

Transportation of Weapons Grade Plutonium

**A Presentation for the Chair, Radioactive and
Hazardous Materials Committee**



Craig A. Tucker

Hazardous Materials Coordinator

Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

505-280-6664

craig.tucker@dhsem.nm.gov



Agenda

- Purpose
- East Palestine, Ohio & West, Texas
- National Hazardous Materials Response Registry
- Transportation Corridors
- New Mexico Hazardous Materials Teams
- Priority of Training, Equipment, and Resources
- The Ask

Purpose

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- (1) To brief the Chair, RHMC on New Mexico preparedness for, and response to, transportation incidents involving Weapons Grade Plutonium.**
- (2) To seek a legislative sponsor to update the Chemical Information Act to incorporate EPCRA* Tier II reporting requirements and fee structure.**



*Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act

NOT ON MY WATCH

East Palestine OH

- 50/150 cars derailed
- 20 cars contained hazardous materials, including vinyl chloride, ethylene glycol, ethyl hexyl acrylate, butyl acrylate and isobutylene
- 2000 evacuated out of population of 4700
- VFD primary responders

West, TX

- FGAN explosion
- 15 KIA/280 WIA
- Destroyed the FGAN plant
- Severely damaged Middle School, High School,
- Destroyed 50-unit apartment building
- VFD primary responders and primary casualties

Notification

0



+15

East Palestine VFD Chief

Notification

0



+14

West TX VFD Chief

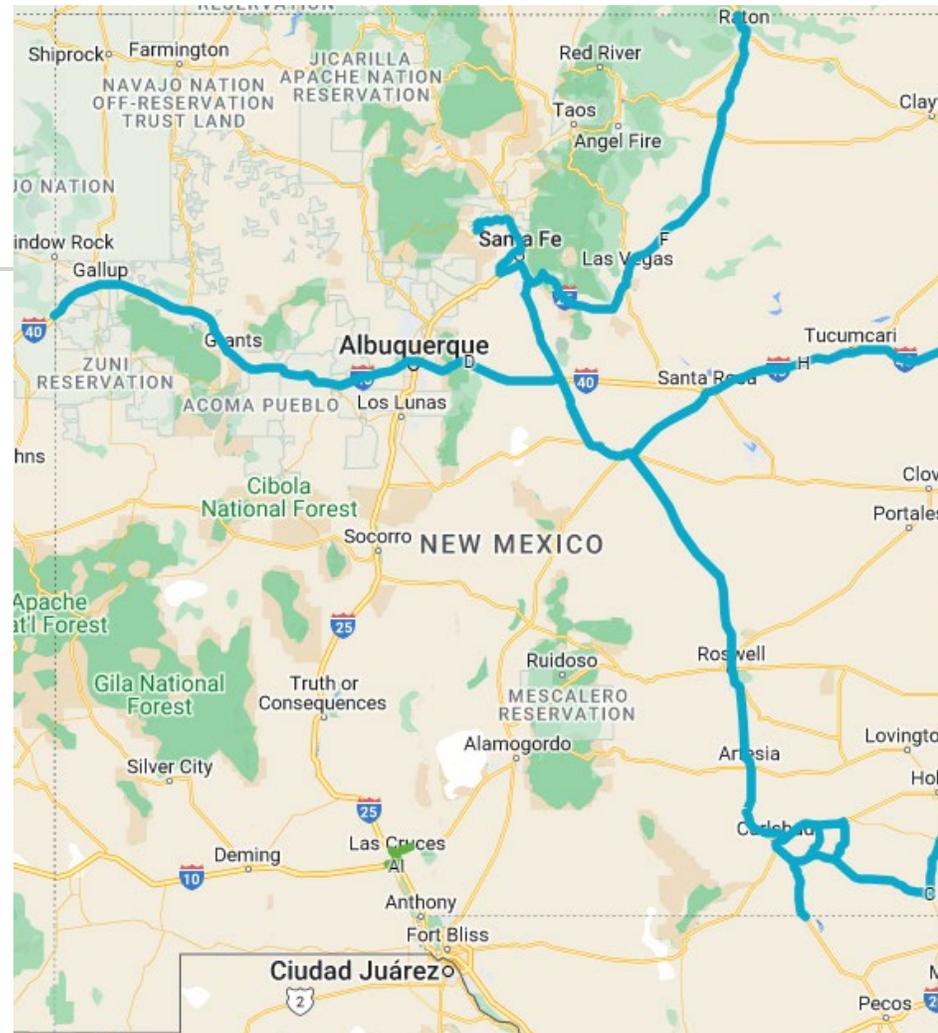
National Hazardous Materials Route Registry (HMRR)

- **18 NMAC 20.9**
 - Designates NM HMRR
- **State designated restricted roads and preferred highway routes...**
- **...for transportation of Highway Route Controlled Quantities of radioactive...**
- **...and non-radioactive hazardous materials**

- **WIPP**
- **All Class 7 Radiological Materials**
- **All Class 3 HazMat (flammable)**
- **All Non-class 3 Hazmat**
- **Nuclear and Special Nuclear Materials**

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Annual Truck Commodity Flow:

- **Class 3 HazMat: 16.2M Tons**
- **Non-Class 3 HazMat: 115M Tons**

HRCQ/RAM* Commodity Flow:

- **DPS OPR 25**
 - Designates HRCQ inspection procedures
- **14-days advance notice to "Governors' Designee"**
- **Designee notifies affected State agencies.**
- **We know about each shipment**

Nuclear/Special Nuclear Materials

- **We are aware...**

*HRCQ: Highway Route Controlled Quantities/
Radioactive Materials



New Mexico Transportation Corridors

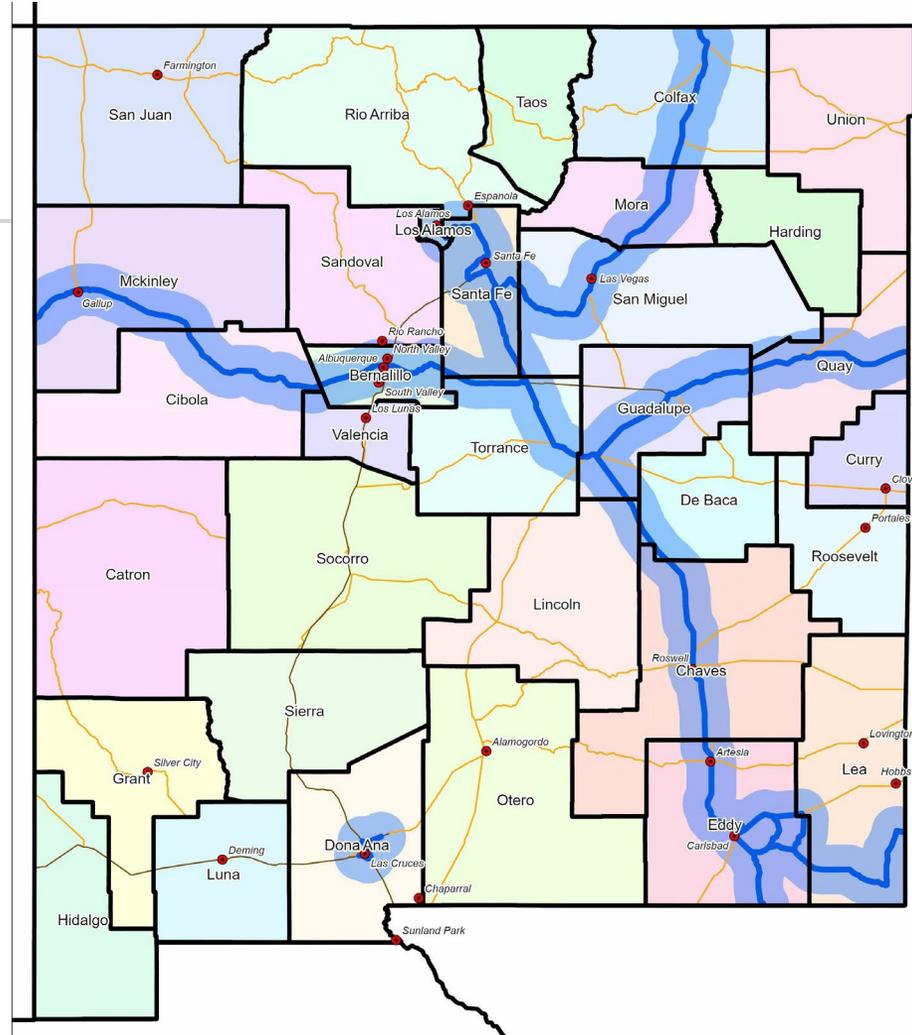
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HMRR* Transportation Corridor:

- 10-mile buffer each side of HMRR*.
- 1.3M New Mexicans (62.9% of the population)
- All associated schools, daycares, hospitals, assisted living facilities etc.
- Includes all career, hybrid, and volunteer fire/EMS departments located in the corridor.

*HMRR: Hazardous Materials Route Registry



New Mexico Hazardous Materials Teams*

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FEMA Type 1

1

Designed to respond to, assess, and mitigate a large-scale, complex, and sustained-duration incident that may involve multiple hazards comprised of known and/or unknown hazardous materials, and especially including **known or suspected weapons of mass destruction (WMD) materials**.

FEMA Type 2

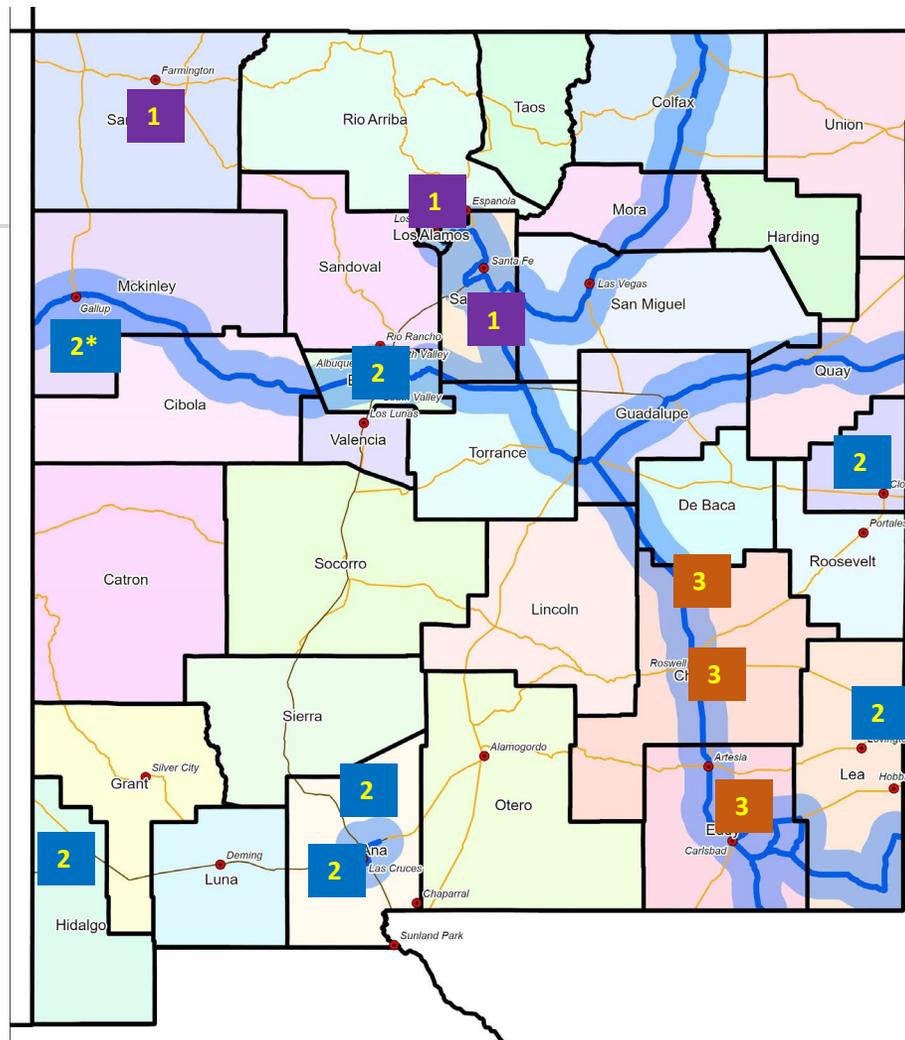
2

Designed to respond to, assess, and mitigate a large-scale, complex, and sustained-duration incident that may **involve multiple hazards** comprised of known and/or unknown hazardous materials.

FEMA Type 3

3

Designed to respond to, assess, and mitigate **an incident for specific known hazardous materials**.



*Does not include Federal Installations



Priority of Effort

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1. Provide training, equipment, and resources to **ALL Volunteer and Hybrid Fire Departments/EMS** in the HMRR transportation corridor.

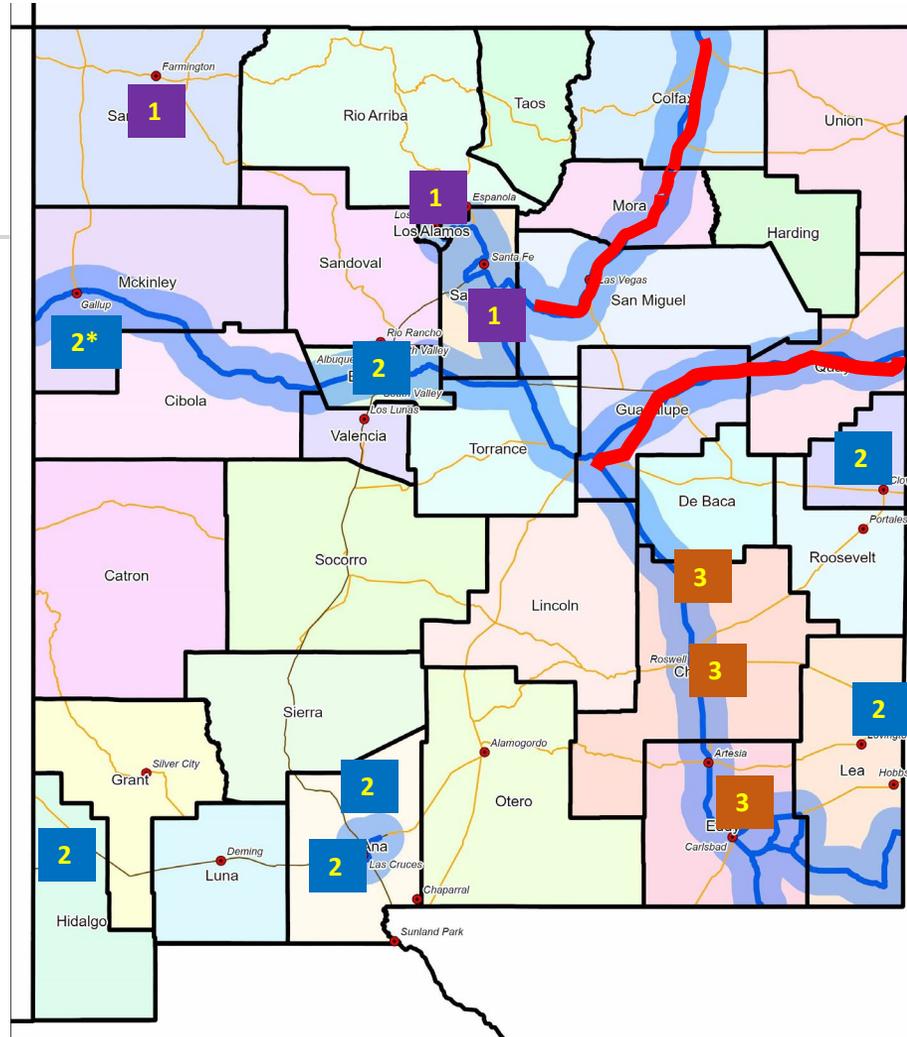
Main Effort:

- **Guadalupe/Quay Counties;**
- **I25 north of Santa Fe.**

2. Train, equip, and resource a **Typed HazMat Team** in the I-25 corridor north of Santa Fe.

3. Train, equip, and resource a **Typed HazMat Team** in the Quay and Guadalupe Transportation Corridor

4. Support CE and equipment refresh for **Typed HazMat Teams**.





The Ask

- *A legislative sponsor to update The Chemical Information Act to incorporate EPCRA* Tier II reporting requirements and updated fee structure.*
 - State Hazardous Materials Programs are intended to be self-funded with Grants and Chemical Fees.
 - New Mexico Fee structure (\$25/\$250) is based on 1980s dollars.
 - In 2023 dollars: $\$25/\$250 = \$71/\710 .
 - Fees provide training, equipment, and resources in support of the NM Hazardous Materials Program.

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