



# Emergency Preparedness Railway Incidents

Dubuque City Council

Monday, March 20, 2023

Thomas I. Berger, Emergency Management Coordinator

# Emergency Planning Organizations

- Dubuque County Local Emergency Planning Committee
  - Hazardous Materials Operations Training
- Dubuque Community Awareness and Emergency Response
  - Coordinated with Railroads, Fixed Facility Operators, Emergency Response Districts
- Dubuque Fire and Police Departments and Mutual Aid Departments
  - Dubuque Fire Department Hazardous Materials Team
  - Dubuque County Firefighters Association

# Emergency Plans

- Commodity Flow Studies
- Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
- Evacuation Plans
- Hazardous Materials Operations Plans
- Hazard Analysis and Risk Assessment (Vulnerability Assessment Plans)
- Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

# Emergency Training and Preparedness

- Railroad 101 Safety Training Classes
  - Communication with railroads
  - Response to railroad emergencies
  - Working components of the railroad
  - Locomotive safety
  - Derailment scene size up and management
- Hazardous Materials Operations Class
- Hazardous Materials Technician Class

# Emergency Training and Preparedness

- ALERT IOWA – Emergency Notification System
  - Sign up voluntary
    - Visiting the [alert.iowa.gov](http://alert.iowa.gov) website
    - Texting “DubuqueIA” to 67283
    - Downloading the Smart911 app from the Apple or Google Play stores

# Emergency Response Resources

- Hazardous Materials Team Resources
  - CAMEO, Marplot, Other
- Emergency Response Guidebooks
- High Hazard Freight Train (HHFT) reports from Iowa State Emergency Response Commission
- Hazardous Materials Density Study – Available from Railroads
- Tier 2 Reports for fixed facilities
- GIS and Consult from National Weather Services
- Ask Rail Application

# READINESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP






# PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP







# WHY COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE?

- **ESTABLISHED FIRST RESPONSE NETWORK OF RESOURCES**
- **PROMOTES LOCAL PARTICIPATION**
- **HELPS IDENTIFY & RECOGNIZE RISKS**
- **PROVIDES TRAINING**
- **PROTECTS HIGH VALUE RESOURCE AREAS**
- **PROVIDES ACCESS TO SHARED RESPONSE RESOURCES**
- **CONTINUALLY EXERCISING OF OUR PLANS AND CAPABILITIES**

# PRIOR CAER GROUP RESPONSE

- Assisted in two rail incidents.
- Pipeline terminal release to Catfish Creek
- Storm sewer release due to a vehicle vs. garbage truck.

# TABLETOP EXERCISES (TTX)

- Emergency Operations Center interoperability TTX.
  - Clayton, Dubuque, Jackson, Clinton, Scott, Rock Island, Jo Daviess Counties, USEPA, US Army Corps of Engineers, CP, BNSF and CN Railroads. Performed utilizing Microsoft Teams.
- Microsoft Teams presentation of the Inland Sensitivity Atlas, Upper Mississippi River Basin Association.
- Road based response exercise to an anhydrous ammonia release.



# RAILCARE FAMILIARIZATION AND BNSF TRAILER WORKSHOP. JANUARY 2016