



# NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

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## Northeast Homeland Security Regional Advisory Council Addendum to Bylaws re: Committees

**ARTICLE VI. Section 4 - Committees:** Shall be amended to include the following:

In order to effectively delegate and accomplish the work of NERAC (the Northeast Homeland Security Regional Advisory Council), there shall be established five (5) standing committees and as many working groups as needed.

All Council members shall serve on each of the five standing committees.

The standing committees shall be the following, which may be changed in any way and at any time by an affirmative vote of a majority of the full Council:

- CBRNE/PPE Committee
- Interoperability Committee
- Regional Cache Committee
- Sheltering Committee
- Training and Exercises Committee

Committees shall have decision making authority in regard to projects, issues, and budgets that clearly fall within their purview. In the case of a project or issue that reaches beyond the authority delegated to the committee, the committee shall bring the question before the full Council for a decision.

Working groups shall be established on an as needed basis by an affirmative vote of a majority of the full Council. Working groups shall have decision making authority with regard to Council approved projects and issues related to such projects that clearly fall within their purview. Working groups shall bring before the full Council for a decision any issues related to budgets, the establishment of a new project, or any other issue that reaches beyond the authority delegated to the working group.

Each committee or working group shall consist of all active Council members plus as many non-council members as the Council Chair shall appoint.

Appointed non-council committee or working group members may attend and participate in committee meetings and may make and vote on motions before a committee. In order for a motion to be valid a quorum must be present. A quorum is reached when two (2) Council



members are present. If a committee or working group does not have a quorum present, the committee or working group can request a vote before the full Council for a decision.

Non-council members of the standing committees and working groups shall not have voting rights at full Council meetings. The rules governing the terms of non-council committee members shall be the same as those that govern Council membership as outlined in the most recent, effective version of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's guidance on council by-laws.

### **Definitions of Standing Committees:**

CBRNE/PPE Committee – This committee shall be responsible for the development and implementation of initiatives to improve the Northeast Region's overall capability to respond to CBRNE incidents. NERAC recognizes that effective preparation depends upon adequately equipped and properly trained first responders who have the capability to identify, risk assess, mitigate, and decontaminate in a hazmat material response scenario.

Interoperability Committee – This committee shall be responsible for the development and implementation of a regional communications interoperability plan adopted, approved, and to the extent possible and necessary, funded by the Council. The committee shall be responsible for the procurement of interoperable communications resources and the establishment of user protocols and procedures. This committee also facilitates the removal of non-technical barriers by providing a forum for the discussion of a wide range of communications interoperability issues across disciplines and geographical boundaries.

This committee shall also be responsible for working toward the enhancement of regional intelligence sharing capabilities through the establishment of a regional intelligence sharing node or nodes. The committee shall also be the primary committee responsible for coordinating intelligence and information sharing issues with the Commonwealth.

Regional Cache Committee – This committee shall be responsible for overseeing the cache sites which were established to provide the Northeast Region with readily available resources in times of emergencies. The committee will work with the cache site hosts to ensure that equipment is accessible and available to communities in the Northeast Region. The committee shall also be responsible for deciding which equipment should be procured to which cache site and will oversee the storage, maintenance, and management of cached equipment.

Sheltering Committee – This committee shall be responsible for the overall coordination of evacuation, sheltering, and pandemic influenza preparedness in the Northeast Region with a goal of providing resources, supplies, and planning to enhance the overall evacuation and sheltering preparedness in the Northeast Region.



Training/Exercises Committee – This committee shall be responsible for identifying, planning, and coordinating regional training and exercise opportunities. This shall entail the development of a regional training and exercise strategy that includes the identification of specific courses that will be sponsored by the Council and the establishment of procedures and protocols for reimbursing municipalities in the Northeast Region for allowable costs associated with obtaining such training for personnel. This committee shall also concern itself with certain aspects of regional NIMS compliance.