

## **RESPONSE TO EMERGENCIES INVOLVING BRIDGES OVER NAVIGABLE WATERWAYS IN HENDERSON COUNTY**

### **PRIMARY**

ESF 3-1 Coordinator(s) – Henderson City Public Works Director, Henderson County Road Engineer

### **LOCAL SUPPORT**

Henderson City and County Elected Officials

### **LOCAL RESOURCE**

Henderson County Emergency Management Agency (EMA)  
Henderson County Sheriff's Department  
Henderson City Police  
Henderson City Fire Department  
Henderson County Health Department  
Henderson County Road Department  
Henderson City Street Department  
Henderson City/County Rescue Squad  
Henderson City/County Emergency Medical Services (EMS)  
Henderson County Volunteer Fire Departments

### **STATE RESOURCE**

Kentucky Division of Emergency Management (KyEM)  
Kentucky Division of Fish and Wildlife  
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) District Office  
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) Henderson Office  
Kentucky Department of Military Affairs/Kentucky National Guard  
USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service

### **I. PURPOSE**

To establish the procedure Public Safety agencies shall follow when notified of potential emergencies or structural damage to bridges over waterways located in Henderson County, Kentucky. Refer to ESF 3-1-1 for bridge closure checklists.

### **II. SITUATIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

A. Navigable Waterways

Structural damage to bridges over navigable waterways can occur at our boundary with Indiana. The potential of bridge structural damage must be handled immediately in order to respond and protect the public safety and the structure from further damage.

#### B. Non-Navigable Waterways

Structural damage to bridges over non-navigable waterways can occur at our boundary with adjacent counties or within the confines of Henderson County. The potential of bridge structural damage must be handled immediately in order to respond and protect the public safety and the structure from further damage.

#### C. Hazardous Materials

The greatest majority of spills involve petroleum products. While some are spills of cargo, many others are spills of a vessel's own fuel. Oil spills to surface water can result from causes as varied as collisions, equipment failure, overfilling of vessel or facility tanks, pumping bilge water contaminated with oil, and other operator error.

A spill of a few hundred gallons of oil in a river is a serious matter and can have effects not only on the environment, but also on commerce. In a sufficiently large spill, shipping lanes might be closed in order to avoid contamination and to help contain the oil.

For all Hazardous Material Spills involving the bridge or waterway, see "ESF 10" of the Henderson County Emergency Operations Plan.

### III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

1. Upon notification, the responding agency will perform an initial damage assessment of the structure. Most bridge structures will accept a nominal force before the damage becomes life threatening. If it is obvious, however, that a potential life-threatening condition exists because of structural damage, responders should take immediate steps to prevent traffic from using the damaged structure and then proceed with notifying the appropriate emergency and KyDOT personnel who will assess damage and take necessary steps for repairs. Refer to ESF 3-1-1 for bridge closure checklists.
2. 911 Communications Center is to make appropriate notifications.

#### State maintained/operated structures:

- Notify Henderson Emergency Management at (270) 831-1235 or via cellular at (270) 860-5078.

- All bridge closures over the Ohio River, Green River require KYEM Duty Officer notification.
- Notify the Transportation Cabinet Emergency number listed in the Emergency Notifications Section.
  - Inspectors should be summoned to assess the damage, if any.
  - Bridges should not be closed until advised by the KYTC District Inspector to do so or obvious life threatening conditions exist.

County maintained/operated structures:

- A. Notify the County Road Dept.
- B. Notify County Road Supervisor after hours.
- C. Bridge crewmember will be summoned to assess the damage, if any.
- D. Bridges should not be closed unless advised by the County to do so or obvious life threatening conditions exist.

Law Enforcement will redirect traffic around the closure. Signs will be posted in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

#### **IV. RESPONSIBILITIES**

##### 911 Communications Center (PSAP)

1. Notify appropriate Emergency Response Agency.
2. Notify Emergency Management.
3. Notify County Road Dept., as directed.
4. Notify State Highway Dept., as directed.
5. Notify the Transportation Cabinet, as directed.

##### Emergency Management

1. Open EOC or establish Mobile Command Post as necessary
2. Notify KyEM (Duty Officer) when the incident involves a bridge over the Ohio River because it affects Interstate Commerce.

#### **County Maintained Structures**

##### County Road Department

1. Inspect the damaged structure to determine the extent of damage.
2. Determine whether or not bridge should be closed to traffic.

3. Determine if situation warrants an immediate or delayed response.
4. Determine what necessary traffic control is needed.
5. Advise local Public Safety on response and/or recovery actions.

### **State Maintained Structures**

#### Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

1. Kentucky Transportation Cabinet will notify District Personnel.
2. District Engineer:
  - a. Assign the appropriate District Bridge Inspector to inspect the structure to determine the extent of damage.
  - b. Determine whether or not the bridge should be closed to traffic.
  - c. Determine if the situation warrants an immediate or delayed response.
  - d. Determine what necessary traffic control is needed.
3. District Bridge Inspector:
  - a. Provide damage assessment of bridge structure.
  - b. Provide appropriate action based upon existing conditions.
  - c. Notify appropriate KyDOT personnel and other affected agencies.
  - d. Provide information to Henderson County EOC/EMA, as appropriate.

#### **Kentucky Division of Emergency Management (KyEM)**

1. The Duty Officer will notify the Regional Manager.
  - a. The Regional Manager will notify other state agencies, as appropriate.
  - b. The Regional Manager will notify Indiana EMA, if necessary.
2. KyEM will open the State EOC, if necessary.

### **V. BRIDGE EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION NUMBERS**

1. Henderson County Sheriff – (270) 826-2713  
(For Emergency After Hours Call 911)
2. Henderson County Emergency Management – (270) 831-1235  
(For Emergency After Hours Call 911 or 270-860-5078)

3. KyDOT Emergency Number - (270) 871-2582 or (270) 210-8009
4. KyEM Duty Officer – (800) 255-2587 or (502) 607-1610
5. U.S. Coast Guard – Louisville Office – (800) 253-7465 or (502) 779-5400