

Bull Hill MEMA Emergency Drill Summary

- On May 29th 2013 there was a Bull Hill Windfarm Tabletop Exercise sponsored by Jeremy Damren, State Exercise Coordinator & State Citizen Corps Coordinator for the Maine Emergency Management Agency, Dept. of Defense.
- The meeting was hosted by Andrew Doak of First Wind and Chris Baldwin of Vestas.
- The meeting was presented by Andrew Sankey, Director, Hancock County Emergency Management Agency.
- There were 34 attendees including First Responders from the Towns of Eastbrook, Hancock, Cherryfield, Aurora, Waltham, Osborn, and Franklin. Other attendees included Maine State Police, Hancock County Sheriff's office, Ambulance Service, Maine DEP, Maine Game Warden, Maine Forest Service and Washington County EMA.
- The purpose of the exercise was to provide participants an opportunity to evaluate current response concepts, plans, and capabilities for an incident at the Bull Hill Wind Farm Facility.
- The scope of the meeting was to emphasize the role of the Hancock County Emergency Response Agencies, its Mutual Aid Partners, and supporting agencies as well as First Wind and Vestas employees in response to different emergency scenarios at the wind farm facility
- Topics covered include Resources and guidance to address hazardous materials, acts of terrorism, natural disasters, fire, and public safety.
- Two separate incident scenarios were discussed. The first related to personnel injury and the second was a turbine fire. Topics included how to respond, who to respond to, response time and plan of action.
 - Scenario #1 addressed extracting an unresponsive victim from inside a wind turbine. A variety of topics were discussed with the Agencies, including call procedures, response time, site access locations, mutual aid and expectations of First Wind, Vestas and First Responders during the scenario.
 - Scenario #2 discussed in detail the coordination of a fire event. It included both a fire that has started outside the facility and approaching the facility was discussed as well as a fire that has started within the facility. The expectations of First Wind, Vestas and Emergency agencies were discussed. Both these incidents were addressed in the event they were to take place during normal working hours or after normal working hours. The following was discussed: How initial notification of a fire is to be made; who is called and dispatched from emergency agencies; communication between First Wind, Vestas and emergency agencies during the fire; expectations of all parties during the fire; proper reporting to the Maine Forest Service for site related fires; and, communication to First Wind remote operations center after hours and as an additional resource in response and communication during a fire. Site, Emergency personnel and public safety were considered a top priority during a fire, protection of natural resources and spreading of a fire in and around the facility were stressed as equally important. The Maine Forest Service was extremely pleased to be part of the exercise and indicated their support for the overall communication and coordination that would take place in such an event.

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- Follow up includes an after action report by the sponsor and a mock drill to be scheduled in the fall.

Hancock County Emergency Management Agency
Bull Hill Wind Farm
Tabletop Exercise



PREFACE

This small group table top exercise is sponsored by the Maine Emergency Management Agency. This Situation Manual (SitMan) was produced with input, advice, and assistance from all stake holders at the state, county and local level. This exercise follows the guidance set forth in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP).

This small group table top Exercise (TTX) Situation Manual (SitMan) provides exercise participants with all the necessary tools for their roles in the exercise. This SitMan is tangible evidence of Maine's commitment to ensure public safety through collaborative partnerships that will prepare it to respond to any emergency.

The small group TTX is an unclassified exercise. The control of information is based more on public sensitivity regarding the nature of the exercise than on the actual exercise content. Some exercise material is intended for the exclusive use of exercise planners, facilitators, and evaluators, but players may view other materials deemed necessary to their performance. The SitMan may be viewed by all exercise participants.

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HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

1. The title of this document is the Maine Emergency Management Agency Small Group *Tabletop Exercise (TTX) Situation Manual (SitMan)*.
2. The information gathered in this SitMan is for training and exercising purposes.
3. For more information, please consult the following points of contact (POCs):

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State Exercise Coordinator:

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INTRODUCTION

Purpose

The purpose of this exercise is to provide participants an opportunity to evaluate current response concepts, plans, and capabilities for an incident at the Bull Hill Wind Farm Facility. This exercise will focus on critical decisions, notifications, and the integration of assets necessary to save lives and protect public health and safety.

Scope

This exercise emphasizes the role of the Hancock County Emergency Response Agencies and support agencies in response to different emergency situations for a situation at the wind farm facility

Core Capabilities

Response Health and Safety: Ensure the availability guidance and resources to address all hazards including hazardous materials, acts of terrorism, and natural disasters in support of the responder operations and the affected communities.

Infrastructure Systems: Stabilize critical infrastructure functions, minimize health and safety threats, and efficiently restore and revitalize systems and services to support a viable, resilient community.

Operational Communication: Ensure the capacity for timely communications in support of security, situational awareness, and operations by any and all means available, among and between affected communities in the impact area and all response forces.

Operational Coordination: Establish and maintain a unified and coordinated operational structure and process that appropriately integrates all critical stakeholders and supports the execution of core capabilities.

Exercise Objectives

Exercise design objectives are focused on improving understanding of a response concept, identifying opportunities or problems, and/or achieving a change in attitude. The exercise will focus on the following design objectives selected by the exercise planning team:

1. **Response Health and Safety:** Discuss the safe response (including roads/routes) mechanisms using local volunteer agencies as well as possibly Life Flight. Also discuss who responds and with what capabilities.
2. **Infrastructure Systems:** Discuss public/private sectors continuity capabilities to operate with damage to the system or around the system (ie woods fire).

3. Operational Communication: Discuss response communications interoperability as well as being able to communicate with the private sectors on hand.
4. Operational Coordination: Discuss the resources, command structure, and various agencies to respond to different scenarios at the Bull Hill Wind Farm Facility.
 - *Players* respond to the situation presented based on expert knowledge of response procedures, current plans and procedures, and insights derived from training.
 - *Observers* support the group in developing responses to the situation during the discussion; however, they are not participants in the moderated discussion period.

Exercise Guidelines

- This is an open, low-stress, no-fault environment. Varying viewpoints, even disagreements, are expected.
- Respond based on your knowledge of current plans and capabilities (i.e., you may use only existing assets) and insights derived from training.
- Decisions are not precedent setting and may not reflect your organization's final position on a given issue. This is an opportunity to discuss and present multiple options and possible solutions.
- Issue identification is not as valuable as suggestions and recommended actions that could improve response and preparedness efforts. Problem-solving efforts should be the focus.

Assumptions and Artificialities

In any exercise a number of assumptions and artificialities may be necessary to complete play in the time allotted. During this exercise, the following apply:

- The scenario is plausible, and events occur as they are presented.
- There is no "hidden agenda", nor any trick questions.
- All players receive information at the same time.
- This exercise is designed to be completed in approximately 2-3 hours.

INCIDENT SCENARIO

Part 1

It's Thursday afternoon at approximately 1300hrs. A worker is working near the access hatch when he suddenly faints and falls out of the cab. He is hanging from the safety harness, however appears to be unresponsive. A 911 call is placed and response personnel are enroute.

- Where does the 911 call go? Cell phone vs. landline?
- What response agencies are going to be dispatched?
- What capabilities does First Wind have and what is your responsibility during this incident?
- What first response agencies respond to this?
- Who is in charge for first response agencies?
- What radio frequency (ies) will be used for this call?
- What type of injuries (differential diagnosis) do you have with this patient?
- Who can explain what suspension trauma is?
- What other resources might you need?
- If there were press calls, who is the Public Information Officer? How about for First Wind? If there were a call right now, what would your press release sound like?

Part 2

Maine has been experiencing extremely dry weather over the past month. Rain is considered a commodity at this point. Maine Forest Service has posted the fire danger at Class 4 and Class 5 most of the week. The wind is blowing between 15 and 25 MPH coming off the ocean towards the towers and the maintenance facility report a smell and sight of smoke.

- What is First Wind's procedure at this point?
- Does First Wind have any fire suppression equipment?
- In event that that this fire is significant, what is First Wind's procedure as far as notifying the workers on the hill as well as shutting down and stopping equipment?
- What response agencies will be notified? What route are you going to use to get there?
- How will everyone communicate? What radio frequencies will be used?
- What is Maine Forest Service's plan of attack?

Part 3

Maine Forestry Helicopter 955 reports heavy fire burning upwards towards the facility. They estimate at least 6 acres is burning and it appears to be growing steadily.

- How does this change the resources that were originally requested and what additional resources are required?
- Where is the incident command post being established?
- What is the command structure going to look like?
- What is command and First Wind's interaction going to be?
- Where is the staging area going to be at and what is the requirements for the area?
- What incident communications frequencies will be used and where are they going to operate out of?

Exercise Hot Wash (20 minutes)

At the exercise's conclusion, exercise participants will briefly discuss the exercise. Discussion primarily focused on player expectations and experiences, exercise outcomes, and identifying issues for improvement.

Discussion Points

- **Expectations:** Players identified their expectations concerning the exercise:
- **Outcomes:** The following were identified as positive outcomes of conducting the exercise:
- **Issues:** The following are issues raised by the exercise that will prompt improvements:
- **Other:** Other issues that may need to be discussed or considered



Event/Meeting: Ball Hill TTX

Date: 29 May 2013

Meeting Time: Begin: 1800 End: 2100

Page 1 of 2 Location: Ball Hill - 776

NAME (please print)	Signature	Town/Position	PHONE	E-Mail	Travel Time (round trip)
RICHARD NEIL	<i>Richard M. Neill</i>	FAS-BROOK		P. O. Box 55 Franklin Maine	04634
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Robert Gurdle	<i>Robert Gurdle</i>	Chief Franklin		41ancy Rd Franklin Me 04734	
William Girdle	<i>William Girdle</i>	Franklin/Ansel Fire	460-8577		
Steve Girdle	<i>Steve Girdle</i>	Franklin Fire	478-7719		
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Daniel Perry	<i>Daniel Perry</i>	Cherryfield Fire	546-1190	47 Deverly Cherryfield	
Bob Shannon	<i>Bob Shannon</i>	MAINE DEP	446-9901	Robert F. Shannon @maine.gov	
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Event/Meeting: Bull Hill TTY

Date: 29 May 13

Meeting Time: Begin: 1800 End: 2100

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Location: Town 16

NAME (please print)	Signature	Town/Position	PHONE	E-Mail	Travel Time (round trip)
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Tammy Edgely	<i>[Signature]</i>	Eastbrook Fire		400 Lewis St	
Rever J McQueen	<i>[Signature]</i>	HECC		Crystal - Shore & York	
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