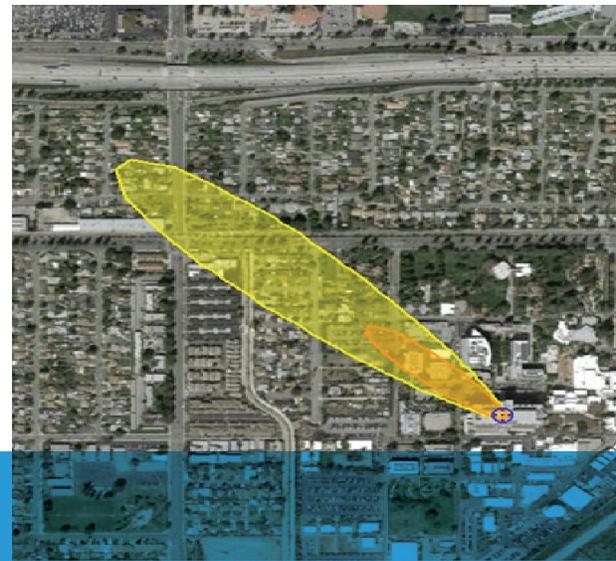


WMD COUNTERTERRORISM TABLETOP EXERCISE PROGRAM



WHO WE ARE

The Department of Energy (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Office of Counterterrorism Policy and Cooperation (NA-81) mission is to reduce the risk of terrorist acquisition or use of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)-related materials. We implement this mission by strengthening national and international WMD counterterrorism capabilities through the development and conduct of tabletop exercises, bilateral nuclear counterterrorism security dialogues, and technical and policy support to international counterterrorism efforts.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS

The *Silent Thunder* Exercise Series is a partnership between the NNSA Office of Counterterrorism Policy and Cooperation, the NNSA Global Threat Reduction Initiative, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Weapons of Mass Destruction Directorate (WMDD). *Silent Thunder* exercises are designed to build teamwork and an in-depth understanding of the various roles and responsibilities in preventing and responding to, a U.S. terrorist-related radiological, nuclear, or WMD-related incident, and bring together Federal, State, and local officials, law enforcement, and first responders. Each day-long *Silent Thunder* exercise is custom designed to the needs, objectives and circumstances of the private sector host organization location, and utilizes a site-specific fictional, challenging terrorist scenario that requires players to respond. Each exercise contains both a crisis management phase--emphasizing actions to detect, deter, and prevent a terrorist WMD incident from occurring--as well as a consequence management phase emphasizing efforts to respond to, mitigate, and recover from the incident.

The WMD Counterterrorism Exercise Program also cooperates with key foreign partners to strengthen capabilities to address the global threat of nuclear terrorism.

OUR HISTORY

Since its start in 1999, the WMD Counterterrorism Exercise Program has conducted more than 100 different WMD counterterrorism, preparedness and response exercises across the United States and with key foreign partners, with over 8,700 international, Federal, State, and local participating officials.

PROGRAM FEATURES

- Custom-designed, produced, and facilitated tabletop exercises
- Can be site-specific or best-practices oriented
 - Site-specific: specific threat environment-based, tailored to site policy and procedures
 - Best practices-oriented: general threat environment-based; tailored to national or international policies
- WMD terrorism-focused
- Exercise multiple jurisdictions and agencies to emphasize coordination and communication
- Open, non-evaluated, no-fault forum

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Promote awareness of terrorist threats associated with WMD materials
- Examine WMD counterterrorism prevention and response tactics, techniques, and procedures, building an in-depth understanding of specific responsibilities in a terrorist WMD contingency.
- Exercise and promote cross-sector communications, cooperation, and team building among National/Federal, State, local, and tribal officials, law enforcement, first responders, and other decision-makers

PROGRAMMATIC AREAS OF EMPHASIS

- WMD/CBRNe Counterterrorism Prevention and Response (crisis management and consequence management)
- Nuclear Materials Transportation Security
- WMD Security (Fixed Site) Best Practices