

# Border 2025: Eagle Pass - Piedras Negras

EPA Region 6 Emergency Response  
Roles and Authorities  
Border 2025 Knowledge Exchange and Binational  
Functional Exercise in Eagle Pass – Piedras Negras





# What is a Federal On-Scene Coordinator (FOSC)?

Federal official predesignated to coordinate and direct federal responses under the National Contingency Plan (NCP) for 'oil' and 'hazardous substances'



Assessment



Monitoring



Response  
Assistance



Evaluation





# Authorities for Response

**Comprehensive Environmental  
Response, Compensation, and  
Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA)**

**1980**

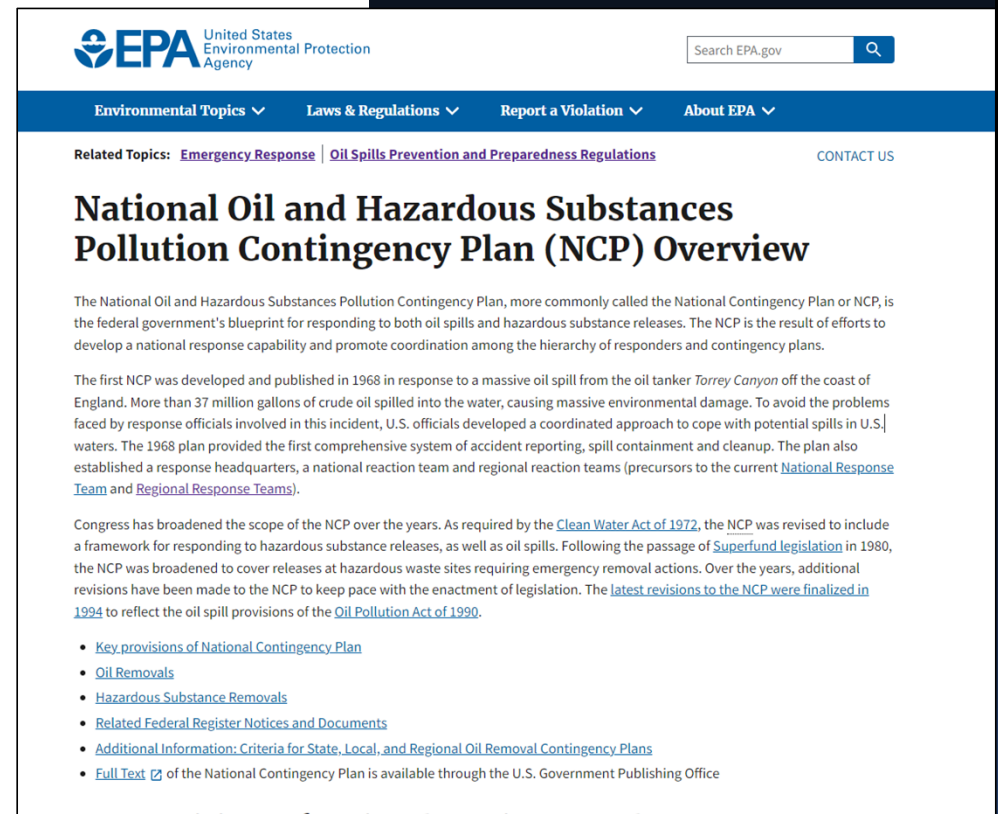
**1990**

**Clean Water Act (CWA) / Oil  
Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA)**



# National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)

Federal government's plan of action for responding to both oil spills and releases of hazardous substances.



The screenshot shows the EPA website's overview page for the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). The page features the EPA logo and navigation links at the top. The main heading is "National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) Overview". Below this, there is a brief introduction of the NCP as the federal government's blueprint for responding to oil spills and hazardous substance releases. The text describes the NCP's development in 1968 in response to the Torrey Canyon oil spill and its subsequent revisions, including the Clean Water Act of 1972, Superfund legislation in 1980, and the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. A list of related topics and documents is provided at the bottom of the main content area.

**EPA** United States Environmental Protection Agency

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Related Topics: [Emergency Response](#) | [Oil Spills Prevention and Preparedness Regulations](#) [CONTACT US](#)

## National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) Overview

The National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan, more commonly called the National Contingency Plan or NCP, is the federal government's blueprint for responding to both oil spills and hazardous substance releases. The NCP is the result of efforts to develop a national response capability and promote coordination among the hierarchy of responders and contingency plans.

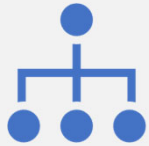
The first NCP was developed and published in 1968 in response to a massive oil spill from the oil tanker *Torrey Canyon* off the coast of England. More than 37 million gallons of crude oil spilled into the water, causing massive environmental damage. To avoid the problems faced by response officials involved in this incident, U.S. officials developed a coordinated approach to cope with potential spills in U.S. waters. The 1968 plan provided the first comprehensive system of accident reporting, spill containment and cleanup. The plan also established a response headquarters, a national reaction team and regional reaction teams (precursors to the current [National Response Team](#) and [Regional Response Teams](#)).

Congress has broadened the scope of the NCP over the years. As required by the [Clean Water Act of 1972](#), the NCP was revised to include a framework for responding to hazardous substance releases, as well as oil spills. Following the passage of [Superfund legislation](#) in 1980, the NCP was broadened to cover releases at hazardous waste sites requiring emergency removal actions. Over the years, additional revisions have been made to the NCP to keep pace with the enactment of legislation. The [latest revisions to the NCP were finalized in 1994](#) to reflect the oil spill provisions of the [Oil Pollution Act of 1990](#).

- [Key provisions of National Contingency Plan](#)
- [Oil Removals](#)
- [Hazardous Substance Removals](#)
- [Related Federal Register Notices and Documents](#)
- [Additional Information: Criteria for State, Local, and Regional Oil Removal Contingency Plans](#)
- [Full Text](#) of the National Contingency Plan is available through the U.S. Government Publishing Office



# Key Provisions of National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)



**§300.120: ESTABLISHES GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF FOSCS**



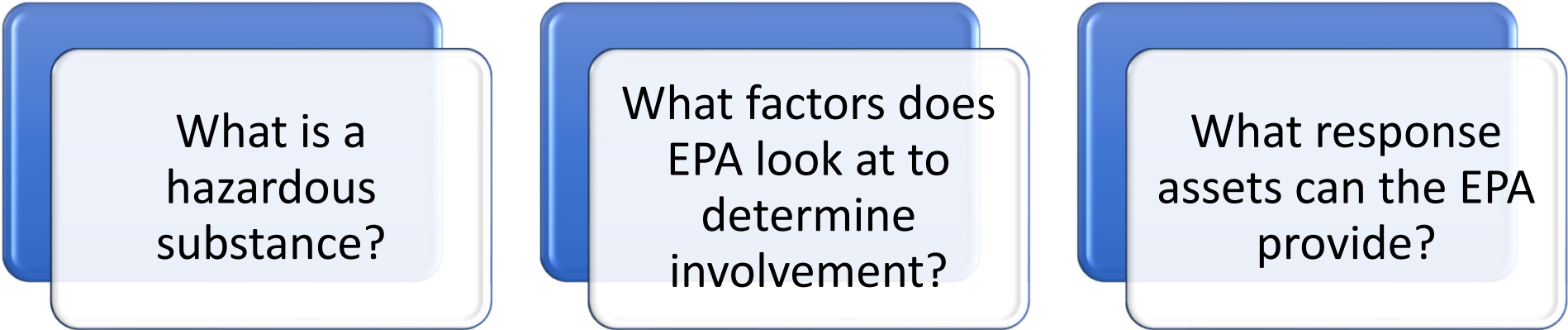
**§300.125: NOTIFICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**



**§300.135: RESPONSE OPERATIONS**



# Releases of Hazardous Substances



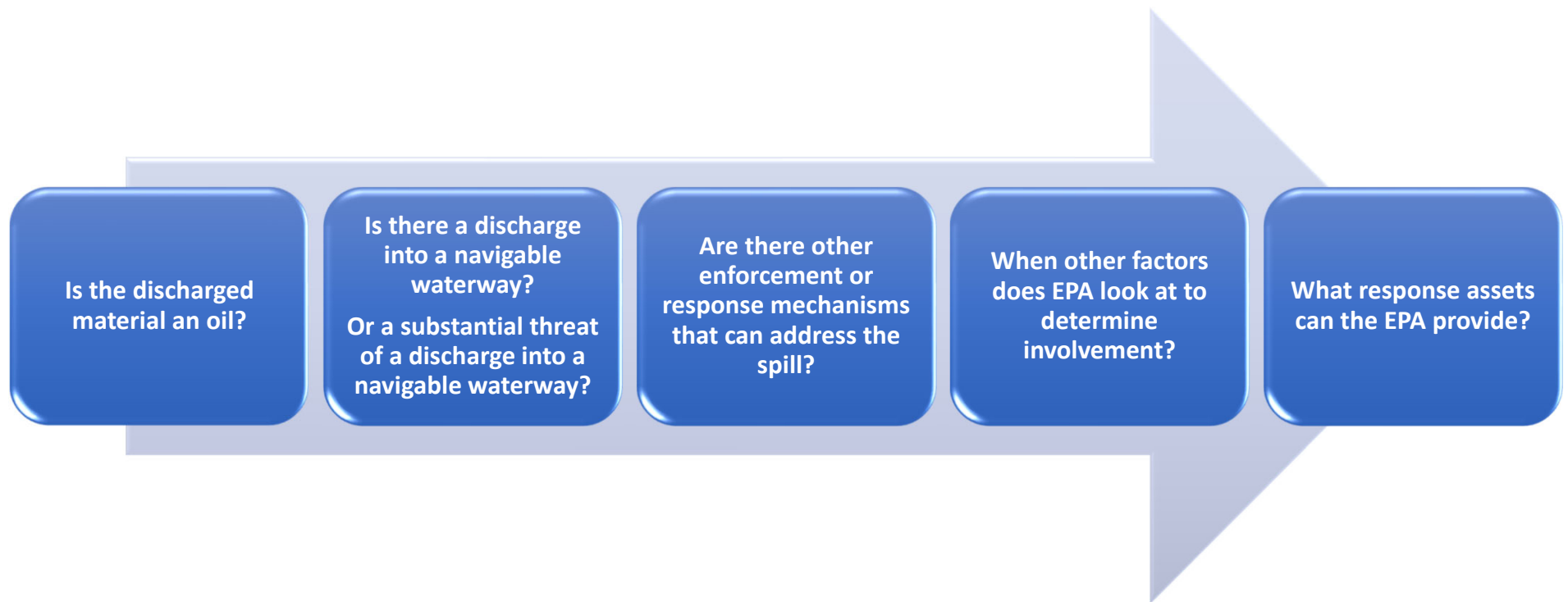
What is a  
hazardous  
substance?

What factors does  
EPA look at to  
determine  
involvement?

What response  
assets can the EPA  
provide?



# Discharges of Oil





The background features a dark blue rectangular area on the left and a light blue circular shape on the right, both set against a white background. The word "Questions?" is written in white text on the dark blue area.

Questions?



# Border 2025: Eagle Pass - Piedras Negras

**EPA Region 6 Emergency Response Assets**  
Border 2025 Knowledge Exchange and  
Binational Functional Exercise in Eagle Pass –  
Piedras Negras





DUSTTRAK DRX

# Particulate Matter (PM) Monitoring







## Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA)

Factsheet about TAGA  
[https://www.epa.gov/system/  
files/documents/2023-0](https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-0)



# Mercury Analyzers





# Radiation Equipment





Airborne Spectral  
Photometric  
Environmental  
Collection  
Technology  
(ASPECT)









## ASPECT: Multi-Role Concept

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**Nations only 24/7 Airborne  
Chemical, Radiological, and  
Situational Awareness Remote  
Sensing Aircraft**

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**Provides information to the first  
responder that is timely, useful,  
and compatible with numerous  
software applications**

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**Multi-role responses (homeland  
security, emergency response,  
and environmental  
characterization)**

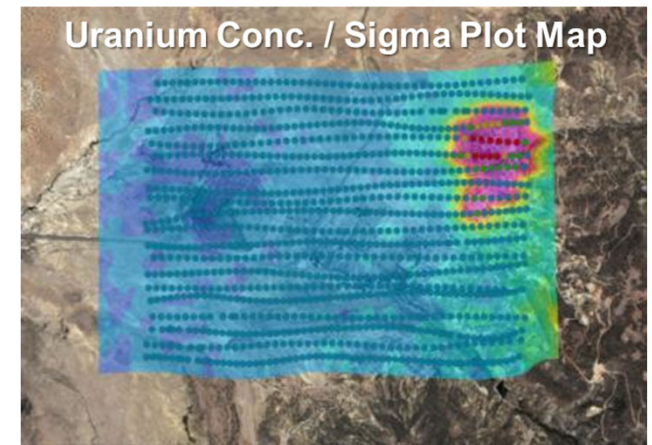
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**Provides infrared &  
photographic images with  
geospatial chemical and  
radiological information**

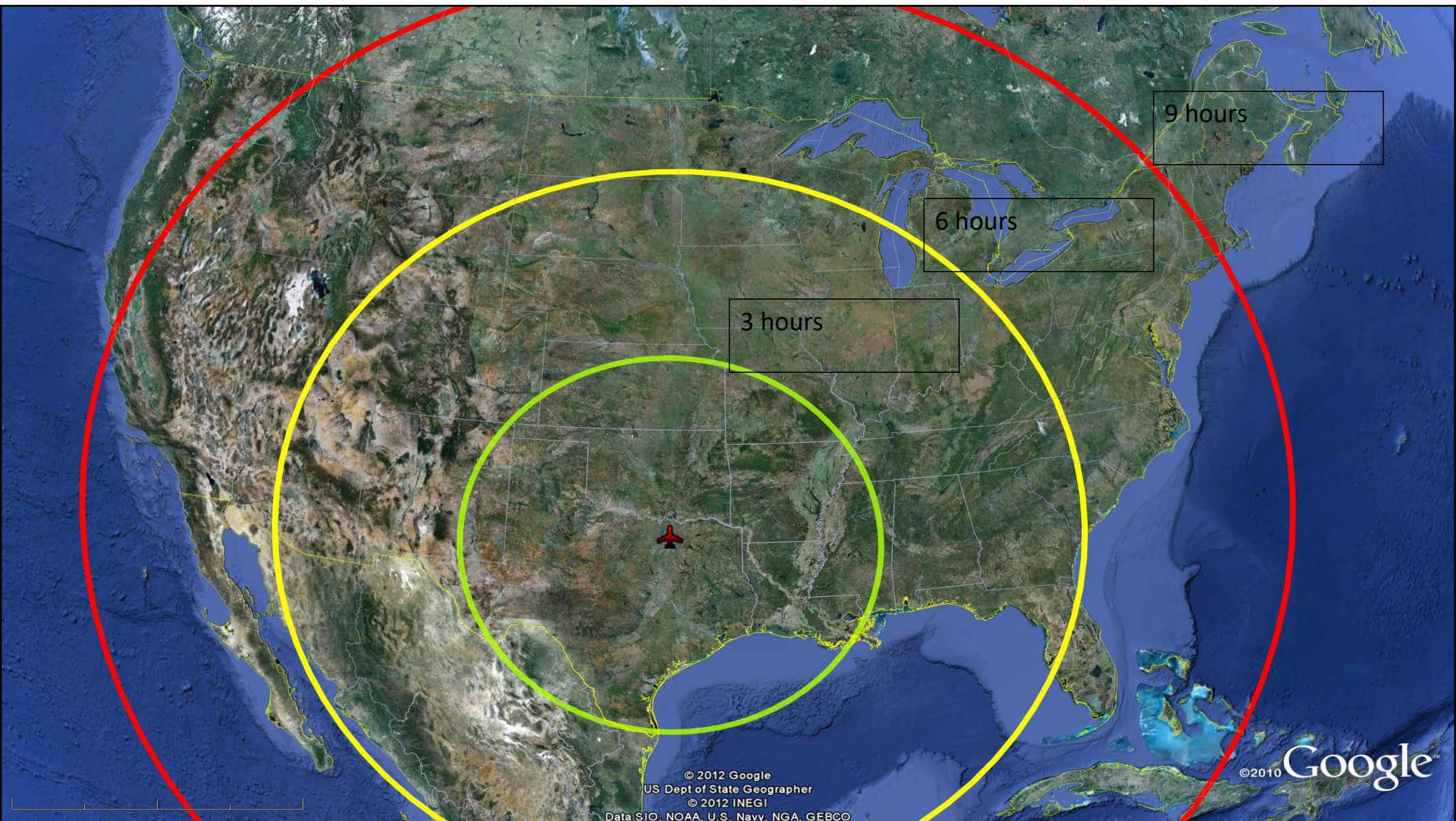
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**5 Primary Sensors**

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# CHEMICAL WARFARE AGENT SAMPLING

- CHEMICAL AGENT MONITOR, M90
- TEST KIT, CIVIL DEFENSE SET I & V
- KIT, CHEMICAL IDENTIFICATION, HAZCAT WMD SCREEN
- DETECTOR, CHEMICAL AGENT, AP4C
- DETECTOR, CHEMICAL AGENT, AP2C
- DETECTOR, CHEMICAL AGENT, AP2Ce



CHEMICAL  
IDENTIFICATION  
KIT (HazCat®)





# TOXIC VAPOR ANALYZERS - DETECTORS





# MultiRAE





# AreaRAE

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**Oxygen**

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**Flammable (LEL)**

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**PID**

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**2 toxic gases  
(CO/H<sub>2</sub>S)**

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**Gamma Radiation**





# UltraRAE

- **3<sup>rd</sup> generation PID from RAE Systems**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> generation Benzene specific monitor from RAE systems**
- **First portable VOC gas monitor with built-in wireless radio modem for time data & alarm transmission**
- **Designed for use by both basic or advanced users in harsh environments and hazardous areas**





# Vehicles, Trailers and Boats



**BOATS = 4**



**MOBILE COMMAND  
POSTS = 5**



**RESPONSE VEHICLES  
= 9**



**TRAILERS = 5**



**UTILITY VEHICLES = 4**





## Mobile Command Posts





ATVs



# WATER QUALITY/TESTING





# MOBILE LAB

ESB Mobile Laboratory Field Deployment Advantages				
On-Site Support	Rapid Screening Capability	Resource Efficient	Faster Results	Cost Efficient
Travel within Region 6	Multiple instrumentation	Outfitted for specific needs.	Screening methods are streamlined for quicker turnaround.	Eliminates unnecessary samples for full fixed lab analysis.

Current Uses				
Volatiles (VOAs)	Portable GC and GC/MS	Microbiology	Sample Staging Area	Satellite Communication w/ WiFi
	Direct air or headspace	Total + Fecal Coliform (full Coli-ert testing)		





## AUDIO/VISUAL - COMMUNICATIONS







## Special Teams

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Regional Response Team (**RRT**)

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Consequence Management Advisory  
Division (**CMAD**)

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Office of Research and Development  
(ORD)

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Superfund Technical Assessment  
Response Team (**START**) (contractor)

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Emergency and Rapid Response  
Services (**ERRS**) (contractor)