



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC

MAR 5 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

FROM: AFMOA/CC

110 Luke Avenue, Room 405
Bolling AFB, DC 20032-7050

SUBJECT: HAZWOPER Training Policy and Implementation Guidance for Bioenvironmental Engineering

References: (a) 29 CFR 1910.120, Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER)
(b) AFI 10-2501, Full Spectrum Threat Response (FSTR) Planning and Operations

This policy letter clarifies the training requirements stated in the referenced regulations. This directive applies to all Bioenvironmental Engineering (BE) Officer and Enlisted personnel assigned to MAJCOM subordinate units and DRUs regardless of assigned duties. BE Civilians providing support to emergency response, HAZWOPER regulated clean-up sites, and Treatment, Storage, and Disposal (TSD) facility operations must also comply. MAJCOM BE staffs are encouraged to maintain their currency in order to maintain the capability to augment response personnel during unique situations such as terrorist attacks. The HAZWOPER regulation (29 CFR 1910.120) requires both an initial and annual refresher training to maintain currency.

The requirements, as described in the attachment to this policy letter, pertain to BE personnel only. AFMOA policy letter dated 3 Feb 97, Hazardous Material (HAZMAT) Emergency Response Training Requirements for Medical Response Personnel remains current for non-BE personnel. With AFI 10-2501's publication, AFI 32-4002 (Hazardous Material Emergency Planning and Response Program) is rescinded, removing the requirement for BE personnel to certify under the DoD HAZMAT program.

This policy is effective immediately. Please direct any questions to Maj Michael Chulick, AFMOA/SGZE, 110 Luke Avenue, Room 405, DC 20032-7050, DSN 297-4327, e-mail: michael.chulick@pentagon.af.mil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary H. Murray".

GARY H. MURRAY, Brig Gen, USAF, DC
Commander

Air Force Medical Operations Agency
Office of the Surgeon General

Attachment:
Training Requirements

cc:

HQ AFIA/SG

Distribution:

HQ ACC/SG
HQ AETC/SG
HQ AFMC/SG
HQ AFRC/SC
HQ AFSPC/SG
HQ PACAF/SG
HQ AFSOC/SG
HQ ANG/SG
HQ USAFE/SG
HQ USAFA/SG
11 MDG/CC
HQ USAFSAM/SG
HQ AMC/SG
311 HSW/CC
ARPC/SG

BE HAZWOPER Training Requirements

BE personnel must meet the following requirements:

- a. Emergency response operations (1910.120 (q)), and
- b. Regulated site and hazardous waste operations at RCRA treatment, storage and disposal (TSD) facilities (1910.120 (e)).

Part q contains specific training levels that apply based on assigned duties. Part e is required in all cases. The delineated requirements are:

- a. Bioenvironmental engineering officers, enlisted personnel who are expected to act as the BE team chief during emergency response, and equivalent civilian personnel must maintain training currency at the management and supervisor training level as described in 29 CFR 1910.120(e)(4). In addition, this set of personnel must maintain training currency as a hazardous materials specialist as described in 29 CFR 1910.120(q)(6)(iv). To tailor the training to BE-specific roles, trainees must have familiarity and knowledge level in tasks described in paragraph (F) of the aforementioned CFR and full competency in the tasks described in all other paragraphs of section (A through E and G through I). Hazardous materials specialist training implies competency at the first responder awareness level (29 CFR 1910.120(q)(6)(i)), the first responder operations level (29 CFR 1910.120(q)(6)(ii)), and knowledge of the hazardous materials technician level (29 CFR 1910.120(q)(6)(iii)).
- b. Bioenvironmental engineering enlisted and equivalent civilian personnel must maintain currency at the management and supervisor training level as described in 29 CFR 1910.120(e)(4). In addition, this set of personnel must maintain training currency at the first responder operations level as described in 29 CFR 1910.120(q)(6)(ii). To tailor the training to BE-specific roles, trainees must have familiarity and knowledge level in tasks described in paragraph (D) of the aforementioned CFR and full competency in the tasks described in all other paragraphs of section (A through C, E, and F). First responder operations level training implies competency at the first responder awareness level (29 CFR 1910.120(q)(6)(i)).
- c. All training must be documented in the individual's training folder. An AF Form 483 will be completed with highest training level acquired, date of training, and approving authority's signature. Refresher training will be documented on the back of the AF Form 483 as accomplished.

Initial Training and Qualification:

- a. The USAFSAM BEE Officer Course satisfies part e's training requirements and part q's specialist level when supplemented with the web training listed below (graduates after 31 May 1992 and before 31 January 2003). Future graduates will not require the web supplemental training.
- b. The USAFSAM BEE Apprentice Course satisfies part q's hazardous materials operations level and part e's training requirements (graduates after 22 Mar 93).
- c. The BE OIC can approve those outside the graduation windows to either the operations or specialist, as appropriate. Approval must be based on completion of formal training in the tasks required and/or demonstrated competency during exercises or actual responses.

The basis for approval must be recorded in the individual's training record. In lieu of BE OIC approval, a formal AF or Commercial equivalent course may be substituted.

Refresher Training Requirements:

- a. IAW 29 CFR 1910.120(e)(8), all trained personnel will receive 8 hours of annual refresher training to maintain currency in management and supervisor responsibilities.
- b. IAW 29 CFR 1910.120(q)(8), all trained personnel will receive annual refresher training (unspecified duration) on assigned hazardous materials specialist or first responder operations level (as appropriate) emergency response duties or demonstrate competency during exercises and/or actual responses.

USAFSAM Web Courses.

The preferred method for accomplishing annual refresher is through the USAFSAM developed web courses. USAFSAM has also developed a supplemental course for officer initial training. The courses and required frequency are listed below:

- a. 8-hr HAZWOPER. This course satisfies 29 CFR 1910.120(e)(8) requirements and is required annually.
- b. HAZMAT supplemental course fills in the gaps between 29 CFR 1910.120 (e)(4) and (q)(6)(iv). This is a one time only requirement.
- c. Emergency Response refresher. This course satisfies 29 CFR 1910.120(q)(8) and is required annually (available 1 Apr 03).

These courses are available at <http://wwwsam.brooks.af.mil/web/be/>