

DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

Section: SECURING THE CITIES

Topic: Radiation Response Overview

Topic No:	2122.01
Date:	10-30-24
Approved:	<i>RM</i>
Review Date:	10-30-27
Replaces:	New

PURPOSE: The Denver Fire Department policy regarding Radiological or Nuclear (R/N) incidents is to conduct Preventative Radiological/Nuclear Detection (PRND) activities supporting early detection and response to R/N threats and potential incidents to provide the maximum amount of safety to citizens and officers.

SCOPE: To provide information and definitions regarding the Denver Securing the Cities (STC) program.

I. Overview

The STC program aims to deploy radiation systems to prevent R/N incidents throughout the city and county of Denver, and the cities of Englewood, Sheridan, Glendale, and Skyline:

- During daily activities and daily response-related activities, along with operational transits that include, but are not limited to roadways, mass transit, rail, and air.
- To assist with the detection and screening of commercial vehicles at various locations throughout the entirety of the jurisdictions served.
- During Special Events, such as all National Special Security Events (NSSE) or via the Special Event Assessment Rating (SEAR), as well as events with large attendance or as deemed necessary by the Mayor, Director of Public Safety, and/or the Chief the Denver Fire Department.
- In response to incidents involving or suspected of involving radioactive materials.
- The operational environment will dictate whether operations should be overt, low profile, or a combination of both.

II. General

The STC program aims to adjudicate an R/N alarm at the lowest level.

- Primary and Secondary Screener Equipment is calibrated and will detect low radiation levels.
- The use of this equipment will be limited to trained and qualified personnel. Personnel shall be trained before utilizing radiation equipment and must participate in annual refresher training.

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III. Definitions

- **Primary Screening:**
 - Primary Screening personnel will be equipped with Personal Radiation Detectors. During the Primary Screening phase, a radiation source is detected causing an alarm on the primary screening detection equipment Utilizing basic tactics, techniques, procedures, operators will detect, verify, and locate the source of the radiological concern.

- **Secondary Screening:**
 - Secondary Screening personnel will utilize isotope identification equipment and/or other techniques to identify and investigate the primary event. Secondary screening equipment may be used to assist field teams in the adjudication of potential threats related to individuals, vehicles, packages, or facilities.

- **Personal Radiation Device (PRD):**
 - Personal radiation detectors (PRDs) are vital to interdiction and response missions where both innocent and threat sources must be quickly and easily detected, identified, and located in real time.

- **Radiation Isotope Identifier Detector (RIID):**
 - Radioisotope Identification Devices (RIIDs) are instruments that are designed to determine the identity of radioactive materials by measuring the energy of the emitted gamma rays.

- **Steady State Operations:**
 - Daily Operations as defined by the Denver Fire Department in coordination with the Denver Securing the Cities program. This includes all officers in the Operations or DEN Division's to utilize Personal Radiation Device's (PRD's) during everyday activities.

- **Enhanced Steady State:**
 - Enhanced Steady State operations call for augmented operations that take place during temporary periods of heightened alert due to a threat involving radiological/nuclear materials or devices, during periods of incidents response, or in support of planned events in which additional, or enhanced protection activities are needed.

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- **Prevention Crisis:**
 - Involves time-sensitive actions taken by federal partners to prevent a terrorist attack. This operation will be in coordination with the Denver Federal Bureau of Investigations WMD Office

- **Radiological Nuclear Search Operations (RNSO):**
 - RNSO are intelligence- driven operations, led by the U.S. Attorney General acting through the FBI and Department of Energy (DOE) / National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). This process determines whether there is a credible or imminent radiological/nuclear threat and how to respond.

IV. Radiation Detection Response Protocol

- Step 1 - Primary Screener Detection
 - Detect, Verify, Locate/Localize

- Step 2 – Secondary Screener Detection/Identification
 - Note Readings, Identify Isotope

- Step 3 – Secondary Screener Technical Assistance
 - Reachback – DOE Triage

- Step 4 - Operational Response
 - Request Federal Assets in coordination with Law Enforcement

- Step 5 - Post Alarm Resolution
 - Record, Report, Adjudicate

V. Denver Fire Department Response Flow Chart

- The attached flow chart has been approved by the Operations Committee of the Denver Securing the Cities Program. This flow chart outlines how Denver Fire will respond and what steps need to be taken.

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