be maintained in readiness to coordinate the development, clearance and delivery of information to the community through multiple channels, including forward media briefing sites, internet, media/social media and Canberra Connect.

Initial Notification

In the event of an actual or potential emergency event EPD will be notified by the relevant utility (ActewAGL or Jemena), the liquid fuel industry, or by another jurisdiction in the case of an event likely to impact the national electricity, gas or liquid fuel markets. This will automatically trigger a Level 1 response, coordinated by EPD, which will keep other stakeholders under the governance structure informed of any progress.

Electricity and gas

Under the national arrangements, if a jurisdiction intends to exercise its emergency powers, best endeavours must be used to inform AEMO and the other jurisdictions of the action to be taken. If so informed AEMO must use its best endeavours to provide advice to the relevant jurisdiction on actions AEMO may be able to take, and the assessed impact of the proposed actions on the market.

Alternatively, if AEMO believes a jurisdiction's emergency powers need to be activated to manage a situation then AEMO is to use its best endeavours to inform all jurisdictions of the matter. The jurisdiction(s) being requested to activate emergency powers must use its best endeavours to have due regard to AEMO's advice, and notify AEMO as soon as practicable if AEMO is authorised to exercise a jurisdiction's emergency powers.

Liquid Fuels

The NLFERP requires that in the instance of a predicted serious or prolonged fuel supply shortage, industry (either an individual company or coordinated through the Australian

Institute of Petroleum) will contact the NOSEC member for a jurisdiction (EPD in the ACT) or the NOSEC chair.

The LFE Act and IGA requires that if a liquid fuel shortage is likely to have national implications, and prior to declaring a national liquid fuel emergency, the Commonwealth must consult with States and Territories.

Incident Action Plan

Following initial notification, an Incident Action Plan (IAP) will be developed. The IAP should succinctly document the overall aim, objectives, tasks, and risks faced. The IAP will be endorsed by the EEP Leader and distributed to stakeholders along with regular Situation Reports to inform the common operational picture. The IAP will be reviewed and updated regularly over the duration of the response.

Electricity and Gas Restrictions

In response to an energy emergency it may be necessary to request (through voluntary restrictions) or require (through mandatory restrictions) households and businesses to reduce their electricity or gas use.

Mandatory restrictions are provided for by Regulations under the *Utilities Act 2000* to be made by the Minister for the Environment. Restrictions imposed have effect subject to the exercise of a function by an Emergency Controller under the *Emergencies Act 2004*.

Liquid Fuel Restrictions

Bulk Allocation

If continuous supply of fuel is at risk (following implementation of light-handed/voluntary measures if practical), the chief mechanism for managing supply is Bulk Allocations at terminals.

Bulk Allocations refer to the supply of existing contracted customers at a set proportion (e.g. 90 per cent) of their usual forecast demand established with their fuel supplier. Allocations usually commence at 100% of contracted volumes.

When supply is subject to Bulk Allocations, spot (i.e. non-contracted) sales are not conducted. Spot sales account for approximately 5% of sales in the normal course of business.

Industry may enter bulk allocation arrangements independently, or under direction from the Commonwealth Minister.

Regulated Retail Rationing – National

The LFE Act gives the Commonwealth Minister the power to issue directions implementing a national system to ration fuel to retail users during a specified period (planning period) of a national liquid fuel emergency.

The Commonwealth's retail rationing scheme simply involves 'retail restrictions' being set in terms of a *maximum transaction value per motorist per day*. Whilst the 'total transaction value' would be fixed, the price per litre would be able to fluctuate according to the normal

operation of the market and consistent with the principles of efficient management of scarce resources. This would have the effect of reducing or increasing the volume of fuel sold if prices rise or fall respectively (as would be expected under scarcity pricing during an emergency).

The LFE Act provides that Essential Users may be entitled to fuel supply above and beyond that which is available under Bulk Allocation or retail rationing schemes. Depending on the severity and duration of the emergency, it is intended that essential users will continue to receive unrestricted fuel supply during an emergency.

Users providing the following services are defined as ‘essential users’:

- Ambulance services
- Corrective services
- Fire or rescue services
- Police services
- Public transport services
- State Emergency Services
- Taxi services

Only vehicles that are readily identifiable as belonging to an essential user category will be entitled to fuel as an essential user during a period of retail rationing.

The Commonwealth Minister may enter into arrangements with State and Territory Ministers that would facilitate the implementation of such measures at any time. In practice, the appointment of an Emergency Controller under a Level 3 Response would be required.

ACT Fuel Restrictions

In the unlikely event that restrictions are only required in the ACT, a Level 3 Whole-of-Government response would be triggered under the EEP and an Emergency Controller appointed under the *Emergencies Act 2004* (whether or not there was a declared state of emergency). The Emergency Controller would then have the power to direct the supply of fuel as an essential service as required, using the national model for regulated retail rationing and essential users and drawing on the resources of ACT WorkSafe inspectors.

Inspection of Fuel Supplies

In the event of a liquid fuel emergency impacting the ACT, WorkSafe inspectors (under the *Dangerous Substance Act 2004* or *Dangerous Goods (Road Transport) Act 2009*) may be called on to assist with monitoring the quantity of fuel stored at premises or being transported in order to assist the Emergency Controller to maintain, restore, prevent disruption of, and control and coordinate the distribution of liquid fuel as an essential service.

Public Communications Management

If required, an incident specific media management plan shall be developed for operational responses.

Public Interface – Response Level 1 or 2

At a Response Level 1 or 2 under the EEP, the Minister for the Environment (or a delegate as appointed under the EEP Governance structure) will be the spokesperson on an energy emergency.

It is also likely that the Chief Executive Officer of any company directly involved (ActewAGL or an impacted liquid fuel supplier) would take an active role in engaging with the public. ActewAGL's Emergency Management Plan identifies a Crisis Communications Team which would provide coordinated crisis communications support during an event. The Public Information Coordinator and/or EPD communications would be in close contact with the Crisis Communications Leader in the event that the EEP were activated.

Public Interface – Response Level 3

If the Public Information Coordination Centre (PICC) is activated (at Response Level 3), all energy related media input must be provided through the PICC for release by the Public Information Coordinator (PIC) in accordance with the ACT Community Communication and Information Plan (CCIP). Arrangements for activation of the PIC role, along with the framework for public and internal information coordination during emergencies, are established under that Plan.

Role of Energy Provider Communications

If the EEP is activated for an electricity or gas emergency, the public will primarily be directed to contact ActewAGL's call centre³, as the direct customer contact, in particular with respect to enquiries about faults or problems arising in relation to a gas or electricity shortage.

In a liquid fuel emergency impacting one company, that company would be the central public contact.

In the event of a national liquid fuel emergency, the NLFERP provides that a national call centre and website (established by the Commonwealth Government) will be a key contact point for the public during an emergency.

Recovery

EPD will provide support to the ACT recovery process in line with the ACT Recovery Plan and through the Community Recovery Committee. The recovery emphasis for the energy sector will be focused on restoration of essential services.

De-escalation

The activation level of the EEP may be de-escalated by the EEP Leader at Response Level 1 or 2 in consultation with key stakeholders, or by the appointed Emergency Controller at Response Level 3.

³ For faults and emergencies: Electricity phone number 13 10 93, Natural gas phone number 13 19 09

Operational Debriefing

Operational debriefing has two purposes:

- To review emergency management response and identify lessons observed; and
- To identify and initiate any necessary changes to emergency plans (lessons learned).

Operational debriefing will be conducted as soon as practicable after every incident or exercise where the EEP is tested. The intention to conduct operational debriefing will be communicated by the EEP Leader (or delegate). A “hot debrief” should be conducted within 48hrs of deactivation of the EEP and if required a multiagency debrief should be conducted within two weeks (14 days) of deactivation. The EEP Leader (or delegate) will call for an operational debrief and make the report of the review findings available to SEMPG.

PART FIVE: ADMINISTRATION

Review and distribution of Plan

The EEP, as a supporting plan of the ACT Emergency Plan, will be updated and reviewed by EPD as the Lead Agency at least every three years, consistent with the endorsement process for all sub-plans, in section 3.4.2.6 of the ACT Emergency Plan.

In addition, this Plan should be internally reviewed annually by EPD to reflect any lessons learned from emergency exercises or actual situations and reflect changes to organisational structure, personnel (including contact details) and facilities. The Plan should be re-distributed each time an update is made.

It is the responsibility of every individual named in the Plan to ensure their contact details are accurate at all times.

Expenditure and recovery of funds

The cost of providing ACT Government services for the purposes of this Plan will be met from within the appropriate area's normal budgetary allocation.

In the event of (or preparation for) a national liquid fuel emergency the LFE Act (Cth) provides for compensation of reasonable costs incurred by the Territory when implementing measures under the NLFERP and LFE Act as directed by the Commonwealth. This extends to responsibility for the legal expenses incurred by a Territory in defending proceedings arising out of the exercise of powers delegated to a Territory Minister or official under the LFE Act.

ABBREVIATIONS

ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AEMO	Australian Energy Market Operator
AHMAC	Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council
AHMC	Australian Health Ministers Conference
AIIMS	Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System
CCIP	Community Communication and Information Plan
COAG	Council of Australian Governments
ECC	Emergency Coordination Centre
EEP	Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan
EMT	Emergency Management Team
EPM	Emergency Procedures Manual
ESA	Emergency Services Agency
EPD	Environment and Planning Directorate
IAC	Incident Action Plan
JCO	Jurisdictional Contact Officer
JSSC	Jurisdictional System Security Coordinator
NCTC	National Counter Terrorism committee
NEM	National Electricity Market
NEMECC	National Electricity Market External Communications Committee
NEMEMF	National Electricity Market Emergency Management Forum
NEMC	National Emergency Management Committee
NGERAC	National Gas Emergency Response Advisory Committee
NLFRP	National Liquid Fuel Emergency Response Plan

NOSEC	National Oil Supplies Emergency Committee
PIC	Public Information Coordinator
PICC	Public Information Coordination Centre
PSEMP	Power System Emergency Management Protocol
SCPEM	The Standing Council on Police and Emergency Management
SEMC	Security and Emergency Management Committee of Cabinet
SEMPG	Security and Emergency Management Planning Group
SEMSOG	Security and Emergency Management Senior Officials Group

GLOSSARY

All-hazards approach	Dealing with all types of emergencies or disasters and civil defence using the same set of management arrangements.
Community	A group with a commonality of association and generally defined by location, shared experience or function.
Debrief	A meeting at the end of an operation with the purpose of assessing conduct or results of an operation.
Disaster	A serious disruption to community life which threatens or causes death or injury in that community and/or damage to property which is beyond the day-to-day capacity of the prescribed statutory authorities and which requires special mobilisation and organisation of resources other than those normally available to those authorities.
Emergency	<p>An actual or imminent event that requires a significant and coordinated response.</p> <p>Examples of such events include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• fire, flood, storm or earthquake;• accident or explosion;• epidemic or animal disease; or• shortage of electricity, gas, fuel or water.
Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC)	The Emergency Coordination Centre is established to coordinate the ACT support to Emergency Management operations and is located at the Emergency Services Agency Headquarters at Fairbairn, ACT. The ECC brings resources of organisations together to meet requirements imposed by the threat of hazard impact.
Emergency Operations Centre	A centre established as a centre of communication and as a centre for the coordination of operations and support during an emergency.
Emergency Services Agency (ESA)	Is a business unit of the ACT Department of Justice and Community Safety.
Essential services	<p>A service that consists of any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The production, supply or distribution of any form of energy, power or fuel or of energy, power or fuel resources;• The public transportation of persons or freight;• The provision of community policing services;

- The provision of emergency services;
- The provision of tertiary health services (including hospital and health protection services);
- The production, supply or distribution of pharmaceutical products;
- The provision of garbage removal and sewerage services;
- The supply or distribution of water;
- The conduct of a welfare organisation;
- The conduct of a prison;
- Anything deemed essential by the EMC; or
- A service comprising the supply of goods or services necessary for providing any service referred to above.

Exercise	Simulation of emergency management events, through discussion or actual deployment of personnel in order: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To train personnel; • To review/test the planning process or other procedures; • To identify needs and/or weaknesses; • To demonstrate capabilities; and • To practise people in working together
Hazard	A thing (including an intrinsic property of a thing), or a situation, with potential to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cause the death of or harm to a person; and • damage property or the environment.
Incident	A localised event, either accidental or deliberate, which may result in death or injury, or damage to property, which requires a normal response from an agency or agencies.
Lead Agency	An organisation which, because of its expertise and resources, is primarily responsible for dealing with an identified hazard.
Liquid Fuel	Petroleum, a petroleum product, a petrochemical, methanol or ethanol. Refined liquid petroleum products include aviation gasoline, motor spirit, aviation turbine fuel, lighting kerosene, heating oil, power kerosene, automotive diesel, industrial diesel fuel, liquid petroleum gas (LPG), fuel oil, bitumen, naphtha, lubricating oil and lubricating grease.

Plan	A step-by-step sequence for the conduct of a single or series of connected emergency operations to be carried out simultaneously or in succession. Usually based on stated assumptions, and is a promulgated record of a previously agreed set of roles, responsibilities, functions, actions and management arrangements. The designation “plan” is usually used in preparing for emergency operations well in advance. A plan may be put into effect at a prescribed time, or on signal, and then becomes the basis of the emergency operation order for that emergency operation.
Response	In relation to an emergency includes the process of combating an emergency and of providing immediate relief for persons affected by an emergency.
Terrorism	The calculated use of violence or the threat of violence to attain goals that are political, religious, or ideological in nature. This can be done through intimidation, coercion, or instilling fear. Terrorism includes a criminal act against persons or property that is intended to influence an audience beyond the immediate victims.

ANNEX A: Key Emergency Response Positions

Response Level One – EPD Operational Response

Led by the EEP Leader, EPD will maintain a watching brief on any situation that develops, in particular liaising with ActewAGL and/or, in the case of a national incident, other jurisdictional representatives.

Energy Emergency (Coordination) Plan Leader

Where an operational response is deemed appropriate, the EEP Leader has responsibility to monitor the emergency and assess the need to escalate the response level as appropriate.

The ACT Electricity Jurisdictional System Security Coordinator (JSSC)/Gas Jurisdictional Contact Officer (JCO) is the default EEP Leader ('the Leader') responsible for coordinating EPD's response to an incident, planned event or declared emergency – noting the Leader will ensure open communication with the EPD Executive and the Minister. The Director-General, or the Minister, may appoint an alternative Leader at any point for a particular incident.

The nominated EEP Leader is responsible for ensuring the EPD Executive, and all identified stakeholders, are kept informed regarding any response.

In addition, the EEP Leader will be supported by the below positions.

Energy Emergency Response Coordinator

The primary responsibilities of the EEP Coordinator are coordinating EEP activation, maintaining adherence to the defined process and the general preparedness of EEP members ahead of an event or issue.

EPD Communications

The primary responsibilities of the Corporate Communications representative are to advise and facilitate the development of a communications strategy, media management and maintaining EEP awareness of the potential impacts and consequences of their actions concerning internal and external stakeholders. This includes liaising with the ESA and ActewAGL's emergency communications teams.

Delegates of the Technical Regulator (Access Canberra)

Delegates of the Utilities Technical Regulator within Access Canberra under the *Utilities Technical Regulation Act 2014* will be consulted on technical matters in relation to emergency events. The primary roles of the delegates of Technical Regulator are to provide technical advice on the emergencies and coordinate with the regulated utilities on technical matters. The utilities must respond to emergency events in accordance with utilities' Emergency Plans approved by the Technical Regulator under the Emergency Planning Code 2011. Delegates of the Technical Regulator monitor utilities' compliance with the Emergency Planning Code 2011.

Log Keeper

The primary responsibility of the EEP Log Keeper is to maintain a record of events and efforts as they occur for reference purposes during and post-event.

The Log Keeper is a member of EPD staff appointed by the EEP Leader.

Intra-jurisdictional Emergency

Gas Jurisdictional Contact Officer

The Jurisdictional Contact Officer (JCO) is a jurisdictional officer nominated by the relevant State or Territory Government to be the primary contact for an advisable⁴ incident under the NGERAC Response Protocol. Each Jurisdiction appoints a JCO and an Alternate Contact.

The ACT JCO is the Executive Director, Policy within EPD and the alternate contact is the Senior Manager, Energy Policy within EPD.

JCOs are expected to notify all other NGERAC JCOs of advisable incidents occurring in their jurisdiction. In addition, if appropriate, JCOs are expected to provide advice on the Supply/Demand Outlook for their jurisdiction and actions being taken to address the situation. This response would be developed in coordination with the relevant gas utility.

Electricity Jurisdictional System Security Coordinator (JSSC)

The *National Electricity Act 1996* provides that a Minister may appoint a person to be the jurisdictional system security coordinator (JSSC) for their jurisdiction. The JSSC is responsible for preparing jurisdictional load shedding guidelines in relation to the shedding, and restoration, of loads in the ACT. The guidelines must specify the following:

- 1) a list of sensitive loads or classes of sensitive loads in this jurisdiction
 - a. to be shed and restored and the order in which those loads are to be shed or restored in the event that it is necessary to do so for AEMO to maintain power system security, or for reasons of public safety; and
 - b. which must not be shed, or the restoration of which must not be prevented, without the prior approval of the jurisdictional system security coordinator;
- 2) a list of loads or classes of loads (other than sensitive loads) to be shed and restored in this jurisdiction and the order in which those loads are to be shed or restored in the event that it is necessary to do so for AEMO to maintain power system security, or for reasons of public safety.

The ACT JSSC is the Executive Director, Policy within EPD and the alternate contact is the Senior Manager, Energy Policy within EPD.

⁴ Under the NGERAC Procedures, an incident is defined as something that occurs which materially affects, or has the potential to have a material effect on the production, transportation or supply of natural gas to meet projected demand requirements and maintain system security. Where an incident that gives rise to an actual or potential shortfall in gas supplies to more than one Jurisdiction or requires a multi-jurisdictional response, it is known as an **advisable incident**.

Electricity Designated Officer (JDO)

The *National Electricity Market Memorandum of Understanding on the Use of Emergency Powers* 1998 requires that each jurisdiction nominate a JDO. The JDO is the person responsible for jointly developing a protocol to deal with the detailed implementation of the objectives and principles in relation to the use of emergency powers.

The ACT JDO is the Executive Director, Sustainability and Climate Change and the alternate contact is the Director, Energy and Waste Policy.

Under the National Electricity Market Power System Emergency Response Management Plan, all jurisdictions will be engaged, with a response coordinated by AEMO, if there is a widespread emergency⁵. In the ACT participation in this forum will be coordinated by the JSSC (who is likely the appointed EEP Leader).

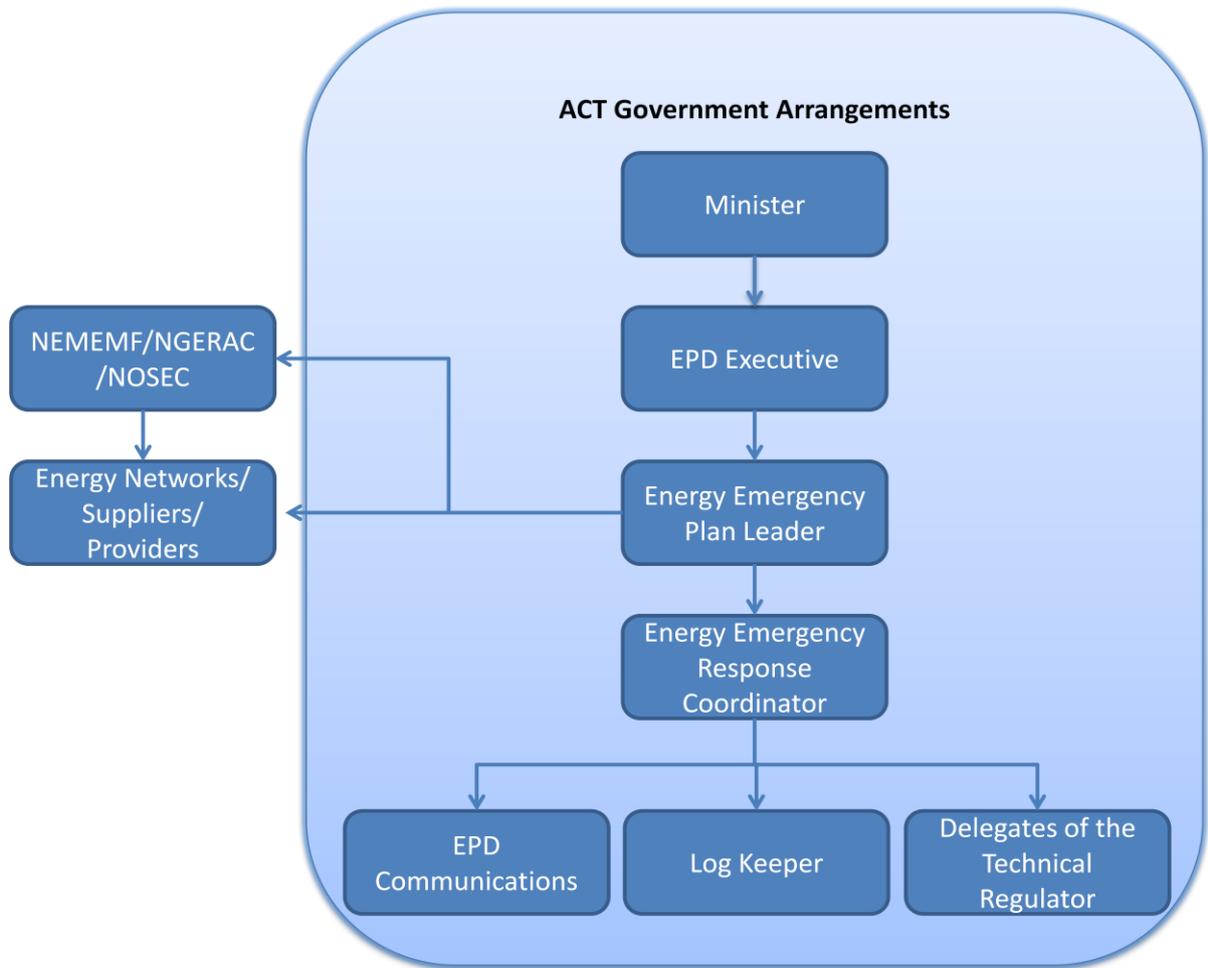
NOSEC Representative

The ACT is a party to the IGA in relation to a national liquid fuel emergency. The IGA Sets out the guiding principles, roles and responsibilities and processes all Governments agree to follow in implementing the LFE Act and corresponding NLFERP.

The NOSEC is the main executive channel through which governments and industry formulate their overall management response in the event of an actual or likely fuel shortage with national implications. NOSEC is responsible for providing advice in the lead up to or after the declaration of a national liquid fuel emergency under relevant legislation. Its members are officials from all Australian governments and representatives from the liquid fuel supply industry.

Jurisdictions are primarily represented by energy portfolio representatives. The ACT's representative is the Executive Director, Sustainability and Climate Change and the alternate contact is the Director, Energy and Waste Policy within EPD.

⁵The Power System Emergency Management Plan defines a widespread emergency as on that “involves a single industry participant and has a moderate to severe impact on other industry participants”.



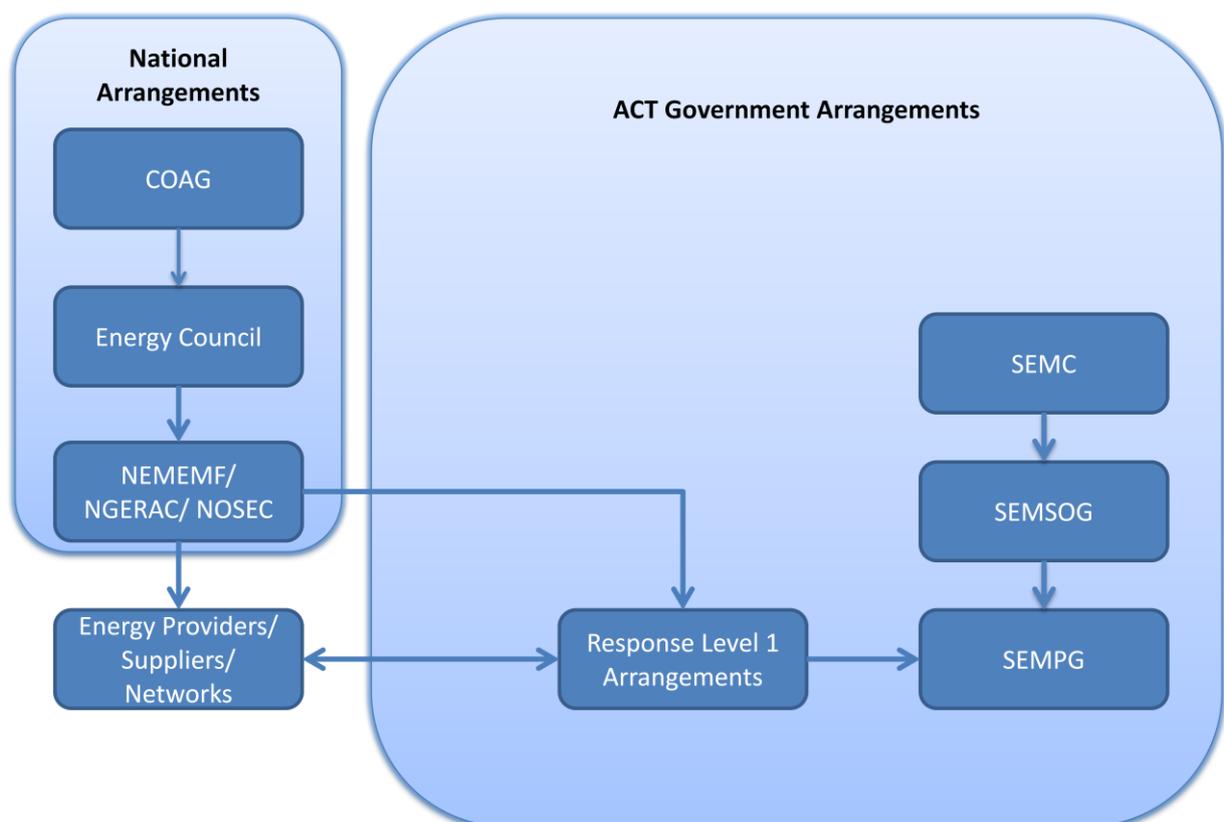
Response Level Two – EEP Leader Coordinated Response

Energy Emergency Coordination Plan Leader

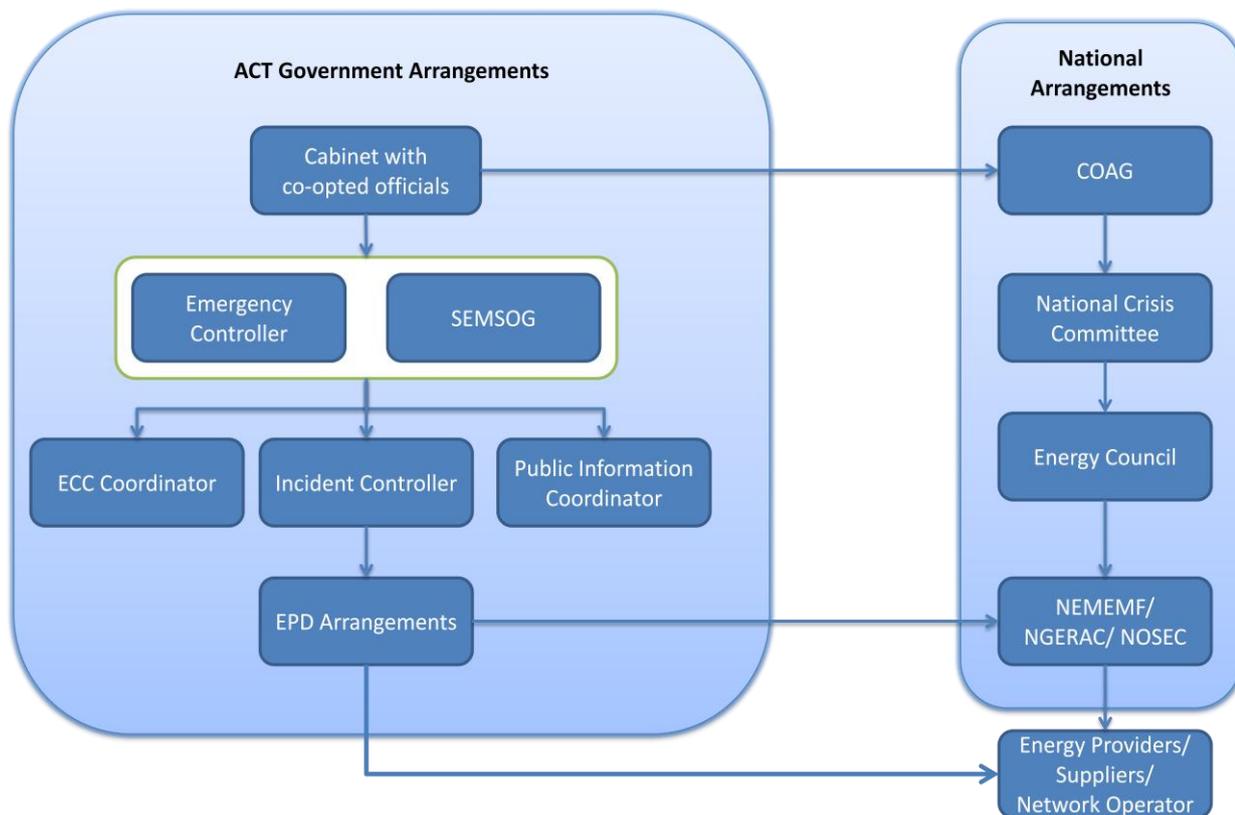
Where a coordinated response, within the scope of the functions of the Minister for the Environment, is required, the EEP Leader has executive responsibility to manage the emergency and the strategic response and recovery planning from a corporate strategy and operational perspective.

This will be in direct consultation with:

- Key stakeholders in the Governance of the EEP;
- Energy Providers and Network Operators; and
- Stakeholders under the national electricity, gas and liquid fuel emergency response arrangements.



Response Level Three – Whole-of-Government Response



Appointment of an Emergency Controller

The Chief Minister may appoint an Emergency Controller if satisfied that an emergency (i.e. an actual or imminent event that requires a significant and coordinated response, which because of its size or nature, presents a significant danger to the health or safety of people, animals or property in the ACT or the environment of the ACT or presents a significant risk of disruption to essential services in the ACT) has happened, is happening, or is likely to happen.

The appointment of an Emergency Controller will usually be made on the recommendation of SEMSOG. In certain circumstances, this recommendation may come directly from the Emergency Services Commissioner, the Chief Police Officer or the Chief Health Officer. In making this recommendation, the matters considered should be discussed between these officers where the nature of the emergency permits.

Cabinet

Cabinet provides strategic leadership to the ACT Government's response to a major incident requiring whole-of-government coordination, as appropriate to the situation. In this role, Cabinet will be supported by advice from:

- the Emergency Controller (if one has been appointed under the Act), supported by SEMSOG;
- SEMSOG in relation to the coordination of whole-of-government resources, particularly in relation to the strategy and policy implications of an emergency;

- where no Emergency Controller has been appointed, the Emergency Services Commissioner, Chief Police Officer, the Chief Health Officer (as appropriate to the incident); or
- in circumstances where other Directorates undertake the role of lead response agency, that Directorate's SEMSOG representative.

Security and Emergency Management Senior Officials Group

SEMSOG may be convened to support the government's planning for, and response to, an emergency where there is a requirement for the sharing and prioritisation of government resources in response to the emergency and to consider and coordinate response to the strategic and policy implications of the emergency.

A meeting of the SEMSOG may be called by the chair following consultation with, or at the request of, other SEMSOG members, the Lead Response Agency Controller or Emergency Controller if appointed.

Lead Response Agencies may nominate an appropriate officer to represent their Agency in circumstances where the appointed official is unable to attend.

Specifically, SEMSOG's principle focus during the Operations Phase of an emergency is to:

- assist in making available the necessary resources and commitment from the relevant Directorates to support an effective emergency response capability;
- consider the strategic and policy implications of the emergency on the operation and functions of the ACT Government, including the role of the ACT Government in providing support to the community;
- provide advice to the Lead Response Agency Controller or Emergency Controller (if appointed) on matters requiring attention and the functioning of Directorates in responding to an emergency; and
- provide advice to Ministers and Cabinet on the strategic and policy implications of an emergency.

In the event an Emergency Controller is appointed, these functions will be undertaken as part of the Management Executive of the Emergency Controller.

SEMSOG's role during the Post Operations phase of an emergency is to assist in making available the necessary resources and commitment from the relevant Directorates to support the recovery of communities, business and the environment by:

- considering matters that relate to the longer term impacts that the emergency will have on the community and government. These considerations may occur concurrent with the Emergency Controller and the Management Executive actively managing the operations phase of the emergency;
- establishing and supporting the governance structures and resources required to manage the longer terms issues associated with recovery and reconstruction;
- supporting the functions of the Recovery Coordinating Committee or Taskforce if established;

- providing advice to Ministers and Cabinet on the strategic and policy implications of the ongoing management of the emergency and its consequences; and
- supporting Ministerial and ACT Government decision making in response to the emergency.

ANNEX B: List of Key Energy Documents Complementing the Plan

Electricity

- National contact list (AEMO Coordinated)
- National Power System Emergency Management Plan
- National Electricity Market Communications Protocol
- AEMO Mandatory Restrictions Offers Operating Procedure
- ActewAGL Electricity Networks Emergency Management Plan
- ACT Templates and guide for implementing electricity restrictions
- ACT Electricity Network Map
- National Electricity Market Map
- Load Shedding Schedule

Gas

- National contact list (AEMO Coordinated)
- National Gas Emergency Response Advisory Committee Emergency Procedures Manual
- National Gas Emergency Response Advisory Committee Public Communications Process
- Gas Bulletin Board User Guide
- ACT Templates and guide for implementing gas restrictions
- ACT Gas Network Map
- National Gas Market Map

Liquid Fuels

- National contact list (Commonwealth Government NOSEC Secretariat Coordinated)
- National Liquid Fuel Emergency Responses Plan (NLFERP)
- NLFERP User Guide
- NLFERP Operations Manual
- Liquid Fuel Emergency (Activities – Essential Users) Determination 2008 and Guidelines

Legislation

- ACT Emergencies Act 2004
- ACT Utilities Act 2000
- ACT Utilities Technical Regulation Act 2014
- ACT Electricity Safety Act 1971
- ACT Gas Safety Act 2000
- National Electricity Act 1996
- National Gas Act 2008
- ACT Utilities (Electricity Restrictions) Regulation 2004
- ACT Utilities (Gas Restrictions) Regulation 2005
- Liquid Fuel Emergency Act 1984