

- 3-12) Refer to Page 60 of the Application. The Applicant states in the development of the emergency response plan, the Applicant will be coordinating with “existing emergency response department along, and in proximity to, the route to ensure they and any mutual aid parties are informed of the operation risks and equipped to respond in the unlikely event of a release.”
- a) Please describe in detail what that coordination will entail.
 - b) Has the Applicant begun coordinating with existing county emergency response departments? If yes, please identify all departments the Applicant has coordinated with. If no, when does the Applicant intend to begin coordinating with those departments?
 - c) Does the Applicant intend to purchase the necessary emergency response equipment for each county? If yes, please provide a list of equipment that the Applicant intends to purchase for each county.

RESPONSE: See below for response.

- a) The Applicant's Emergency Response Engagement Plan includes the following:
 - Conduct stakeholder and emergency/first responder proctored CO2 training Q1 2023
 - Draft preliminary Emergency Response Plan between NHG and external stakeholders in development Q3 2023
 - Identify and obtain necessary resources to execute the preliminary plan after local/regional plans are compiled Q1 to Q2 2024.
 - The Applicant will set up a process for first responders to submit equipment requests.
 - NAV911 outcall system training
 - Operations personnel and/or 3rd party response team to supplement regional first responders
 - Perform drills to measure the effectiveness of the plan and adjust accordingly prior to placing in service and assets are established (49 CFR 195.402.15)
 - Conduct annual drills upon in-service
- b) Yes, the Applicant has been engaging local county officials and emergency response personnel since Summer of 2022. Most recently, during Q1 2023, NHG conducted emergency/first responder CO2 training. The following is a list of emergency response departments NHG has coordinated with and attended the CO2 training:
 - Brookings County - Director of County Development and Emergency Management
 - City of White and Brookings County Ambulance
 - Brookings County Ambulance

- Lincoln County, Director of EMS
 - Lincoln County Sheriff's Office
 - Lincoln County 911 dispatch center
 - Lincoln County Emergency Management Office
 - City of Hudson Fire Department
 - Worthing Fire Department
 - Tea Fire Department
 - Lennox Area Ambulance
 - Lennox Fire Department
 - Minnehaha County Director of EMS
 - Minnehaha County Sheriff's Office
 - Valley Springs Fire Department
 - Moody County Director of Emergency Management
 - Moody County Sheriff's Office
 - Colman Fire and Rescue Department
 - South Dakota Emergency Management
 - Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe
- c) Developing the list of necessary emergency equipment is a collaborative process between Applicant and the emergency responders. The first step was providing initial CO2 training in January-February 2023 so that all departments had the same awareness of what could happen in the event of a CO2 release. Applicant gathered information to start developing drafts of the emergency response plans. In Summer 2023 NHG will deploy an online tool where EMS departments can communicate equipment they have or feel they need to respond to an emergency of our system. Applicant will assess the responses, continue collaboration, and procure necessary equipment and/or reimburse departments to procure as warranted such that all necessary equipment needs are fulfilled prior to operating the system.