



**News Release
Media Contact:**

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HAMMER Training Center Supports Hurricane Sandy Emergency Response

RICHLAND, Wash., -- Staff from the Department of Energy's HAMMER Training Center played a pivotal part in the recovery efforts after the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy, which hit the east coast of the United States last month.

To begin the task of recovering from the monumental damage done by Sandy, responders from the Department of Energy's (DOE) Pacific Northwest Site Office and HAMMER were deployed to New Jersey, New York and FEMA Headquarters in Washington D.C. to help coordinate time-critical tasks such as restoring power and improving the availability of fuel and gasoline in the affected areas.

Brad Jackson of HAMMER served in both New York and New Jersey, working long hours to deal with both fuel shortages and temporary power issues in critical locations.

While the long hours and the demands of restoring power for millions of hurricane victims was challenging, Jackson said he thrived off of the pressure. "The camaraderie and the sense that you are really helping people, I think, drove us all. In the end, I wouldn't trade this chance to help other Americans for anything. It was a very fulfilling experience."

In total, HAMMER deployed eight local responders, who logged more than 800 hours in support of the event.

Mission Support Alliance, the Hanford Site's infrastructure and site services provider, manages HAMMER for the DOE. HAMMER provides specialized training for the Hanford workforce, who are cleaning up the site after years of nuclear weapons material production. In addition, the role HAMMER plays for the Hanford Site supports other missions, such as for the Department of Energy's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (DOE-OE).

In its capacity serving DOE-OE, HAMMER provides training, staffing and field coordination for emergency response positions required to execute one of the DOE-OE's primary functions – coordinated energy infrastructure response during emergencies.

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The DOE-OE responders come from DOE offices across the country and are activated at the request of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). In total, about 75 responders are available at any time for emergency deployment.

Once on-scene, the DOE-OE responders act as liaisons to between localities, governments, repair crews and power distribution outlets. Teams also compile situational reports to give updates on the number of customers affected by power outages, emergency response actions, fuel supply data and resources available for restoring power. FEMA reimburses the DOE for this service, so no Hanford cleanup funds are expended.

HAMMER has been supporting the DOE-OE since 2003. Since then, the DOE-OE has responded to more than 40 weather-related emergencies, supported the Olympics, the Super Bowl, the Presidential Inauguration, and has participated in nationwide emergency preparedness exercises for events such as a flu pandemic.

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**Note: Photos and/or follow-up interviews available upon request*

About MSA

Mission Support Alliance, team of [Lockheed Martin](#), [Jacobs Engineering](#) and [WSI](#), has responsibility for the Mission Support Contract at the Hanford Site. MSA provides a number of cross-cutting services to the DOE and other contractors at the Hanford Site to facilitate cleanup activities. MSA is responsible for areas such as site infrastructure, utilities, transportation, environmental integration, safety, emergency services and training, strategy and external affairs, information management and portfolio management. MSA: Partnering to move the mission forward. <http://msa.hanford.gov/msa>

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