The Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy

We enhance the development and conservation of energy and mineral resources in a safe and environmentally sound manner to support a more productive economy.
Goals of the DMME Strategic Plan

• Provide for safe and environmentally sound mineral resource extraction

• Encourage economic development through our customers’ wise management of Virginia’s energy, mineral, land, and water resources
Virginia coalfields encompasses seven counties in far Southwest Virginia.
DMME Divisions

- Division of Mines*
- Division of Mined Land Reclamation*
- Division of Gas & Oil*
- Division of Mineral Mining*
- Division of Energy
- Division of Mineral Resources
- Division of Administration

* denotes Enforcement Division
DM Emergency Response Teams

- Two experienced and trained teams.
  - Big Stone Gap Area - Wise County
  - Keen Mountain Area – Buchanan County
- Two trailers equipped with rescue equipment.
National Incident Management System (NIMS)
Mapping Capabilities
Safety At Mine Impoundments

- Emergency Notification and Evacuation Plan

- Inspections
  - Once every 7 days
  - More often with hazardous conditions
Areas of Emergency Response

Virginia’s coalfields are within Region 4 of Emergency Management Operations.
VDEM

- State’s Emergency Management Agency
- Virginia Emergency Operations Center
- Partner with Other State Agencies
- Direct Support to Localities
Legal Authority

- Robert T. Stafford Act – Federal
- Title 44, Code of Virginia - State
VDEM

- Coordinates the state’s preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation efforts.
- Director of VDEM is the State Coordinator of EM.
- The Governor is the State Director of EM.
- Seven Regions
VDEM Regional Field Offices

VDEM: Working to Protect People, Property and Our Communities
VDEM Regional Coordinators

- Assist and support localities before, during and after an event.
- Specialized communications abilities
- Eyes and ears of the state
- Training and exercises
- Plan development
- Coordinating State Response - regionally
- Networking
The VEOC

- Emergency Support Functions
- The “VERT”
- Secure facility in Richmond
- Coordination center for all state efforts.
ESF Work Areas
Main Floor
VEOC Communications Center
REGION 4 & 6 Mobile Command Post

- Space for Command and Control Activities (5 work stations & 1 Computer Station)
- 2 Interoperability Gateway Devices (ICRI)
- 19 Portable Radios
- Satellite Phone
- Sirs and Stars Radios
- Generator
VDEM Mobile Command Post

- 600 sq ft of space for Command and Control Activities (16 work stations)
- Interoperability Gateway Device
- Satellite Voice and Data
- Video Conferencing
- Mast mounted camera and scene lighting
- GIS
- Generator
New mobile command post
The Commonwealth has a new mobile command post available to support local emergency response efforts upon request through the Virginia Emergency Operations Center. The MCP can communicate using VHF low- and high-band, UHF, 800 MHz, amateur radios and the Statewide Agencies Radio System. These systems are interoperable with each other and with local systems, so that they can provide a communications network when local networks are overwhelmed. The MCP is 50 feet long, 13 feet high and weighs more than 50,000 pounds. Both sides expand to increase the width to 14 feet, providing more than 600 square feet of usable space and 16 work stations to support command and control operations. The MCP can provide satellite, audio and video communications and operate for several days before it needs to refuel. It also provides wireless Internet, Voice over IP and analog telephone access, as well as a video feed from the area surrounding the unit. Two 12.5 kW generators provide power for up to 12 laptop stations, digital broadcast and satellite television receivers, and communications equipment.
VDEM Technical Support Unit (TSU)

Numerous Public Safety Radios in all bands (VHF, UHF, 700/800 MHz, Marine, Aircraft, STARS, Nextel Direct Connect)

- Satellite Voice and Data Communications
- Act as a Wi-Fi hotspot or interface into a LAN
- Full Amateur Radio Suite
- Streaming video
- Generator
VDEM

QUESTIONS

Thank You

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