

SEDGWICK COUNTY
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN
2025-2030



ESF 14 – Cross-Sector Business and Infrastructure

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ESF 14 - Cross-Sector Business and Infrastructure

Coordinating Agency:

Sedgwick County Emergency Management

Primary Agency:

Local Chambers of Commerce

Local Economic/Business Development

Private Sector Organizations and Industry

Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce

Support Agencies:

Adjutant General's Office, Kansas Division of Emergency Management

Wichita Area Builders Association (WABA)

Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO)

Wichita Independent Business Association (WIBA)

I. Purpose and Scope

Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) 14 describes how Sedgwick County will partner with business and industry to coordinate actions that will provide immediate and short-term assistance for the needs of business, industry, and economic response and recovery activities.

Scope

ESF 14 provides an avenue to Sedgwick County for information sharing and coordination, including requests for assistance in situations in which private sector organizations do not have a designated ESF, sector partner, or other mechanisms for coordination. ESF 14 connects the private sector to operational programs and functions, as needed.

There are four broad activities within the scope of ESF 14:

- Provide unique services and resources to enhance response.
- Identify immediate and short-term recovery assistance to business and industry partners.
- Prevent or mitigate cascading failures across sectors.
- Stabilize supply chains and distribution networks

Relationship to the Whole Community

The private sector plays a leading role in designing and executing the coordination functions and other priorities of private-public collaboration under ESF 14. The multi-sector nature of ESF 14 presents unique opportunities for whole community integration.

Local and State Governments

Cross-sector operations under ESF 14 follow the principle that incident response is locally executed, state-managed, and federally supported. Local and state governments typically have close collaborative relationships with critical infrastructure in their respective jurisdictions, such as public and privately operated utilities.

Increasingly, businesses and critical infrastructure sectors essential for maintaining and stabilizing community lifelines are represented at fusion centers and Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) operated by the government, providing situational awareness to homeland security and emergency management officials. These collaborative relationships provide the foundation for coordinating cross-sector operations and enabling readiness through multi-sector planning and exercises that are supported, as appropriate, by federal and state agencies.

At the local and state levels, information sharing and requests for assistance from the private sector are typically reviewed by impacted jurisdictions or within multiagency coordination centers, such as EOCs. Government partners should collaborate with their private sector partners to collect, assess, prioritize, and support private sector requirements consistent with applicable laws and regulations and with ESF 14 staff involvement, as needed. If local and state support assets are inadequate for meeting requests for assistance to stabilize community lifelines, states will forward requests to the federal government, consistent with the National Response Framework (NRF) and other sources of guidance.

Information received is reported to government coordinating agencies, including ESF 14, to disseminate, in coordination with ESF 15, to local and state government stakeholders. This information sharing provides situational awareness to emergency management officials about the impact of disasters on the private sector and critical infrastructure. ESF 14 staff also provide analytical support to local, state, and tribal governments and their private sector partners to identify risks of cascading failures and critical nodes to stabilize before and during incidents.

Private Sector/Non-Governmental Organizations

The private sector includes for-profit and nonprofit organizations, formal and informal structures, commerce, and industries that comprise the national economy and are not part of a government structure. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are a distinct category of organizations within the private sector. They can include voluntary, ethnic, faith-based, veteran, disability, relief agencies, and animal welfare organizations, among others.

A growing number of infrastructure owners and operators are developing plans and coordination mechanisms to provide voluntary, prioritized, cross-sector support. Businesses and utilities (private and public) collaborate with companies that offer supplies and services critical to their emergency operations. They develop plans to help those supply chains function in severe incidents. Many such initiatives also include participation by relevant Sector-Specific Agencies (SSAs) and other government entities. Together, these advances provide rapidly expanding opportunities for coordination within the private sector and offer an essential foundation for private-public coordination under ESF 14.

ESF 14 serves as a point of contact during cross-sector operations for owners and operators that are not already engaged with a sector-specific ESF and minimizes the risk of conflicting government guidance on response priorities. In collaboration with agencies at all levels of government—including SSAs, other ESFs, and regulators—ESF 14 provides businesses, NGOs, and infrastructure owners and operators with an integrated “touchpoint” to:

- Support private sector and cross-sector response operations consistent with the NRF, applicable laws, and other sources of guidance.
- Integrate analysis of requests for state and federal assistance to prevent cascading failures and assess the value of providing such assistance to ensure better-sustained stabilization of community lifelines and National Critical Functions.
- Obtain critical, current information needed to make decisions on employee safety and business continuity (e.g., road closures, debris clearance, infrastructure status, etc.).

II. Policies, References and Authorities

Local

- Sedgwick County Code of Ordinances.

State

- Executive Order 05-03, Use of the National Incident Management System (NIMS);
- § 48-9a01 Kansas Statutes Annotated (KSA), Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC);
- Kansas Emergency Management Act, § 48-920, et seq., Kansas Statutes Annotated (KSA);
- Kansas Response Plan

Federal

- Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act;
- National Response Framework;
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive – 5: Management of Domestic Incident;
- Presidential Policy Directive – 8: National Preparedness;
- Comprehensive Planning Guide (CPG) 101;
- Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

General

ESF 14 is organized consistent the National Response Framework, the National Incident Management System, and the Incident Command System in order to provide incident assessment, planning, procurement, deployment, coordination and support operations to Sedgwick County EOC to provide a timely and appropriate response to an emergency or situation.

In a large event requiring local or State mutual aid assistance, Sedgwick County emergency Management will notify ESF 14 to work with its support agency counterparts to seek, procure, plan, coordinate and direct the use of any required assets.

ESF 14 – Cross Sector and Business Infrastructure consists of four broad activities in relation to the Sedgwick County Emergency Operations Plan. These activities are:

- Provide unique services and resources to enhance response.
- Identify immediate and short-term recovery assistance to business and industry partners.
- Prevent or mitigate cascading failures across sectors.
- Stabilize supply chains and distribution networks

Cross-Sector Business and Infrastructure Coordination.

Cross-sector business and infrastructure efforts will be directed and controlled through a centralized command structure, typically within the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The EOC serves as the nerve center for coordinating response and recovery activities, with designated personnel responsible for overseeing ESF #14 operations and liaising with relevant stakeholders.

State Liaison

Sedgwick County Emergency Management will be responsible for liaison roles with state and adjacent county cross-sector business and infrastructure officials. The EOC will serve as the primary point of contact for facilitating communication, sharing information, and coordinating activities with business and infrastructure stakeholders across jurisdictions.

Cross-Sector Business and Infrastructure Liaisons

When needed Sedgwick County Emergency Management will designate liaisons between the EOC and business and infrastructure partners. These liaisons will be responsible for managing the collection, processing, and disseminating of information from the EOC to the businesses and whole community.

Alerts and Notifications

ESF 14 will be activated or placed on standby upon notification by the Sedgwick County Emergency Operations Center. The representatives or designees of the coordinating agency will manage the emergency activities of ESF 14. If additional support is required, the ESF 14 coordinating and primary agencies may jointly manage ESF 14 activities.

Upon instructions to activate or placement of ESF 14 on standby, Sedgwick County Emergency Management will implement procedures to notify all ESF 14 planning team members and, if necessary, mobilize all personnel, facilities, and physical resources likely to be needed, based on the emergency circumstance.

Private Sector Coordination and Integration

Coordination and private sector organizations, both for-profit and nonprofit, engaged in incident response and recovery activities are facilitated through established liaison mechanisms and

public-private partnerships. This involves establishing points of contact, conducting outreach and engagement efforts, and leveraging existing networks and communication channels to share information, resources, and coordinate response efforts.

The incident command liaison will be coordinating with the private sector and nonprofits on the scene. The ESF 14 coordinator in the EOC will work directly with the IC Liaison and coordinate with the ESF 6 coordinator in the EOC.

Situational Awareness

The Emergency Management Department or the EOC will create and distribute Situational Reports (SitReps) to EOC partners. Private sector will obtain their situational awareness through direct communication, social media or other means of communication directed by the ESF 14 coordinator and the Joint Information Center.

Coordination with Business, Industry, and Critical Infrastructure

Coordinating with business, industry, and critical infrastructure owners and operators to determine resource requirements and address supply chain disruptions during emergencies is essential for maintaining operational continuity and effective resource management. Some steps to achieving resource awareness and coordination with these organizations and agencies includes:

- Establishing collaborative relationships
- Conducting joint risk assessments
- Identifying resource requirements
- Developing resource management plans
- Coordinating supply chain management
- Addressing supply chain disruptions
- Enhancing information sharing
- Fostering public-private partnerships
- Leveraging technology and innovation
- Completing post event analysis and continuity improvement
- Maintaining regular engagement

Private Sector Capabilities and Resources

The Sedgwick County Finance Department maintains a list of emergency vendors for commonly needed capabilities and resources. In the event that these vendors are inadequate or unavailable, ESF 14 agencies will work through business and infrastructure liaisons to identify alternate sources.

Requests for Information and Assistance

ESF 14 may receive a request for information or assistance from a for-profit or non-profit private sector stakeholder or critical infrastructure owner or operator. These requests will be vetted as appropriate through the Incident Command or the Joint Information Center to determine if the request is valid and compatible with the incident objectives. All requests will be tracked in accordance with the Sedgwick County EOC Standard Operating Procedures.