

PROMULGATION

It is the responsibility of elected and appointed officials to provide residents of their jurisdictions with required services.

Kansas Statute 48-929 requires the development of a County Emergency Plan, this plan will include all other jurisdictions in the County. The plan will include steps to Mitigate (reduce probability and or minimize effects of unavoidable incidents; Preparation to respond to such incidents, to include training, exercising the plan and creating procedures in individual departments of the government agencies; Response to such incidents will be described in the plan with agencies responsible for specific actions and accountable to respond; and Recovery Operations that insure the orderly return to normal or improved levels following a disaster.

In 1986, Congress passed the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). One part of the act Known as Title III, or Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act, established the requirements For Federal, State, and County Governments to plan for the event that a Hazardous Material incident would occur in their jurisdiction, this measure was prompted by the needless loss of thousands of lives near chemical facilities. SARA section 301 requires the formation of a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). Section 303 requires the LEPC to develop a comprehensive plan to provide the guidelines and procedures for local agencies to respond to a Hazardous Materials incident, spill, or release.

Because Seward County including the cities of Liberal and Kismet is faced with a broad spectrum of both Natural and Technological Hazards the Seward County LEPC has chosen to create an “All Hazards Plan” this is done with the understanding that our agencies respond and take actions according to their responsibilities rather than to the cause of the particular event.

The Seward County LEPC has developed this plan establishing the policies, guidelines and procedures that will provide the elected and appointed officials with the information necessary to function as a team during any emergency response including those involving, Hazardous Materials, Bio-Terrorism, Foreign Animal Disease, Weapons of Mass Destruction or events of nature.

Chairperson, Seward County
Board of County Commissioners