

# Emergency Operations

Book:	3 Emergency Operations
Chapter	VIII Transportation Emergencies
Subject	1 Railroad Emergencies
Code	3-VIII-1
Revised	10/19/2003

## 1.01 Purpose

To establish guidelines for the notification and safety of personnel while handling railroad emergency incidents.

## 1.02 Policy

The Jersey Village Emergency Services personnel shall follow these guidelines in all incidents involving the railroad, to insure the proper handling of the incident and the safety of personnel and citizens.

## 1.03 Procedure

### a. Upon Arrival

1. Have the Communication Operator notify the Southern Pacific Railroad dispatcher of the exact location, and nature of the incident.
2. Request that all trains be stopped or diverted.
3. Request a railroad representative respond.
4. Request Police assistance as may be needed to handle the emergency.
5. Have a lighted red emergency flare placed on the tracks (in the center, between the rails)  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile in each direction of the incident. This will notify on-coming trains to stop. Command shall designate a person with a radio to stand by as a flagman with the flares until you are notified that on-coming trains have been stopped or diverted.
6. Request other assistance and additional equipment as needed to handle the emergency.
7. Coordinate with the train conductor, engineer and/or any available railroad personnel at the scene.
8. Obtain a copy of the shipping papers from the conductor or engineer to determine the nature of cargo in the involved railcars.

### b. Safety

1. Responding personnel shall wear full protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus.

2. Some situations involving cargo fires (when the cargo is a hazardous material) may dictate evacuation of the immediate and/or surrounding area.

c. Engine Fires

1. Coordinate with the conductor and/or engineer.
2. Use CO2 on electrical fires.
3. Diesel Engines utilize considerable quantities of diesel fuel on board. Handle these fires as you would a combustible liquids fire.
4. Consider available water supply.

d. Tank Car Fires and Leaks

1. Identify the product, if possible.
2. Be guided by the nature of the product. If technical assistance is needed consult the DOT hazardous material guideline book.
3. Contact CHEMTREC, Houston Haz-Mat., and/or Harris County Fire and Emergency Services District Haz-Mat Team.
4. When hazardous materials are involved, A DEFENSIVE MODE RATHER THAN AN OFFENSIVE MODE MAY BE CALLED FOR.
5. Evacuation may be necessary.
6. Consider the use of master streams in place of hand lines
7. Consider availability of water supply.

e. Box Cars, Hooper Cars, and Shipping Container Cars.

1. Identify the product; if a hazardous material is involved, proceed according to the nature of the involved product.
2. Contact CHEMTREC, Houston Haz-Mat., and/or Harris County Fire and Emergency Services District Haz-Mat Team.
3. When normal materials are involved, protect exposures, disconnect the car and separate from the rest of the train, if possible.
4. Consider the use of master streams in place of hand lines
5. Consider availability of water supply.