



## Regional Response Team II Winter 2026 Meeting

Meadowlands Environmental Center  
Two DeKorte Park Plaza  
Lyndhurst, New Jersey 07071  
January 14-15, 2026

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### Participating Entities:

- US EPA Region 2 & Environmental Response Team/CBRN Division
  - USCG Northeast District, East District, Sector Long Island Sound, Sector Delaware Bay, Sector New York, Sector Eastern Great Lakes, Atlantic Strike Team
  - US ACE
  - FEMA Region 2
  - ATSDR
  - GSA
  - FEMA
  - NOAA
  - US DOI
  - DOT/PHMSA
  - OSHA
  - NYSDEC
  - NJ DEP
  - NJ SP
  - PEOSH
  - Middlesex County Office of Health Services
  - Weston Solutions START VI
  - Tri-State Bird Rescue
  - Clean Harbors Cooperative
  - Donjon Marine
  - CTEH
  - Con Edison
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### Sub-Committee Work Products Update & Action Items

Oil Spill Best Management Practices: The subcommittee, currently represented by EPA and NOAA, reported out on progress on the Oil Spill Best Management Practices document. The document has been edited to a point where the subcommittee is to be expanded include all the other executive agency partners (NJDEP, NYSDEC, DOI, FWS). Once additional necessary

information is developed, the document will be shared for review by the full RRT2 for comments and any necessary edits prior to being presented to the Executive Committee for RRT2 adoption.

- ACTION: Subcommittee will be expanded to include NYSDEC, NJDEP, DOI & FWS, and subsequently share for full RRT2 review

**Air Monitoring Best Management Practices:** A discussion was held regarding RRT2 development of an Air Monitoring Best Practices document. Such community air monitoring plans have been adopted in other RRTs (RRT10, RRT6 and RRT7), none of which are state or region-specific in nature. A recommendation was made that a community air monitor plan be suggested to the NRT for development as a national document for use by all RRTs where such a plan is not in place. (This can be discussed during the joint CG/EPA session prior to the NRT meeting.) If the NRT is not agreeable to adopt this, one of the other RRT documents can be duly modified for adoption by RRT2.

- ACTION: Pending action resulting from the NRT meeting, potentially establish a subcommittee of RRT2 to develop an RRT2 Air Monitoring Best Practices guide, based on the documents developed by RRTs 6, 7 & 10.

**Environmental Unit Quick Response Guide:** A subgroup of RRT2 has been working to develop an ENVL QRG, as modified from the RRT 3 document. This document has been drafted through EPA2 with the NCP Scientific Support Coordinator agencies (EPA Environmental Response Team and NOAA) and will be distributed to the other RRT2 Executive agencies for initial review and edit prior to full RRT2 review and subsequent adoption.

- ACTION: The working RRT2 ENVL QRG document needs to be shared with the other RRT2 Executive agencies, plus the four Coast Guard Sectors, Atlantic Strike Team and ATSDR for further review.

**RRT 3 Draft Chemical Countermeasures:** RRT2 discussed use of the method developed by RRT3 for chemical countermeasure use, replacing pre-authorization with an RRT protocol for requesting case-specific operational authorization. The RRT3 document is another candidate for NRT adoption as a national protocol template for use across RRTs where pre-authorization agreements are no longer considered valid.

- ACTION: Pending outcome of the NRT discussion, RRT2 may also modify the RRT3 protocol for adoption by RRT2. Once a protocol is developed for use by RRT2, a Memo to the NRT is to be developed stating the RRT2 Pre-authorization for chemical dispersant usage is no longer valid.

DOI presented on the RRT3 Unanticipated Discovery Plan and Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), both in support of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The Unanticipated Discovery Plan (UDP) sets forth procedures for personnel and the OSC regarding unanticipated discoveries of historic properties under the NHPA. UDP can cover other federal laws (e.g., Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, and the American Indian Religious Freedom Act.

NYSDEC indicated they have long been working on building relationships with tribal nations and can be used as a contact source in instances when we need to communicate with tribal nations. State Historic Preservation Office also has information on locations along rivers and should likewise be consulted during response events.

USCG Sector Eastern Great Lakes stated they hold regular exercises/ training to make connections with tribes, including a booming exercise held July 2025 held with St. Regis Mohawk Nation. DOI added that great connections were made with SHPO and tribes.

- ACTION: RRT2 agreed to establish a subcommittee to compare the NHPA Section 106, compliance information from RRT 3 with the existing Appendix 7 of the RRT 2 RCP, and merge any information needed.

#### Other Action Items

- Add ATSDR 24-hr on-duty contact information into the RRT 2 website.
- Member agencies need to review their roles, capabilities, and support section in the RCP to ensure accuracy.
- All agencies should regularly share any training and exercise events which they are hosting or aware that are open to RRT2 member agencies. EPA will send periodic reminders for this.
- Con-Edison volunteered to present at the next RRT 2 meeting on how they locate dielectric oil spills and what actions they are taking to prevent spills.
- Sector NY volunteered to give a SAIL 250 report at the next meeting (in addition to their normal agency report).
- For US Coast Guard Sector briefs, add the Atlantic Strike Team to the list for reports.
- Next RRT 2 meeting is scheduled for June 3-4, 2026, in New York State, with the Environmental Center on Norrie Point State Park as a targeted venue. Coordinate with NYSDEC to reserve the room.
- Schedule an Executive Steering Committee Meeting sometime before the June meeting.