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APPENDIX R
INTENTIONAL DESTRUCTIVE ACTS

The purpose of this appendix is to evaluate the human health impacts of intentional destructive acts (IDAs) along the Northern Border. The term “IDA” is used to include intentional malevolent acts, intentional malicious acts, and acts of terrorism.

1 INTRODUCTION

2 In accordance with recent U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) National Environmental Policy Act
3 (NEPA) guidance (DOE 2006), this appendix was developed to explicitly consider the potential
4 impacts of intentional destructive acts (IDAs) along the U.S.-Canada border. A wide range of
5 IDA scenarios — from the release of radiological or toxic chemical materials to the use of
6 weaponry — can be postulated for the Northern Border. Each scenario involves an action by
7 terrorists that affects buildings, roads, human health and safety, and wildlife along the Northern
8 Border.

9 The amount of radiological or chemical material available for dispersal, the means of dispersing
10 it to the environment, and the type of weaponry control the human-health impacts of an IDA.
11 Other factors that affect the magnitude of these impacts include population density, distance to
12 the population, and meteorology.

13 As with all American infrastructure, border-crossing stations and other locations along the border
14 are potential targets of terrorist attacks or sabotage. If a fire, explosion, or chemical release
15 occurs from a terrorist attack, such events could cause injury or death of workers. The risk to
16 workers or the public from accidental or intentional actions by outside parties at border-crossing
17 stations is low because public access is controlled by a fence and sites are monitored. It is
18 “reasonably foreseeable,” however, that terrorists will procure or assemble a weapon of mass
19 destruction and attempt to bring it into the United States for use against a high-profile target.

20 REASONABLY FORESEEABLE INTENTIONAL DESTRUCTIVE ACTS

21 Reasonably foreseeable IDAs include the following:

22 FIRES CAUSED BY TERRORISTS OR VEHICULAR ACCIDENTS DURING 23 INTERDICTIONS

24 Potential targets include ports of entry (POEs) and traffic checkpoints with possible damage to
25 existing infrastructure, escaped fires leading to loss of vegetation, water, and air quality
26 degradation, and injury to or fatality of wildlife. Effects on human health and safety due to fires
27 caused by terrorists or vehicular accidents during interdictions are:

- 28 • Loss of human life; and
- 29 • Personal injury or illness (respiratory illness, burns, etc.).

1 **BOMB EXPLOSIONS**

2 Potential targets include POEs, large population centers, urban areas, large public venues,
3 highways, etc. Potential results include damage to existing infrastructure, loss of vegetation,
4 water and air quality degradation, injury to or fatality of wildlife, traffic congestion or disruption,
5 and socioeconomic impacts. Effects on human health and safety from bomb explosions are:

- 6 • Loss of human life;
- 7 • Personal injury or illness (loss of hearing, burns, etc.); and
- 8 • Falling debris causing injury or death.

9 **RELEASE OF AIRBORNE PATHOGENS**

10 Potential targets include urban areas, large public venues, and centers of government. Potential
11 results include water and air quality contamination along with the illness and fatality of wildlife.
12 Effects on human health and safety from the release of airborne pathogens are:

- 13 • Loss of human life; and
- 14 • Personal illness.

15 **USE OF WEAPONRY (SHOOTINGS, AIRCRAFT CRASH, ETC.)**

16 Potential targets include POEs and Border Patrol stations, urban areas, large public venues, and
17 centers of government. Potential results include damage to existing infrastructure, water and air
18 quality degradation, injury or fatality of wildlife, traffic congestion or disruption, socioeconomic
19 impacts. Effects on human health and safety from use of weaponry are:

- 20 • Loss of human life; and
- 21 • Personal injury.

22 **CONTAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLY**

23 Potential targets include large population centers and urban areas. Potential results are water
24 quality contamination, vegetation loss, illness and fatality of wildlife, and public utility
25 disruption. Effects on human health and safety from contamination of the water supply are:

- 26 • Loss of human life; and
- 27 • Personal injury.

28 **INTENTIONAL DESTRUCTIVE ACTS EMERGENCY PLANNING, RESPONSE, AND**
29 **SECURITY**

30 In the aftermath of the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Customs and Border Protection
31 (CBP) continues to consider measures that minimize the risk and consequences of a terrorist
32 attack. All CBP facilities, existing and proposed, offer unique features from a safeguards
33 perspective: restricted access afforded by Federal land ownership, restricted airspace above the
34 site, and access to a highly effective rapid-response security force. Customs will continue to
35 identify safeguards, security measures, and design features that will further protect the
36 population and CBP facilities from terrorist attack and other forms of sabotage.

1 Customs and Border Protection’s existing preventive and mitigative measures (or procedural
2 controls) against accidents or IDAs include:

- 3 • Use of manpower: intelligence gathering (CBP’s own and partnerships); ground, air, and
4 marine patrols; interdiction of cross-border violators and other suspects; canine teams;
5 vehicle inspections; Forward Operating Bases; set-up of tactical checkpoints; and
6 weapons and interdiction training for agents.
- 7 • Use of technology: personal radiation detectors and radiation isotope identification
8 devices; remote video surveillance system and mobile surveillance system; underground
9 sensors; Vehicle Cargo Inspection System (VACIS®); camera and radio systems;
10 defensive weaponry for agents and guards; Integrated Automated Fingerprint
11 Identification System; Advanced Passenger Information System; and chemical agent and
12 radiological sensors.
- 13 • Use of infrastructure: fencing/barriers; and border-crossing stations.
- 14 • Other: proper disposal of confiscated dangerous materials; agricultural inspections;
15 coordination with emergency responders (firefighters, EMS, law enforcement,
16 construction workers, federal and state agencies, etc.); proper use of all methods and
17 equipment; completion of all required training; maintenance of all technology and
18 weaponry; and personal protective equipment

19 A site-specific emergency response plan would be developed to address any local incidents. The
20 plan would be coordinated with the local emergency response agencies and include training for
21 first responders. Response measures to minimize risks and quickly contain any accidental
22 release would also greatly reduce potential economic losses.