

NESEC NEWS

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Directors Appointed for NYSOEM and MEMA



Andrew Feeney, Director NYSOEM PHOTO: NYSOEM

ALBANY, NY - Governor David Paterson recently announced the appointment of Andrew Feeney as Director of the New York State Office of Emergency Management (NYSOEM). Feeney replaces the former Director John R. Gibb who was appointed by the Governor as Acting Commissioner of the newly-created Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES).

As Director of NYSOEM, Feeney oversees and directs New York State's emergency management programs and policies. He has extensive knowledge and experience in emergency response, local emergency preparedness, emergency planning and emergency worker training.

Prior to his appointment as Director of NYSOEM in July 2010, Mr. Feeney served as First Deputy Director (continued on page 3)



Kurt Schwartz, Acting Director MEMA PHOTO: MEMA

BOSTON, MA - Public Safety Secretary Heffernan recently appointed Undersecretary Kurt Schwartz as Acting Director of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA).

Schwartz assumed responsibility for the management of MEMA when Director Boyce was appointed to the position of FEMA Region I Administrator.

As Undersecretary, Schwartz has been responsible for providing strategic leadership to the MEMA, Massachusetts State Police, Department of Fire Services, Office of Grants and Research, Municipal Police Training Committee, and Department of Public Safety. He also serves as the Governor's Homeland Security Advisor.

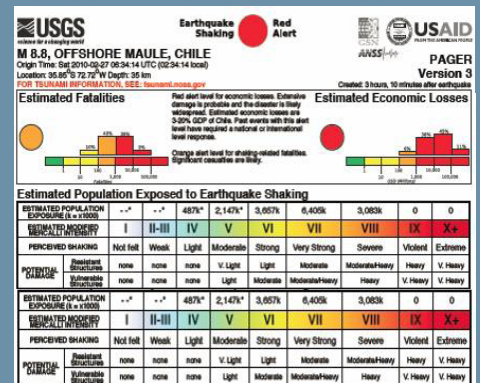
(continued on page 3)

Loss & Casualty Estimates Added to USGS Earthquake Alerts

RESTON, VA - Estimated economic loss and casualty information will now be included in earthquake alerts sent out by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) following significant earthquakes around the world. These earthquake alerts are widely recognized and used by emergency responders, government and aid officials, and the public to understand the scope of the potential disaster and to develop the

best response.

The USGS automated system, PAGER (Prompt Assessment of Global Earthquakes for Response), rapidly assesses earthquake impacts by estimating the shaking distribution, the number of people and settlements exposed to severe shaking, and the range of possible fatalities and economic losses. The estimated losses trigger the appropriate color-coded alert, which determines levels of response: no response needed (continued on page 2)



Example PAGER report detailing loss and casualty estimates for earthquake event USGS PHOTO



Workers begin to clean up damage to a church in Gracefield, Quebec, Canada following 5.0 earthquake. AP PHOTO

Canadian Earthquake Felt Throughout Northeast

QUEBEC, CA - On June 23, 2010, at about 1:42 EST a magnitude 5.0 earthquake occurred in Central Canada and lasted about 30 seconds. The epicenter was situated in the Buckingham, Quebec area, approximately 35 mi north of the Capital City of Ottawa. The Canadian Geological Survey declared this earthquake as being the most powerful in 65 years. It was felt across Ontario and Quebec as well as in most of New England and the Northeastern US. In addition, places as far as Chicago, Baltimore, Charleston, Traverse City, Michigan, and Cincinnati, Ohio reported feeling tremors.

Although a 5.0 magnitude quake is considered to be moderate, the earthquake's depth estimates of which vary between 10 -12 miles, meant that its effects were more widely felt over a very large area.

The processes causing the earthquakes in the zone are not well understood. Tremors are not linked to particular seismogenic structures, nor are the sources of stress definitively identified. The initial focal mechanism of the 2010 earthquake suggests reverse faulting on a fault trending southeast-northwest. However, the size and depth of this earthquake make it uncertain whether the causative fault can be identified.

Earthquakes of magnitude 4.5 or greater occur at a rate of a few per decade. Some studies suggest, however, that larger earthquakes of up to magnitude 7 may have occurred historically in the region.

Office buildings were evacuated in Ottawa and as far away as Boston and Cambridge, MA in response to the quake. Social media sites like Facebook and Twitter were swamped by posts referring to the earthquake.

Loss & Casualty Estimates Added to Earthquake Alerts

(continued from page 2)

(green); local or regional (yellow), national (orange) or international (red).

PAGER results are generally available within 30 minutes of a significant earthquake and can be found at <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/pager/>

Users who wish to receive customizable magnitude- and location-based earthquake alerts can sign up for the USGS Earthquake Notification Service



FEMA

FEMA Publishes Public-Private Partnership Resources

WASHINGTON, DC - As part of its ongoing efforts to cultivate public-private partnerships at the state and local level, the US Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently launched [new web resources](#) for state and local officials and their private sector partners to provide them with resources and the opportunity to share practices and ideas. The aim is to build a resource that will benefit emergency management professionals and their constituents in communities nationwide.

The new [Public-Private Partnerships page](#) is just the latest of FEMA's many initiatives to engage the private sector in the nation's preparedness, response, and recovery. The page provides templates and models of successful programs around the country. These partnerships include regional, state and city examples.

"Public-private partnerships are an important tool in increasing preparedness and keeping communities safe," said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. "No matter how much those of us in government do to prepare, we will only be successful if we engage the private sector as part of the team. By utilizing their established supply networks and services, we can get information and supplies to people quickly and effectively before, during, and after a disaster."

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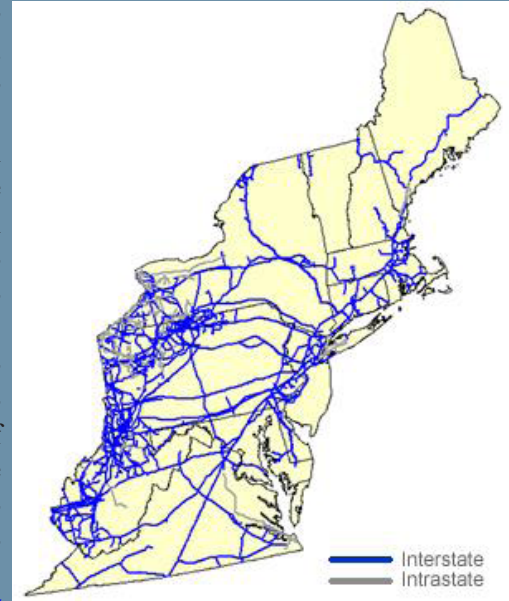
Concerns Over Gas Pipeline Safety

WASHINGTON, DC - The ruptured natural-gas pipeline that recently exploded in the San Francisco suburb of San Bruno killed 4, injured 52 and destroyed 58 homes. This tragic event has raised concerns as to whether a similar explosion could occur elsewhere in the US.

According to the US Department of Energy, 20 interstate natural gas pipeline systems operate within the Northeast (See Map). These interstate pipelines deliver natural gas to several intrastate natural gas pipelines and at least 50 local distribution companies in the region. In addition, they also serve large industrial concerns and, increasingly, natural gas fired electric power generation facilities.

The natural gas pipeline and local distribution companies serving the Northeast have access to supplies from several major domestic natural gas producing areas and from Canada. Almost all of the interstate natural gas pipelines entering or operating within the Northeast Region terminate there as well. The largest of these natural gas pipelines is the Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company system, which extends from South Texas to the New York City area.

For additional information go to: http://www.eia.doe.gov/pub/oil_gas/natural_gas/analysis_publications/ngpipeline/northeast.html



Major natural gas pipelines in the Northeast Region
PHOTO CREDIT: USDOE-EIA

Feeney Appointed

(continued from page 1)

of the NYSEMO, managing State and federal activities for more than 22 Presidentially declared disasters. He oversaw State response activities and managed the State/federal Disaster Field Office for the September 11, 2001 WTC attack, authorizing more than \$200 million in expenditures for disaster recovery programs.

A 26-year career public servant in New York State government, Mr. Feeney has also held positions in public information and policy analysis. Mr. Feeney holds a Bachelor's Degree from Fordham University. He resides with his wife and three children in Voorheesville, NY.

Please join us welcoming Andrew to the NESEC Board of Directors.

Schwartz Appointed

(continued from page 2)

Prior to his appointment to the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Schwartz served for 8 years in the Office of the Attorney General as an Assistant AG.

The Boston College Law School graduate has also served for 12 years as an Assistant District Attorney in the Middlesex County District Attorney's Office, including 8 years as Chief of the Special Investigations Unit crime.

Undersecretary Schwartz has also worked as a full-time police officer in Massachusetts, and as an emergency medical technician. All of his prior experience, education and leadership skills will serve MEMA well as Acting Director of the agency.

Please join us welcoming Kurt to MEMA and the NESEC Board of Directors



Using the HAZUS MH software, NESEC can provide earthquake, hurricanes and flood loss estimates
PHOTO CREDIT: FEMA

GIS/HAZUS Assistance for State & Local Governments

WAKEFIELD, MA - Being able to estimate the social and economic and effects of natural disasters is a key component of hazard mitigation and planning for your community. The Northeast States Emergency Consortium (NESEC) can do help you do just that by providing your town, city, county or state with an easy-to-understand damage report and HAZUS-MH disaster simulation covering the impacts of any earthquake, hurricane or flood in your district. The reports include dollar damage estimates, shelter requirements, debris estimates, and much more. To request your free disaster simulation reports, simply visit <http://www.nesec.org/resources/> and fill out the HAZUS-GIS Assistance Request Form. Forms can then be directed to your state Director of Emergency Management for signature approval.

Donate \$15 and Receive a FREE NOAA Tone Alert Weather Radio

If you donate \$15 to NESEC we will send you a FREE NOAA HH50 Radio (MSRP \$29.99) to keep you and your family informed in the event of an emergency. Whether traveling, boating, hiking or working outdoors, this portable tone alert weather radio monitors National Weather Service and Emergency Alert System broadcasts so that you can stay safe through dangers such as severe thunderstorms, winter storms, hurricanes, flash flooding and tornadoes. Package includes: One (1) NOAA HH50 Radio, belt clip, hand strap, and owner's manual. Radio runs on 3 AAA batteries (not included).



You can make your donation and receive your FREE gift using PayPal or credit card at: www.nesec.org/news/weatherradio.cfm You can also mail a check or money order, payable to "NESEC", to:

The Northeast States Emergency Consortium
1 West Water Street, Suite 205
Wakefield, MA 01880

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