

# **Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan**

## **State of Louisiana**



*December 3, 2007*

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## **Executive Overview**

The State Communications Interoperability Plan stems from a significant commitment of the public safety community in the state of Louisiana. The plan represents a locally driven strategy where the experience and needs of both local and state first responders were drawn on to formulate the appropriate initiatives for improving emergency response.

The State of Louisiana Communications Interoperability Plan envisions infrastructure, governance, standard operating procedures, technology, training and exercises to support a statewide system accessible to all state and local first responders, with capacity and capability to transmit emergency communications across the spectrum from daily usage to a surge during an unknown catastrophic event. A robust 700/800 MHz P25 communications system, referred to as the P25 System, which is serving the southern parishes, is advancing the goal of statewide interoperability. Emerging technologies, and particularly IP-based solutions, will support interoperability for first responders located in parishes north of the current coverage, as the P25 System infrastructure continues expansion. Moving the State's legacy Smart Zone system into rural areas in the northern part of the state is another short term solution to statewide interoperability, one which will require detailed planning and implementation.

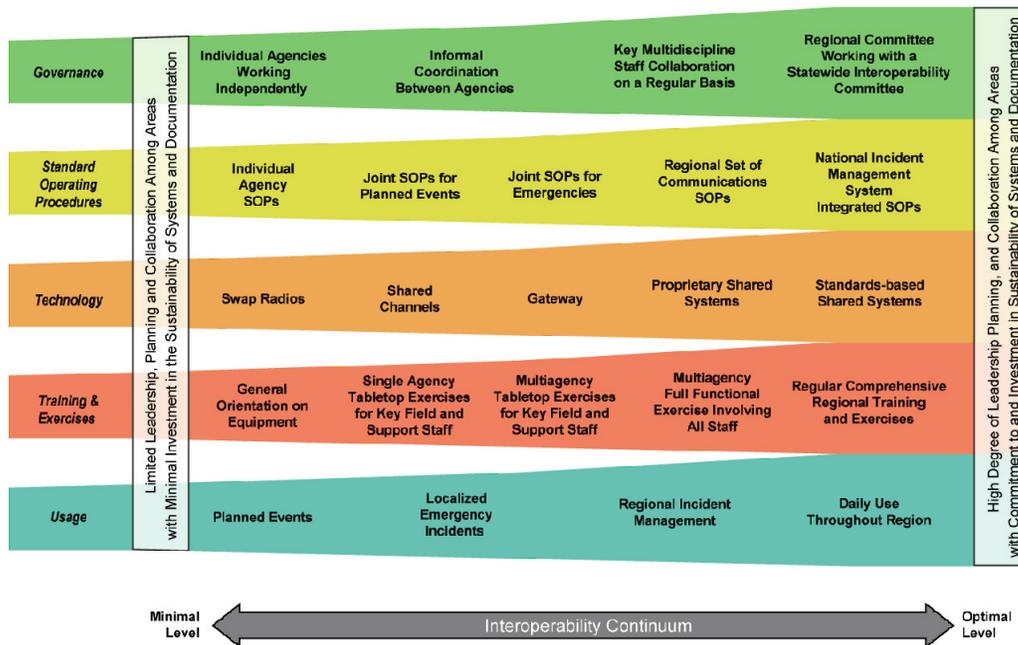
Communications redundancy is provided through the legacy system, satellite phones, internet, traditional telephone lines, and ham radio. The State, through the Louisiana National Guard, Louisiana State Police, Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness maintains multiple capabilities for rapid restoration of communications destroyed during a disaster. In light of the vulnerability of the Gulf Coast states to hurricanes and other natural disasters which require a regional response for evacuation and sheltering, interoperable communications, including exercises and training is being addressed. Meetings with Mississippi and FEMA have been held resulting in establishing a memorandum of understanding and identifying six tower sites located in Mississippi to be networked to the Louisiana prime site and common talk groups to be used by all agencies.

Payment for all maintenance fees with state general funds encourages usage of the statewide system by local first responders. A dramatic increase in users is occurring as local first responders now have a dedicated funding source from the State for annual maintenance on the P25 System infrastructure. Encouraged by an ever increasing positive response at the local level for a statewide system accessible to all local and state first responders, the State of Louisiana will prioritize available funding and vigorously pursue completion of the P25 System.

## Louisiana Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan

The State’s plan is purposely flexible, to meet the challenges of a dedicated funding source, development of a standard operating procedure, on-going evaluation of system capacity and emerging technologies, and public information to increase local buy-in and increased usage. In addition, this plan is integrated with the State’s Homeland Security Strategy, specifically Goal 1, which calls for establishing an interoperable communications environment for all the State’s first responders. Finally, the outlying goals established by this document are fully nested with the State’s Homeland Security Strategy and incorporate the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum to ensure continuity and integration with the direction established by the federal government.

Louisiana recognizes that a number of critical elements exist for the successful implementation of its strategy. The full spectrum of elements, activities, and steps needed to achieve interoperability is illustrated by the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum, shown below. These elements include frequency of use, governance, standard operating procedures, technology, and training and exercises.



### SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum

Progression along the Interoperability Continuum is contingent on the following key drivers:

- Leadership commitment
- Fostering collaboration across disciplines (EMS, Fire, Law Enforcement, and all public safety agencies) through leadership support

- Using interoperability solutions on a regular basis
- Coordinating across all elements (Frequency of Use, Governance, Standard Operating Procedures, Technology, and Training/Exercises)
- Progressing along all the elements of the continuum in parallel

The end state of the implementation of this strategy is Louisiana will have progressed along this continuum and have achieved a working environment where first responders can operate seamlessly, across jurisdictions and disciplines, on a statewide communications system.

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# 1 Introduction

Communications interoperability refers to the ability of emergency service agencies to communicate across disciplines and jurisdictions via wireless networks to exchange real time voice and data information. At the most basic level, interoperability allows two or more parties to exchange information directly. Initial widespread attention was given to communications interoperability after the terrorist attacks in 2001. However, the importance of interoperable communications was reinforced during disaster mitigation efforts following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina severely hampered the ability of emergency responders operating on the state system to communicate with other emergency services personnel. In addition, communications systems maintained by local governments also suffered severe and debilitating damage which further restricted communications between emergency responders.

Moreover, there are varieties of interoperability issues that require upgrade or replacement of key systems, and a review and rewrite of communications plans and procedures. These include:

- Incompatible and aging communications equipment and infrastructure
- Limited and fragmented funding to support communications systems replacement or upgrades
- Limited and fragmented communications system planning
- Lack of or inadequate inter-agency coordination and cooperation
- Inadequate coverage or reliability
- Limited and fragmented radio spectrum availability

The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* and the *Louisiana Homeland Security Strategy* identify Emergency Preparedness and Response as a critical mission area. A major initiative in both strategies is to “enable seamless communication among all responders” and improve “information sharing and systems.” In an effort to improve public safety communications in Louisiana both during a crisis and on a daily basis, the Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee (SIEC), composed of representatives from all homeland security regions in Louisiana, key state agencies, and all first responder disciplines, in cooperation with, and with input from, local and tribal authorities and key non-governmental organizations, developed the Louisiana Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan.

The SIEC was established by Executive Order KBB 2006-17 of Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, and its charter was modified by Executive Order KBB 2006-24. See Appendices C and D for copies of both Executive Orders.

This document outlines a clear mission and specific goals to achieve state-wide public safety communications and interoperability. It identifies critical issues and models the work before the SIEC. This plan serves as a detailed roadmap that guides the Committee's achievement of the mandates set forth in Executive Order KBB 06-17. These mandates include, but are not limited to:

A. Design, construct, administer, and maintain a statewide shared communication system with capacity to transport voice, data, and imagery within the system;

B. Develop and approve system design, system testing, and implementation plan;

C. Establish policies and secure funds for the system operation, administration, and maintenance;

D. Establish policies for acquisition, allocation, and management of system resources and future use of the voice, data, and imagery capabilities;

E. Establish policies for system admission and use of the voice, data, and imagery capabilities; and

F. Enter into legal contracts consistent with the purposes of this Order.

## **2 Background**

In February 2006 the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness hosted a three-day workshop in Alexandria, Louisiana. Approximately 120 stakeholders from various first responder agencies such as Law Enforcement, Fire Services, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Management, HAZMAT, Public Health and Public Communications, along with representatives of emergency support groups such as the Department of Health and Hospitals and the Department of Transportation, converged to review the State's emergency response programs and capabilities. Appendix A provides a list of the participants in this workshop. Through this capability review process the State identified eleven initiatives that needed to be addressed to align its emergency response program with the goals and objectives identified in the State's Homeland Security Strategy. The number one initiative was the establishment of interoperable communications. This initiative helped fuel the development of a statewide plan for the construction and implementation of the State of Louisiana 700/800 MHz P25 communications system, referred to as the P25 System.

With interoperable communications as the number one goal of the state, Governor Kathleen Blanco signed Executive Order KBB 2006-17, establishing the Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee (SIEC). This governance body has been an essential element in Louisiana's plan to build a statewide communications system. In December 2006, the Louisiana Legislature gave their full support for communications interoperability and approved to create and establish the Louisiana Interoperability Communications Fund within the Louisiana Treasury. All monies in this fund shall be used to solely establish, design, develop, acquire, construct, administer, operate, and maintain an interoperable communications system within the state. The Legislature has appropriated approximately \$24 million combined for FY 2006, FY2007, and FY 2008 for the build-out of the P25 System. Detailed funding of the P25 System is outlined in Section 7, Funding.

Prior to legislative funding of a statewide plan, Louisiana officials partnered with UASI Regions 1 and 2 and met with FEMA in an effort to coordinate the emergency implementation of a P25 communications network. In response to requests by Louisiana officials, FEMA issued a purchase order to Motorola for \$15.9 million to repair and augment the current infrastructure in the Hurricane Katrina affected area. This included the construction and repair of 19 - 700 MHz communications tower sites in southeast Louisiana. This momentum has continued with legislative funding, U.S. Department of Homeland Security funding, and the availability of U.S. Department of Commerce funds (PSIC grants).

The make up of the SIEC is designed to gather the input from key local, state and federal stakeholders. Executive Order KBB 2006-24 mandates that the SIEC shall be composed of the following members:

- 1) The commissioner of the Division of Administration, or the commissioner's designee;
- 2) The director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, or the director's designee;
- 3) The adjutant general of the Louisiana National Guard, or the adjutant general's designee;
- 4) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Corrections Services, or the secretary's designee;
- 5) The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development, or the secretary's designee;
- 6) The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, or the secretary's designee;
- 7) The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, or the secretary's designee;
- 8) The chief information officer, or the chief of information officer's designee;
- 9) The deputy secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Public Safety Services, or the deputy secretary's designee;
- 10) The executive secretary of the Louisiana Public Service Commission or the executive secretary's designee;
- 11) The president of the Louisiana Sheriff's Association, or the president's designee;
- 12) The president of the Police Chiefs Association, or the president's designee;
- 13) The president of the Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association, or the president's designee;
- 14) The chair of the Regional Parish Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Directors Committee, or the chair's designee;

15) The chair of the Louisiana House of Representatives Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, or the chair's designee;

16) The chair of the Louisiana State Senate Judiciary B Committee; or the chair's designee;

17) The chair of the Louisiana House of Representatives Special Committee on Louisiana Homeland Security, or the chair's designee;

18) The chair of the Louisiana State Senate Select Committee on Homeland Security, or the chair's designee;

19) One (1) representative of the Louisiana Broadband Advisory Council, selected from a list of three (3) nominees submitted by the Louisiana Broadband Advisory Council;

20) One (1) representative from each of the nine regional interoperable communications working groups.

To ensure that local stakeholders are adequately represented on the SIEC by its regional interoperable working group, Executive Order KBB 2006-17 required that it shall be composed of the following members:

1) The director of each Office of Emergency Preparedness Parish Office, or the director's designee;

2) The sheriff of each parish throughout the state of Louisiana, or the sheriff's designee;

3) One (1) chief of police representing each parish of the state of Louisiana selected by the chiefs of police within each parish;

4) One (1) fire chief representing each parish of the state of Louisiana selected by the fire chiefs with each municipality within each parish;

5) One (1) emergency medical services director selected by the Emergency Medical Services Directors within each parish;

6) One (1) state police troop commander, or troop commander's designee.

Appendix B provides a complete list of SIEC members. Additional stakeholders in the development of the statewide plan include the U.S. Coast Guard, the FBI, FEMA and the Red Cross.

With the leadership of the SIEC and the support of the Louisiana Legislature, Louisiana has made significant accomplishments toward its interoperability initiative, including the following:

- Statewide asset inventory survey
- Louisiana House Bill 57 to establish funding mechanism
- Funding for IP-based solutions, portable radios, mobile units and additional towers
- Outreach Program to regional interoperable communications working groups
- Implementation of the P25 System in southern Louisiana
- Examining statewide IP-based solution
- SIEC web site
- Requests from local entities to participate in the statewide system

## 2.1 State Overview

The State of Louisiana is located in the southern region of the United States. Louisiana is bordered on the north by Arkansas, on the west by Texas, on the east by Mississippi, and on the south by the Gulf of Mexico. The total area of Louisiana is 51,843 square miles, making it the 31<sup>st</sup> largest of the 50 states. Of the total area, the land area is 43,566 square miles, which includes the Kisatchie National Forest that spans across seven parishes. The remaining 8,277 square miles is water area, most notably Lake Pontchartrain, which covers 604 square miles. Louisiana measures approximately 380 miles (612 kilometers) long and 130 miles (209 kilometers) wide.

The State's 11 tribal governments, four of which are federally recognized, are summarized in the two tables below:

<b>Federally Recognized Tribes in Louisiana</b>			
<b><u>Tribal Name</u></b>	<b><u>Parish</u></b>	<b><u>City</u></b>	<b><u>Website</u></b>
<b>Chitimacha Tribe-1925</b>	St. Mary	Charenton	<a href="http://www.chitimacha.com">www.chitimacha.com</a>
<b>Coushatta Tribe-1971</b>	Jefferson-Davis	Elton	<a href="http://www.coushatta.org">http://www.coushatta.org</a>
<b>Jena Band of Choctaws-1995</b>	LaSalle	Jena	<a href="http://www.jenachoctaw.org">www.jenachoctaw.org</a>
<b>Tunica/Biloxi Tribe-1981</b>	Avoyelles	Marksville	<a href="http://www.tunica.org">www.tunica.org</a>

<b>Louisiana State Recognized Tribes</b>			
<b><u>Tribal Name</u></b>	<b><u>Parish</u></b>	<b><u>City</u></b>	<b><u>Website</u></b>
<b>Adai Caddo Tribe – 1993</b>	Natchitoches	Robeline	<a href="http://www.adaiindiannation.com">www.adaiindiannation.com</a>
<b>Biloxi-Chitimacha Confederation of Muskogee – 2005</b>	Saint Mary	Zachary	<a href="http://www.biloxi-chitimacha.com">www.biloxi-chitimacha.com</a>
<b>Choctaw – Apache Community of Ebarb – 1978</b>	Sabine	Zwolle	<a href="http://www.choctaw-apache.org">www.choctaw-apache.org</a>
<b>Clifton Choctaw Tribe – 1978</b>	Rapides	Gardner	
<b>Four Winds Tribe – 1997</b>	Vernon	Merryville	<a href="http://www.fourwindstribelcc.com">www.fourwindstribelcc.com</a>
<b>Point-Au-Chien Tribe – 2004</b>	Terrebonne	Montegut	<a href="http://pactribe.tripod.com">http://pactribe.tripod.com</a>
<b>United Houma Nation – 1972</b>	Lafourche	Golden Meadow	<a href="http://www.unitedhoumanation.org">www.unitedhoumanation.org</a>

The tribes are sovereign governments with varying degrees of autonomy over reservation lands based upon treaties and subsequent agreements between the tribal governments, local communities and the State. The Indian Affairs Council of the State of Louisiana serves as the official liaison of the Indian Tribes and the State.

### **Topography**

The highest point in Louisiana is Driskill Mountain at 535 feet (163 meters) above sea level. The lowest point in Louisiana is located in New Orleans at eight feet (2.4 meters) below sea level. The mean elevation of the state is only 100 feet (30.5 meters) above sea level. The surface of the state may properly be divided into two parts, the uplands, and the alluvial, coast and swamp regions. The alluvial regions, including the low swamps and coast lands, cover an area of about 20,000 square miles (52,000 km<sup>2</sup>); they lie principally along the Mississippi River, which traverses the state from north to south for a distance of about 600 miles (1,000 km) and ultimately emptying into the Gulf of Mexico, the Red River, the Ouachita River and its branches, and other minor

streams. The breadth of the alluvial region along the Mississippi is from 10 to 60 miles (15 to 100 km), and along the other streams it averages about 10 miles (15 km). The higher lands and contiguous hill lands of the north and northwestern part of the state have an area of more than 25,000 square miles (65,000 km<sup>2</sup>), and consist of prairie and woodlands.

## **Climate**

Louisiana has a relatively constant semitropical climate. The subtropical characteristics of the state are due in large part to the influence of the Gulf of Mexico, which even at a distance from the farthest point within the state is no more than 200 miles (320 km) away. Summers in Louisiana are hot and humid with high temperatures from mid-June to mid-September averaging 90°F (32°C) or more and overnight lows averaging above 70°F (22°C). Temperatures are generally mildly warm in the winter in the southern part of the state, with highs around New Orleans, Baton Rouge, the rest of south Louisiana, and the Gulf of Mexico averaging 66°F (19°C), while the northern part of the state is mildly cool in the winter with highs averaging 59°F (15°C). Precipitation is frequent throughout the year, although the summer is slightly wetter than the rest of the year. There is a dip in precipitation in October, with southern Louisiana receiving far more, copious rainfall, especially during the winter months.

During the summer and fall, Louisiana is often affected by tropical cyclones and is very vulnerable to strikes by major hurricanes, particularly the lowlands around and in the New Orleans area. Louisiana has experienced two of the five most expensive disasters in U.S. history in Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Thus, it ranks fourth in the number of presidentially-declared disasters.

The unique geography of the region with the many bayous, marshes and inlets can make major hurricanes especially destructive. The area is also prone to frequent thunderstorms, especially in the summer. The entire state averages over 60 days of thunderstorms a year, more thunderstorms than any other state except Florida. Louisiana averages 27 tornadoes annually, and the entire state is vulnerable to a tornado strike, with the extreme southern portion of the state slightly less than the rest of the state. Tornadoes are much more common from January to March in the southern part of the state, and from February through March in the northern part of the state. Louisiana is also susceptible to ice storms.

Monthly Normal High and Low Temperatures For Major Louisiana Metropolitan Cities (°F/°C)												
City	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>Baton Rouge</b>	62/42 17/6	65/44 18/7	72/51 22/11	78/57 26/14	84/64 29/18	89/70 32/21	91/73 33/23	91/72 33/22	88/68 31/20	81/57 27/14	71/48 22/9	64/43 18/6
<b>Lake Charles</b>	62/43 17/6	65/47 18/8	70/51 21/11	78/59 26/15	85/66 29/19	90/72 32/22	92/74 33/23	92/74 33/23	88/70 31/21	81/59 27/15	69/49 21/9	64/45 18/7
<b>New Orleans</b>	64/44 18/7	66/47 19/8	73/53 23/12	79/59 26/15	85/66 29/19	90/72 32/22	91/74 33/23	91/74 33/23	88/70 31/21	80/61 27/16	72/52 22/11	65/46 18/8
<b>Shreveport</b>	56/36 13/2	61/39 16/4	69/46 21/8	77/54 25/12	84/62 29/17	90/69 32/8	93/73 34/23	93/71 34/22	87/66 31/19	78/55 26/13	67/44 19/7	59/38 15/3

Monthly Average Precipitation For Major Louisiana Metropolitan Cities (Inches)												
City	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>Baton Rouge</b>	6.19	5.1	5.07	5.56	5.34	5.33	5.96	5.86	4.84	3.81	4.76	5.27
<b>Lake Charles</b>	5.52	3.28	3.54	3.64	6.06	6.07	5.03	4.85	5.95	3.94	4.61	4.60
<b>New Orleans</b>	5.87	5.47	5.24	5.02	4.62	6.83	6.2	6.15	5.55	3.05	5.09	5.07
<b>Shreveport</b>	4.1	4.0	3.7	4.6	5.1	4.1	3.6	2.5	3.1	3.7	4.1	4.2

### Infrastructure

Louisiana is in a unique position not only because of the number of natural hazards the State faces but also because of the massive amount of Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources (CI/KR) that reside in the State. Louisiana is home to 1 TIER I site and 95 TIER II sites in terms of National Critical Infrastructure as determined by the Department of Homeland Security. A sampling of some of this infrastructure include the largest port in the country in terms of tonnage, the Port of South Louisiana, as well as home to five of the largest 12 ports in the United States. There is a small Hub in South Louisiana that controls the flow of Natural Gas by connecting nine major interstate pipelines and four intrastate pipelines that transfer natural gas to the East, West and up to Northeast United States. Louisiana also has the country's only Offshore Oil Terminal that allows the world's largest super tankers to offload their cargo.

Of all the key CI/KR sectors, there are none that are more important to Louisiana and much of all the United States east of the Mississippi River, than the Energy sector. There is not a single parish in Louisiana that does not contribute to the oil and gas energy sector. Every parish has major pipelines that distribute oil and gas to the rest of the country as well as drilling infrastructure to continue production of oil and gas. In addition, Louisiana is also home to two of the four largest refineries in the United States which collectively process nearly 1 million barrels of crude a day as well as six additional refineries that produce between 120,000 - 240,000 barrels of crude a day, and numerous smaller refineries.

Transportation infrastructure is also critical. Louisiana has 834.94 miles (1343.7 kilometers) of primary interstate highways with two major east/west interstates (I10 and I12). Additionally, Louisiana has 57.72 miles (92.9 kilometers) of secondary interstate highways (feeders or loops) for a total of 892.66 miles (1436.6 kilometers). These interstates pass through one or more major population areas. Louisiana also has an international port and five international airports. With many critical sites and with fairly easy access through its transportation network and open coastline, Louisiana is very susceptible to a terrorist attack.

The Federal Highway Administration assesses transportation system utilization for freight shipments and shows the following for Louisiana:

<b>2002 Louisiana Freight Shipments by Weight (Millions of Tons)</b>						
	Within State		From State		To State	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	489.1	100	412.9	100	301.2	100
Truck	94.9	19	74.2	18	68.9	23
Rail	2.0	<1	25.3	6	29.3	10
Water	75.6	15	74.3	18	87.2	29
Air, Air and Truck	<0.1	<1	<0.1	<1	<0.1	<1
Truck and rail	<0.1	<1	0.3	<1	0.1	<1
Other intermodal	<0.1	<1	3.3	<1	26.2	9
Pipeline and Unknown	316.5	65	235.4	57	89.5	30

**Demographics**

Louisiana’s first responders serve and protect a population of 4,468,976 citizens (2000 census). According to data from the 2000 U.S. Census Report, the ten most populated cities, which comprise 30.2% of the state’s population, were as follows:

- New Orleans – 484,674
- Baton Rouge (Capital) – 227,818
- Shreveport – 200,145
- Lafayette – 110,
- Lake Charles -71,757
- Kenner – 70,517
- Bossier City – 56,461
- Monroe – 53,107
- Alexandria -46,342
- New Iberia – 32,623

The ten most populated parishes which comprise 56.9% of the Louisiana’s population are listed in the following table.

<b>Parish</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Housing Units</b>	<b>Land Area (miles)</b>	<b>Population/ Square Mile</b>
Orleans	484,674 *Pre Katrina	215,091	180.56	2677.8
Jefferson	455,466	187,907	306.52	1,483.6
East Baton Rouge	412,852	169,073	455.43	907.4
Caddo	252,161	108,296	881.99	285.9
St. Tammany	191,268	75,398	854.15	224
Lafayette	190,503	78,122	296.83	705.6
Calcasieu	183,577	75,995	1,071.12	171.4
Ouachita	147,250	60,154	610.53	241
Rapides	126,337	52,038	1,322.54	95.5
Terrebonne	104,503	39,928	1,254.93	83.3

These data were valid before Hurricanes Katrina & Rita, which struck during August & September of 2005. According to recently published news reports, less than one-half of the pre-Katrina population of Orleans, St. Bernard, and Plaquemines Parishes has returned. Conversely, the population of other areas such as Baton Rouge and Lafayette has indicated significant increases post-Katrina.

Louisiana experiences an influx of tourists throughout the year because of its many festivals and parades, notably Mardi Gras in New Orleans. Additionally, New Orleans is host to the Sugar Bowl as well as many other professional events that draw substantial tourism throughout the state. Because of the attraction of tourists to New Orleans, the number of people in New Orleans can be significantly larger than the estimated number of residents.

### **Public Safety and Services**

The State of Louisiana has 65 Sheriff's Offices and approximately 310 local law enforcement agencies (cities and townships). Of the 375 Parish and municipal law enforcement agencies within the state, 300 of the agencies have fewer than 25 officers or deputies within their agencies. There are over 800 fire departments in Louisiana with the overwhelming number consisting of volunteer/paid on call departments. The Department of Health and Hospitals identifies over 72 medical response agencies who voluntarily register their programs. The medical response units are supported by over 300 licensed ambulance transportation services. The public safety community is supported through 80 public safety answering points throughout the State.

Of the recognized tribal jurisdictions within the state, several provide some of their own public safety services; the extent to which tribal communities provide these services or rely on assistance for mutual aid from state, local or private agencies varies among the tribal jurisdictions. All tribal governments are engaged with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness as well as their Parish Offices of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness in comprehensive disaster planning on a regional and state basis.

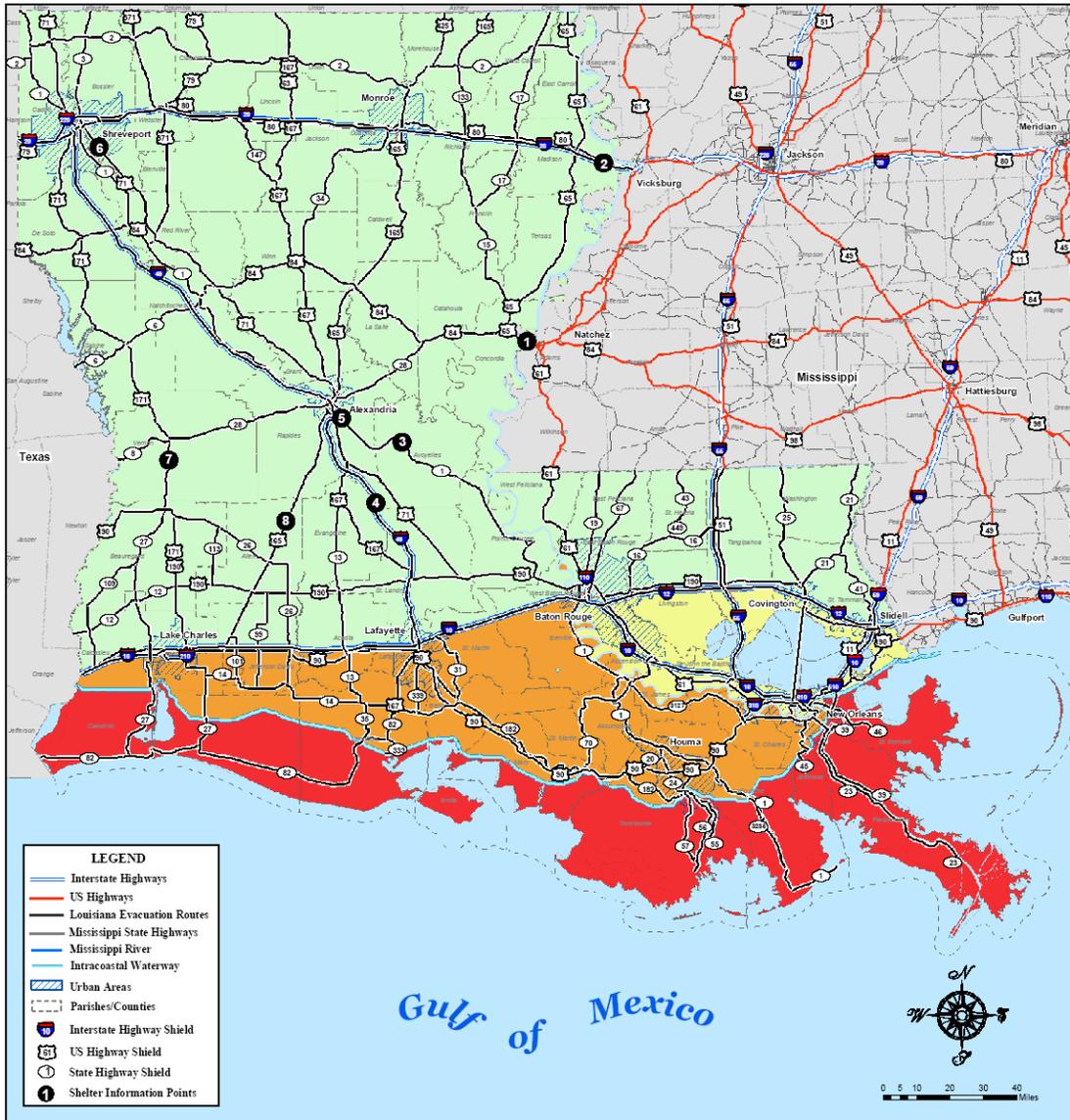


Figure 2.1: Map of Louisiana with Major Highways

### 2.1.1 NIMS/Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS)

Executive Order KBB 2006-34 mandates that all Louisiana homeland security and emergency preparedness functions follow the principles outlined in the National Incident Management System (NIMS), or its successor, La. R.S. 29:722(C). In accordance with this executive order, the Louisiana State Emergency Operations Plan

incorporates the Incident Command System concepts in establishing the policies and structure for the State Government management of emergencies and disasters.

The State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) located at the Governor's Office of Homeland Security supports the functions of the State's Multi-agency Coordination System using a Unified Command Structure. The EOC is a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional and multi-functional operation that is responsible for strategic coordination during domestic incident management activities.

The EOC is capable of operating on a large or small scale, depending on the incident. When needed, separate functional elements can be established, each of which may be further subdivided to enhance internal organizational management and external coordination. Additionally, the EOC is designed to provide a manageable span of control, limiting individuals with supervisory incident management responsibility to not more than seven but not less than three subordinates.

The principle functions of the State EOC include the following:

- (1) Ensuring that each agency involved in incident management activities provides appropriate situational awareness and resource status information
- (2) Establishing priorities between incidents and/or Area Commands in concert with Incident or Unified Command
- (3) Acquiring and allocating resources required by incident management personnel in concert with the priorities established by Incident or Unified Command
- (4) Anticipating and identifying future resource requirements
- (5) Coordinating and resolving policy issues arising from incidents

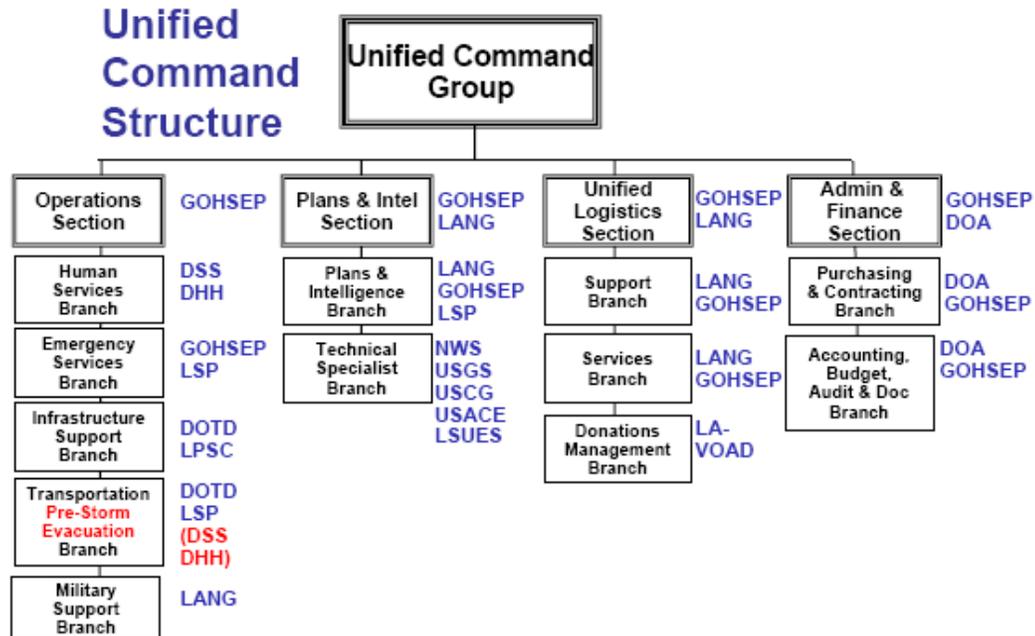


Figure 2.1.1-1: State EOC Unified Command Structure

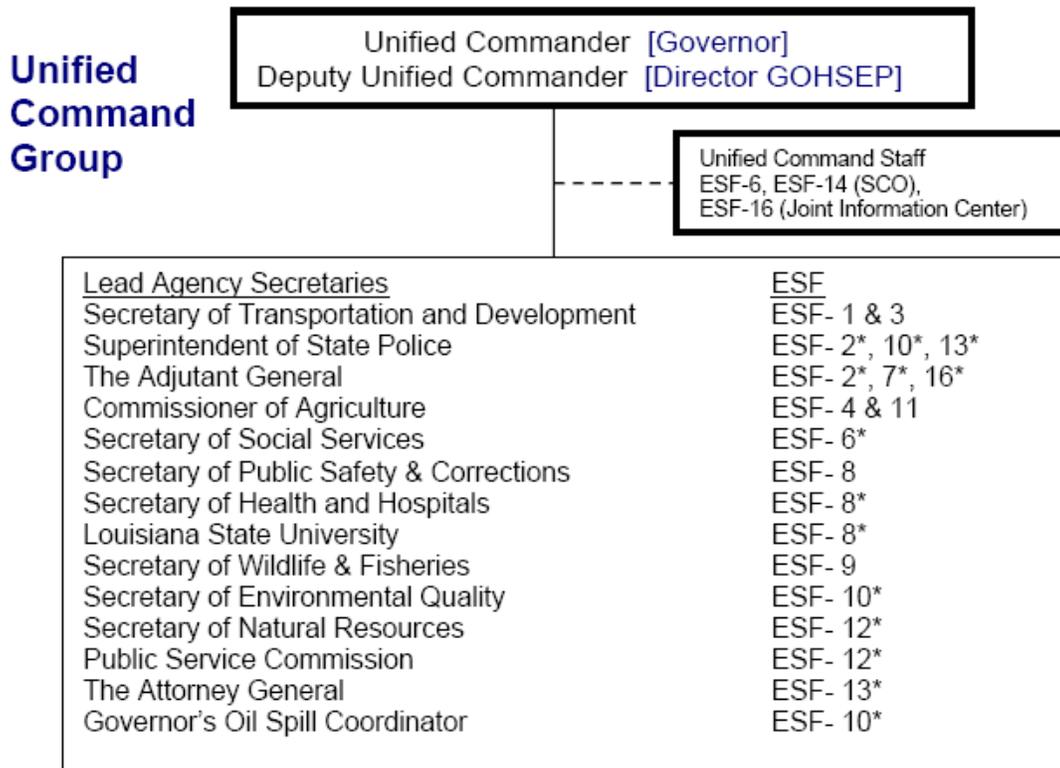


Figure 2.1.1-2: State EOC Unified Command Group



The following table provides a list of the regions within the state and lists the jurisdictions included in each region:

<b>Region 1</b>	<b>Region 2</b>	<b>Region 3</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jefferson Parish</li> <li>• Orleans Parish</li> <li>• Plaquemines Parish</li> <li>• Saint Bernard Parish</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ascension Parish</li> <li>• East Baton Rouge Parish</li> <li>• West Baton Rouge Parish</li> <li>• East Feliciana Parish</li> <li>• West Feliciana Parish</li> <li>• Iberville Parish</li> <li>• Livingston Parish</li> <li>• Point Coupee Parish</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assumption Parish</li> <li>• Lafourche Parish</li> <li>• Saint Charles Parish</li> <li>• Saint James Parish</li> <li>• Saint John Parish</li> <li>• Terrebonne Parish</li> </ul>
<b>Region 4</b>	<b>Region 5</b>	<b>Region 6</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acadia Parish</li> <li>• Evangeline Parish</li> <li>• Iberia Parish</li> <li>• Lafayette Parish</li> <li>• Saint Landry Parish</li> <li>• Saint Martin Parish</li> <li>• Saint Mary Parish</li> <li>• Vermillion Parish</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allen Parish</li> <li>• Beauregard Parish</li> <li>• Calcasieu Parish</li> <li>• Cameron Parish</li> <li>• Jefferson Davis Parish</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoyelles Parish</li> <li>• Catahoula Parish</li> <li>• Concordia Parish</li> <li>• Grant Parish</li> <li>• LaSalle Parish</li> <li>• Natchitoches Parish</li> <li>• Rapides Parish</li> <li>• Sabine Parish</li> <li>• Vernon Parish</li> <li>• Winn Parish</li> </ul>
<b>Region 7</b>	<b>Region 8</b>	<b>Region 9</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bienville Parish</li> <li>• Bossier Parish</li> <li>• Caddo Parish</li> <li>• Claiborne Parish</li> <li>• Desoto Parish</li> <li>• Red River Parish</li> <li>• Webster Parish</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caldwell Parish</li> <li>• East Carroll Parish</li> <li>• West Carroll Parish</li> <li>• Franklin Parish</li> <li>• Jackson Parish</li> <li>• Lincoln Parish</li> <li>• Madison Parish</li> <li>• Morehouse Parish</li> <li>• Ouachita Parish</li> <li>• Richland Parish</li> <li>• Tensas Parish</li> <li>• Union Parish</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saint Helena Parish</li> <li>• Saint Tammany Parish</li> <li>• Tangipahoa Parish</li> <li>• Washington Parish</li> </ul>

**Table 2.1.2: Regions/Jurisdictions**

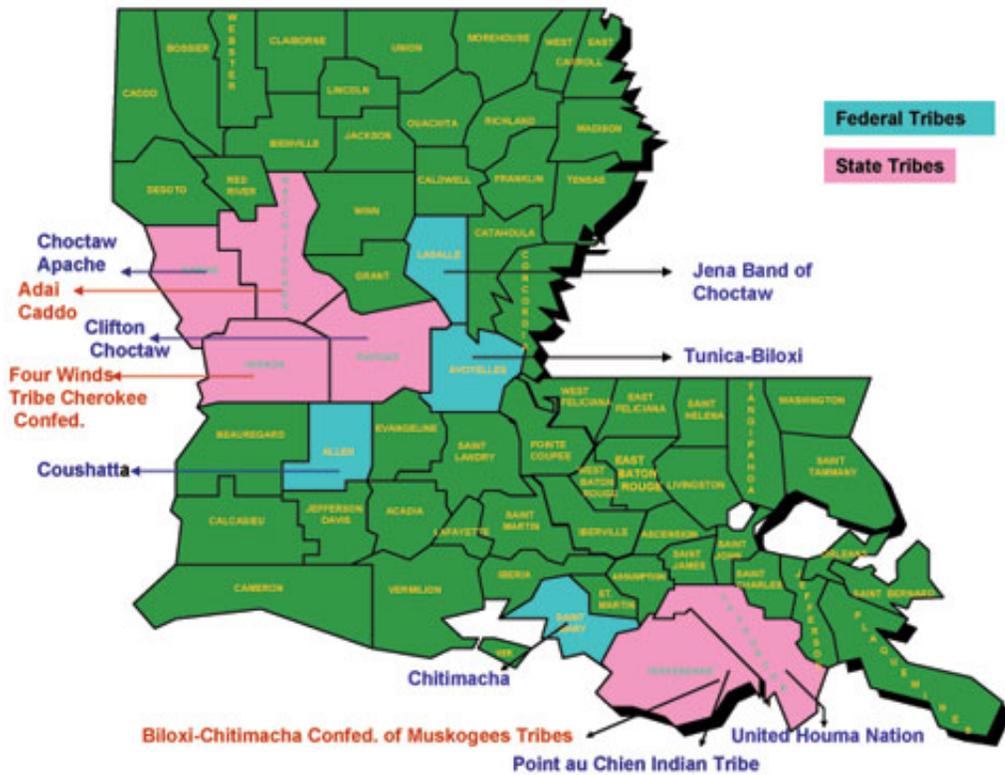


Figure 2.1.2-2: Louisiana Federal and State Recognized Tribal Jurisdictions

### UASI Areas/TIC Plans

Louisiana has two Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) regions within the state. UASI Region 1, recognized as Louisiana Homeland Security Region 1, includes all areas that run contiguous with the city of New Orleans, to include Metairie in Jefferson Parish, Chalmette in St. Bernard, and Belle Chase in Plaquemines Parish. UASI Region 2, recognized as Louisiana Homeland Security Region 2, includes East and West Baton Rouge Parish, East and West Feliciana Parish, Ascension Parish, Livingston Parish, Iberville Parish and Point Coupee Parish.

The following table provides a list of the UASI areas and its TIC Plans:

UASI Area	Regions / Jurisdictions	TICP Title/ Completion Date	POC Name	POC Email
Region1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jefferson</li> <li>Orleans</li> <li>Plaquemines</li> </ul>	Louisiana UASI Region 1 Tactical	Ken Hughes	<a href="mailto:hughes_kc@jpsoc.com">hughes_kc@jpsoc.com</a>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saint Bernard</li> </ul>	Interoperable Communications Plan/  September 14, 2006		
Region 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ascension</li> <li>• East Baton Rouge</li> <li>• West Baton Rouge</li> <li>• East Feliciana</li> <li>• West Feliciana</li> <li>• Iberville</li> <li>• Livingston</li> <li>• Point Coupee</li> </ul>	Louisiana Homeland Security Region II  Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan/  March 27, 2006	Ralph A. Ladnier	<a href="mailto:rladnier@brgov.com">rladnier@brgov.com</a>

**Table 2.1.3: UASI Areas/TIC Plans**

On October 18, 2006, Louisiana UASI Region 1 conducted the Louisiana Region 1 UASI TIC (Tactical Interoperable Communications) Plan Full Scale Exercise to validate its TIC Plan. The evaluation methodology used in the exercise was based on the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum.

The major strengths identified during this exercise are as follows:

- Unified Command was announced and then repeated on the radio to the dispatch center to ensure that command had been established.
- All participating agencies maintained effective interagency and intra-agency communications.
- An organization chart was developed, displayed, and updated throughout the exercise
- All participating agencies displayed excellent resource management.
- The incident Commander and deputy Incident Commander did an excellent job of working jointly as an effective Unified Command team
- Users demonstrated familiarity with and effective use of shared systems.
- Cooperation among participants fostered an easy working environment during the exercise

- Connections were made and communications were successful among the various agencies during the exercise

The primary areas for improvement, including recommendations, are as follows:

- All agencies need additional hands-on training in the use of new radio systems.
- Law enforcement personnel should be trained to use the NIMS/Incident Command System structure
- Additional exercises are needed for communications interoperability improvement.
- Representatives from other disciplines should be included in development of training scenarios for testing communications interoperability.

The overall evaluation concluded that the Louisiana UASI Region 1 appears to be technologically well established to interoperate among local and regional first responders. The system was well planned and well implemented with adequate redundancies. Regional planners should continue to progress toward training and using the system as incidents expand from day-to-day operations into large-scale critical incidents and disaster. Complete details of the exercise may be found in the Louisiana Region 1 Urban Area Security Initiative Full-Scale Exercise After-Action Report.

## **2.2 Participating Agencies and Points of Contact**

Appendix B provides points of contact for the agencies that helped develop the statewide communications interoperability plan.

## **2.3 Statewide Plan Point of Contact**

Name: Rizwan Ahmed  
Title: Chief Information Officer  
Agency: Division of Administration  
Phone: (225)342-7105  
E-mail: rizwan.ahmed@la.gov

POC is operating as a full time interoperability coordinator.

## **2.4 Scope and Timeframe**

The Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) subsumes and builds upon previous planning efforts by state agencies and local jurisdictions in cooperation with key federal agencies. Key lessons learned that have driven planning in Louisiana over the last several years include those learned in the nation's response to the 9-11 terror attacks, and the state's response to the Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. The latter highlighted the state's needs for more robust systems, and the federal response to Katrina and Rita funded some of the early development of the P25 System, that is the centerpiece of this plan. Of course, emerging communications technologies also permit enhanced interoperable communications, and regulatory changes in frequency allocation require planning and implementation.

A complete discussion of the implementation of this plan is found in Section 6, Implementation.

The SCIP applies to all state and local emergency first responder agencies, including but not limited to the following list:

- Local Government
- Local Fire and Rescue
- Local Law Enforcement Agencies
- Local Sheriffs' Departments
- Emergency Medical Services
- Private Ambulance Services
- Louisiana State Police
- Louisiana National Guard
- Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
- Department of Health and Hospitals
- Governor's Office of Homeland Security
- Federally Recognized Tribal Authorities
- Nongovernmental Agencies Organizations Engaged in Disaster Response
- Key Federal Agencies, such as Coast Guard, FEMA, FBI

It is stressed that the key goals and initiatives outlined in this plan will be fulfilled over time. Many are the culmination of planning efforts that predate this plan and are underway at the time of this writing. Some are complete. The remainder of Louisiana's efforts is directed to completion of the milestones listed in Appendix G within five years (2012).

### **3 Methodology**

Early on Louisiana recognized the need for a bottom up approach for developing a statewide plan for communications interoperability. In February 2006 Louisiana hosted a workshop to do a complete review of the State's Homeland Security capabilities and program. The participants in this workshop included 59 of the 64 parishes in the state, regional coordinators, as well as primary State agencies. During this workshop, the input of the parishes, regions, and state agencies was used to further the State's effort to advance the goals and objectives of interoperable communications. These goals and objectives have evolved into the goals and objectives of the Statewide Communications Interoperable Plan (SCIP).

Louisiana has continued this strategic planning process during the formal development of the SCIP. The Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee (SIEC) is responsible for spearheading this collaborative, cross-disciplinary and cross-jurisdictional effort by gathering public safety perspectives by facilitating a series of working groups, focus group sessions, strategic planning sessions and meetings. Representatives from the following types of organizations participated in the development of the SCIP:

- Local Government
- Local Fire and Rescue
- Local Law Enforcement Agencies
- Local Sheriffs' Departments
- Emergency Medical Services
- Private Ambulance Services
- Louisiana State Police
- Louisiana National Guard
- Key Federal Agencies, such as Coast Guard, FEMA and FBI
- Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
- Department of Health and Hospitals
- Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
- Nongovernmental Agencies Organizations Engaged in Disaster Response
- Federally Recognized Tribal Governments in Louisiana

To determine regional communications interoperability needs and to gather regional input, a series of regional focus group sessions were held in each of the State's Homeland Security Regions. The regional meetings were scheduled as follows:

- Region 1 – May 2007
- Region 2 – May 2007

- Region 3 – July 2007
- Region 4 – June 2007
- Region 5 – June 2007
- Region 6 – August 2007
- Region 7 – October 2007
- Region 8 – July 2007
- Region 9 – August 2007

(Regional meetings will be conducted annually according to the schedule outlined above.) These focus group sessions were facilitated by members of the SIEC technical subcommittee and involved participation of the appropriate regional interoperable communications working group. Each regional interoperable working group is composed of representatives of the jurisdictions and disciplines organic to the region. Multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary input of tribal jurisdictions and non-governmental organizations, such as private EMS and the Red Cross, is achieved through local parish and regional communications processes, including regular parish and regional meetings.

As a precursor to the regional focus group sessions, a comprehensive, web-based interoperable communications needs assessment survey was conducted by the SIEC to determine the extent of the build-out for the interoperable communications system. Additionally, the survey was used to identify shortcomings, such as funding, training, and equipment needed. The survey which captures information on the types of communication systems, types of radios, console devices and communications infrastructure was completed by local, state and federal agencies, including law enforcement, emergency medical services, fire departments and public works agencies. State and local agencies were required to participate in this assessment to receive FY 2006 State Homeland Security grant funding. To date, all agencies have completed the survey.

An excerpt from the survey is shown below. The full survey can be found in Appendix K – Louisiana Totally Interoperable Environment Needs Assessment. However, completed surveys and results can be found at the following URL: <https://web01.dps.louisiana.gov/latietest.nsf/>

*Excerpt from Needs Assessment Survey*

Louisiana Totally Interoperable Environment Needs Assessment

Please complete all questions listed below.

**1. Estimate the current population of your jurisdiction:**

**2. Please list the number of each of the following buildings which you desire to have in building communication coverage:**

a. High rise buildings (e.g. more than ten stories)

d. Federal owned Critical Infrastructure Buildings

b. Parish owned Critical Infrastructure Buildings

e. Large building (e.g. more than 100,000 sq ft)

c. State owned Critical Infrastructure Buildings

**3. How many square miles does your jurisdiction cover?**

**4. Please list the number of the separate jurisdictions for each agency type within your parish:**

a. Municipal Police Departments

h. Private for Profit Ambulance Service

b. Parish Fire Districts (Volunteer, Combination or Full Time)

i. Public Health and Hospitals

c. Municipal Fire Departments

j. Emergency Management

As part of the inter-state initiative to encourage inter-state cooperation with other Gulf Coast states, Louisiana sought input from its neighboring states to comprehensively develop its goals and initiatives. Through participation in the Gulf Coast Summit in February 2007, Louisiana helped foster relationships with Alabama and Mississippi state communications committees. These relationships allowed Louisiana to apply lessons learned by the other states in the development of its initiatives in establishing a statewide interoperable communications system. Additionally, participants learned about issues pertinent to voice, data and video interoperability, purchasing, procurement, exercises and management.

In the final developmental stages of the SCIP, the SIEC technical and planning subcommittees met jointly on August 22, 2007 and August 31, 2007 to finalize the specific initiatives, goals, and objectives for achieving a statewide communications system outlined in the Louisiana SCIP. These goals and objectives were formally adopted by the SIEC on September 12, 2007. Additional subcommittee meetings were held by each SIEC subcommittee to complete the SCIP. Additionally, the Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program hosted a SCIP development workshop

on September 5-6, 2007 with members of the planning and technical subcommittees. Jointly, these series of workshops, focus group sessions, and meetings has led to the completion of the Louisiana SCIP.

As Louisiana continues to move forward with the initiatives in the Louisiana SCIP, the SIEC will continue to seek the input of its State and local partners through updated assessments, annual regional meetings and planning sessions. Additionally, in coordination with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), the SIEC will review the communications section of each parish Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). GOHSEP requires an annual review of all local EOP's. Also, as each State Homeland Security Region completes its regional Tactical Interoperable Communications (TIC) Plan, it will be integrated as an annex into the Statewide TIC Plan, which is under development. This inter-disciplinary cooperation is vital to the safety of Louisiana. Only by working together can law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, public works, emergency preparedness, National Guard and 911/communications personnel truly achieve a secure homeland in Louisiana.

## **4 Current Statewide Assessment**

The State of Louisiana presently operates a statewide analog wireless communication system, referred to as the Smart Zone system, which was installed in 1996 for voice communication. This system is presently used by approximately 70 agencies with approximately 10,000 subscriber users. This system consists of 46 tower sites and 28 dispatch consoles. The system expansion is severely limited by four major factors:

1. Expansion of sites – The technology used on the present system does not allow any additional tower sites due to the port limitation. The zone controller is at maximum site capacity, thus eliminating the possibility of improvement in coverage.
2. Expansion of users – The system was built in the 800 MHz frequency band. There are no available frequencies in New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and their surrounding areas. Due to this frequency constraint, the State cannot add additional repeaters to provide access to additional users.
3. The current system was designed and built for mobile radio coverage. This severely limits adequate hand-held portable and in-building coverage for users.
4. The State's communication system is near the end of its service life. The State is faced with the reality of the manufacturer's decision to no longer produce hardware components for the 800 MHz analog system.

The State of Louisiana is working aggressively to pursue a totally interoperable communications system to support the current number of subscribers and future growth. The state has already partnered with Urban Area Security Initiative Regions 1 and 2 and FEMA to implement the P25 System. This new system is designed for statewide interoperable communications critically needed by area first responders. With hurricane survival a top priority for the radio system, it has the ability to re-route communications traffic should towers be lost and to allow affected dispatch centers to relocate elsewhere in the state without disruption of the system. The system also employs multiple layers of natural gas and diesel-fueled generators to ensure reliability in the event of natural or other disasters.

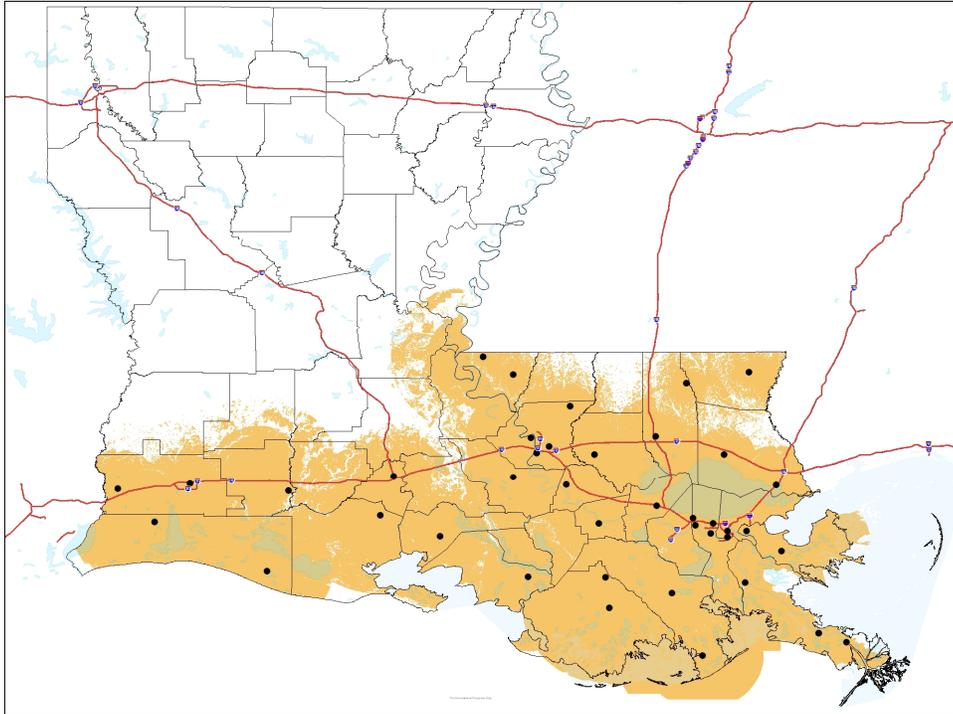
Today, the P25 System is operational in all parishes south of the I-10 corridor and in southeast Louisiana. Currently the system has nearly 7000 users, with many agencies planning to connect to the system within the year 2008 as the expansion of the system continues. The New Orleans metro area which includes Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemine and St. Bernard Parishes is fully operational on the new system. The Baton Rouge metro area plans to be fully operational on the new system by April 2008. The integration of the Baton Rouge area will add more than 5000 users to the new

system. With the additional funding through FY 06-07 and FY07-08 appropriations, the State continues to add additional sites to the P25 System and has purchased 2100 - P25 compliant portable radios for use with the system.

Due to the overwhelming expense of developing a totally interoperable statewide communications system, a phased implementation has been adopted. A summary of that implementation follows:

<b>Statewide Build out</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>Complete</b>
<b>Phase I</b> – Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 9	2005	2007
<b>Phase II</b> – Regions 2, 4, 5, and 6	2007	2008
<b>Phase III</b> – Regions 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9	2008	2009
<b>Phase IV</b> – Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9	2008	2010

Phase I refers to the installation of P25 System infrastructure. P25 System infrastructure is currently in the New Orleans, Baton Rouge and other areas along the Gulf Coast which are most prone to catastrophic natural disasters. Phase I includes Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 9. (Section 2.1.2, Regions/Jurisdictions provides identifies the jurisdictions within each Region.) Phase II refers to the build-out of 11 towers sites in the middle section of the State and includes Regions 2, 4, 5, and 6. Phase III refers to the build-out of 22 tower sites in the northern part of the state and the addition of microwave redundancy in the southeast. Phase III includes Regions 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9. Phase IV refers to addition of 34 sites, deployed statewide, providing secure 95% or better coverage when using a portable radio inside a building at street level in the more densely populated seven metropolitan areas of the State, and secure 95% or better coverage when using a mobile street level radio in all other areas of the State, which will optimize and further improve statewide interoperable communications. Phase IV will encompass all Regions, as necessary. A graphic summary of the P25 System after the planned build-out is found at Appendix H.



**Figure 4: Current P25 System Coverage Map**

*Appendix F provides a complete list of mutual aid and interoperability channels and talk groups for the P25 system.*

## **4.1 Governance Structure**

Created by Executive Order KBB 2006-17 (see Appendix C), the Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee (SIEC) is the statewide governance group charged with addressing the need for compatible and effective communication among first responders. The committee directs the use of grant funds in support of the statewide plan to enhance statewide interoperability. The committee is charged with immediately addressing communications challenges experienced by emergency personnel in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita by designing and implementing the build-out of a statewide public safety communications system and evaluating and integrating emerging interoperability technology.

The committee, as defined by Executive Order No. KBB 06-17, is charged with:

- A. Designing, constructing, administering, and maintaining a statewide shared communication system with capacity to transport voice, data, and imagery within the system;
- B. Developing and approving a system design, system testing, and an implementation plan;
- C. Establishing policy and securing funds for system operation, administration, and maintenance;
- D. Establishing policy for the acquisition, allocation, and management of system resources and future use of the voice, data, and imagery capabilities;
- E. Establishing policy for system admission and use of the voice, data, and imagery capabilities; and
- F. Entering into legal contracts consistent with the purposes of Executive Order KBB 06-17.

Louisiana recognizes that the support of local, regional, and state public safety leadership across Louisiana is critical to the successful development of a statewide, user-driven approach among all levels of government to provide reliable communications for the entire emergency response community. Therefore, the SIEC consists of multi-disciplined, multi-jurisdictional representatives of state and local agencies that represent each of the State's nine Homeland Security Regions. Moreover, these members are communications experts.

The make up of the SIEC is designed to gather the input from key local, state and federal stakeholders. Executive Order KBB 2006-24 mandates that the SIEC shall be composed of the following members:

- 1) The commissioner of the Division of Administration, or the commissioner's designee;
- 2) The director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, or the director's designee;
- 3) The adjutant general of the Louisiana National Guard, or the adjutant general's designee;
- 4) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Corrections Services, or the secretary's designee;

- 5) The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development, or the secretary's designee;
- 6) The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, or the secretary's designee;
- 7) The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, or the secretary's designee;
- 8) The chief information officer, or the chief of information officer's designee;
- 9) The deputy secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Public Safety Services, or the deputy secretary's designee;
- 10) The executive secretary of the Louisiana Public Service Commission or the executive secretary's designee;
- 11) The president of the Louisiana Sheriff's Association, or the president's designee;
- 12) The president of the Police Chiefs Association, or the president's designee;
- 13) The president of the Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association, or the president's designee;
- 14) The chair of the Regional Parish Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Directors Committee, or the chair's designee;
- 15) The chair of the Louisiana House of Representatives Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, or the chair's designee;
- 16) The chair of the Louisiana State Senate Judiciary B Committee; or the chair's designee;
- 17) The chair of the Louisiana House of Representatives Special Committee on Louisiana Homeland Security, or the chair's designee;
- 18) The chair of the Louisiana State Senate Select Committee on Homeland Security, or the chair's designee;
- 19) One (1) representative of the Louisiana Broadband Advisory Council, selected from a list of three (3) nominees submitted by the Louisiana Broadband Advisory Council;

20) One (1) representative from each of the nine regional interoperable communications working groups.

To ensure that local stakeholders are adequately represented on the SIEC by its regional interoperable working group, Executive Order KBB 2006-17 required that it shall be composed of the following members:

1) The director of each Office of Emergency Preparedness Parish Office, or the director's designee;

2) The sheriff of each parish throughout the state of Louisiana, or the sheriff's designee;

3) One (1) chief of police representing each parish of the state of Louisiana selected by the chiefs of police within each parish;

4) One (1) fire chief representing each parish of the state of Louisiana selected by the fire chiefs with each municipality within each parish;

5) One (1) emergency medical services director selected by the Emergency Medical Services Directors within each parish;

6) One (1) state police troop commander, or troop commander's designee.

*See Appendix B for a complete list of SIEC members and subcommittee assignments.*

The SIEC identifies and addresses the needs of regional, parish, local, and tribal organizations in several ways. Regional representatives bring requests to the SIEC for action; SIEC Support Staff members attend regional meetings to identify needs; and the Technology Subcommittee conducts focus groups with regional organizations to assess needs, determine preferences, and show the benefits of participation in the statewide system.

All federally recognized, and also state recognized, tribal nations within Louisiana are each contained within a single parish. They participate in all emergency response planning and mutual aid, including interoperability planning, at the parish level. They are invited to participate in regional planning bodies and their interests and concerns are represented to the SIEC through regional representatives. Moreover, tribal first responders participate in discipline-specific associations, such as the Louisiana Chief of Police Association, which are represented on the SIEC.

Key nongovernmental agencies (NGOs) are represented in several ways: NGOs, with parish or regional orientations or with regional offices, participate in planning, training,

exercises, and other activities at the parish and regional levels, and are represented to the SIEC through their regional representatives; some organizations, such as volunteer fire departments, participate locally and regionally, and are represented to the SIEC by the representative from their responder discipline; and statewide NGOs participate in the planning, training, and exercise activities with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and are represented to the SIEC by the GOHSEP director.

Furthermore, the SIEC has recognized the need for increased participation from tribal authorities and associations of NGOs. The SIEC will petition Louisiana's new governor, Bobby Jindal, who will take office in January 2008, to expand representation of tribal authorities and NGOs and to allow for staggered terms of members. The SIEC will also seek codification of its amended charter in legislation pending in the 2008 session of the legislature.

The SIEC will be the office of record for the Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) until it is succeeded by another body with a similar mandate in accordance with legislation that is pending action in the next legislative session. The SCIP will be updated annually, and issues pertaining to it will be included in the SIEC's report to the Governor in accordance with Executive Order KBB 2006-17.

Many multi-jurisdictional or multi-disciplinary agreements required for decision-making and sharing resources exist for providing mutual aid. Examples include the agreements between police and fire departments within a jurisdiction, agreements between adjoining parishes or within homeland security regions, and agreements between parish sheriffs and respective State Police troops. Multi-agency plans also exist for special events such as festivals and rodeos, sporting events, concerts, and similar events. Plans exist for likely contingencies at Louisiana's ports, airports, rail lines, key industries, and important infrastructure. More discussion on these issues is found in the Section 4.3, Standard Operating Procedures, and Section 4.5, Usage.

The SIEC meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month or as called by the Chair to conduct business. However, subcommittees have been established to provide a mechanism for individuals with specialized skills to share best practices and lessons learned to address specific communications and interoperability issues. Subcommittees meet as needed. The standing subcommittees are:

### **SIEC Technology Subcommittee**

The SIEC Technology Subcommittee is responsible for identifying technologies which will enhance the P25 System by providing high speed broadband data and image transfer. The Subcommittee will also seek redundant network pathways to ensure reliable communications during critical incidents. Another responsibility is to ensure that new technology is utilized to connect disparate public safety systems throughout

the state. Additionally, this subcommittee is responsible for spearheading the assessment of regional communications and interoperability equipment needs, capabilities and shortfalls.

### **SIEC Budget and Finance Subcommittee**

The SIEC Budget and Finance Subcommittee is responsible for developing a comprehensive funding strategy and identifying funding sources which will enable the continued build-out and enhancement of the P25 System. The Subcommittee is currently working with the Governor's Office and the State Legislators to appropriate sustained funding for the statewide P25 System and the IP gateway solutions to connect disparate systems. The Subcommittee is also responsible for researching funding efforts through Homeland Security grants and the Governor's Office and to track and identify additional federal grant funding sources.

### **SIEC Policy and Procedures Subcommittee**

The SIEC Policy and Procedures Subcommittee is responsible for establishing policy for the acquisition, allocation, and management of system resources. This is to include policy and guidelines which will govern the use of voice, data, and imagery capabilities. In addition, the Subcommittee will establish policy for system admission onto the P25 System.

### **SIEC Planning Subcommittee**

The SIEC Planning Subcommittee is responsible for the development and annual review of the Louisiana SCIP and the State Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan.

## **4.2 Technology**

The Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee (SIEC) developed and employed a comprehensive web-based survey to gather detailed information on interoperability needs and to inventory public safety communications equipment statewide. The survey was made available to all state and local agencies and tribal nations. The survey proved to be an invaluable tool for assessing the interoperable communications needs and for inventorying equipment throughout the state. Data collected from the survey was supplemented with information collected during regional focus group meetings facilitated by the Technology Subcommittee. Additionally, the Communications Asset Survey and Mapping Tool was utilized for communications assets in the Urban Area Security Initiative Region 1 area. (This tool is currently being expanded to include all regions within the state as well as all state agencies. The additional coverage will assist the SIEC with management of the users

and systems which currently exist and help to update the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan.) In general, public safety agencies around the state are utilizing the following communications systems: low band VHF (25-50 MHz) analog, low band VHF (25-50 MHz) digital, high band VHF (150 -174 MHz) analog, high band (150-174 MHz) digital, UHF (405-512 MHz) analog, UHF (405-512 MHz) digital, 800 (806-869 MHz) analog, 800 (806-869 MHz) digital, 700 MHz analog, 700 MHz digital, 4.9 GHz analog, and 4.9 GHz digital.

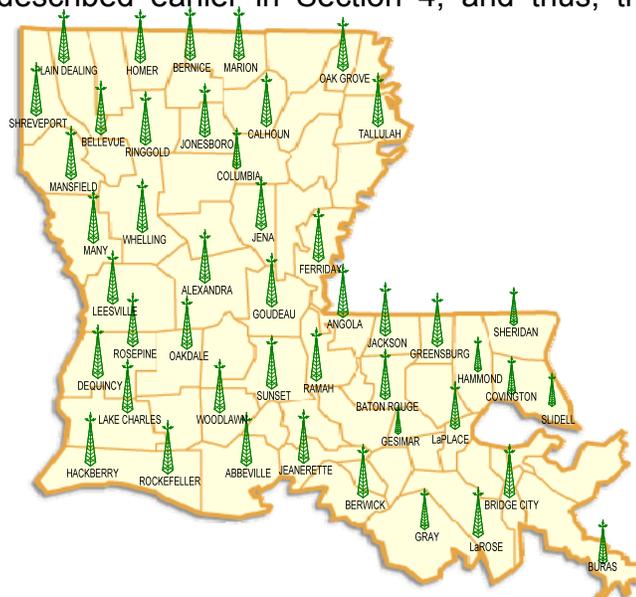
The following table provides a list of the types of communications systems and agencies:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>VHF</b>	<b>UHF</b>	<b>Other</b>
Local Police Agencies	X	X	X	X	X
Local Fire Departments	X	X	X	X	X
Local EMS	X	X	X	X	X
State Agencies	X	X	X	X	X
National Guard	X	X	X	X	X
Federal Agencies	X	X	X	X	

**Table 4.2-1: Communications systems and agencies**

**Smart Zone System**

The Smart Zone system is an 800 MHz analog system operating with approximately 10,000 users, with 46 tower sites and 28 dispatch consoles. This system expansion is severely limited as described earlier in Section 4, and thus, there is not room to improve coverage.



**Figure 4.2-1: Louisiana Smart Zone Communications Network (Tower Sites)**

**700/800 MHz P25 System**

Today Louisiana has 41 transmitter sites and 437 base stations in operation on the P25 System with approximately 10,000 subscribers. Louisiana plans to add 30 more sites between now and the first quarter of 2008 and place an additional 7000 public safety subscribers on this new system by deploying new handset equipment. By the end of December 2008, Louisiana has plans to add 34 sites for a total of 103 sites providing portable on-street coverage throughout Louisiana, including five spare sites to supplement coverage.

*The following table provides a list of 700/800 MHz P25 Tower Sites:*

<b>Tower Site Name</b>	
Baton Rouge	Lafayette
LSU	Berwick
Bridge City	Trailer 97
Buras	Trailer 98
Covington	Trailer 99
Geismar	Trailer 100
Gray	Parks
Wilmer	Ramah
Hammond	West Baton Rouge
Laplace	Livingston
Larose	Magnolia
Pan Am	Sage Hill
Sheridan	Iberville
Slidell	Northern Simulcast
St. James	Southern Simulcast
Jeanerette	Kenner
Abbeville	Airport
Rockefeller	Venice
Hackberry	Leeville
Lake Charles	Jennings
Vinton	

**Table 4.2-2: P25 System Network (Tower Sites)**

During the initial planning stage of the development of the statewide system, the SIEC endorsed a set of guiding principles in line with its goals for improving public safety. These principles have been adhered to for designing the system architecture, as per SAFECOM and NIMS guidance.

1. A system that supports an IP-based interoperability system that integrates disparate push-to-talk (PTT) radio or two-way voice communications systems with other voice and data networks to enable collaboration between various public safety entities statewide.
2. As needed, the system shall provide gateway technology to integrate communications between local, state and federal jurisdictions.
  - A) Legacy reach back for voice on selected talk groups/channels for system users to the statewide system.
  - B) Use of nationally recognized Mutual Aid interoperability channels as defined by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration for VHF, UHF, 800MHz and 700 MHz communications systems.
3. The system shall provide the highest levels of redundancy and reliability at all times.
  - A) The system will provide administration sites that allow management of connections into the statewide system.
  - B) The redundant sites will be located in Regions 1 and 6, or in such other locations as designated by the SIEC.
  - C) The system design will provide autonomous operation of the individual units in the event of failure of the administration site.
4. System will provide secure communications to meet federal standards. A decentralized system at the local level allowing agencies control over their interoperable connections.
5. System will provide flexibility, scalability, and adaptability to facilitate the implementation of emerging future technologies.

The SIEC delegated maintenance and operation of the P25 System to the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Public Safety Services (DPSS). The primary and alternate points of contact for the maintenance and service of the P25 System are:

Primary Point of Contact

Name: Jeya Selvaratnam

Title: IT Deputy Director

Agency: Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Public Safety Services

Phone: (225)925-6036

E-mail: jselvara@dps.la.gov

### Alternate Point of Contact

Name: Tom Frick  
Title: IT Software Support Specialist  
Agency: Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Public Safety Services  
Phone: (225)925-6036  
E-mail: jfrick@dps.la.gov

DPSS will provide appropriate training on the P25 System. Requests for training will be sent to Radio.Communications@dps.la.gov. Equipment that is considered part of the statewide system will be deployed by this agency in accordance with the standard operating procedures for resource requests by local or state entities as outlined in the State of Louisiana Emergency Operations Plan.

### Interoperability and Other Systems

UHF and VHF systems are primarily in use by rural smaller jurisdictions but mostly concentrated in the northern Louisiana by local police, sheriffs and fire departments. The State recognizes that agencies will continue to use their existing systems and may never or not readily move to the P25 System. However, the SIEC will continually work in coordination with local first responder agencies to determine whether they need continuation of IP-based solution technology or assistance in developing a plan to transition to the P25 system.

Continuing support of legacy systems and developing interfaces among disparate systems while migrating to newer technologies is essential to the creation of a total interoperable communications system. Louisiana has taken measures to ensure interoperability between the P25 System and disparate systems, which includes the following:

- IP gateways. Throughout the state, gateway devices connect many of the disparate systems, including VHF and UHF systems. Ensuring interoperability between the P25 System and these disparate systems and coordinating those resources with public safety users operating in the VHF/UHF spectrum provides the best opportunity to enhance public safety interoperability. Due to the number of gateway devices deployed throughout Louisiana, if these systems are connected to the P25 System, its use must be regulated. Therefore, the State is developing gateway technology guidance within the P25 System Standard Operating Procedures for those legacy disparate systems that connect to the statewide system.
- Console patches.
- Programming radios with interoperable channels and mutual aid channels. (See Appendix F)

- Providing radios to each parish Office of Homeland Security/Emergency Preparedness for distribution to local first responders command and control personnel. Through state appropriated funds, the SIEC purchased 2100 P25 compliant radios which were distributed at a ratio of 85:15 between local and state agencies. Each of the 64 Louisiana parishes received 28 radios and the remaining radios were distributed among state first responder agencies.

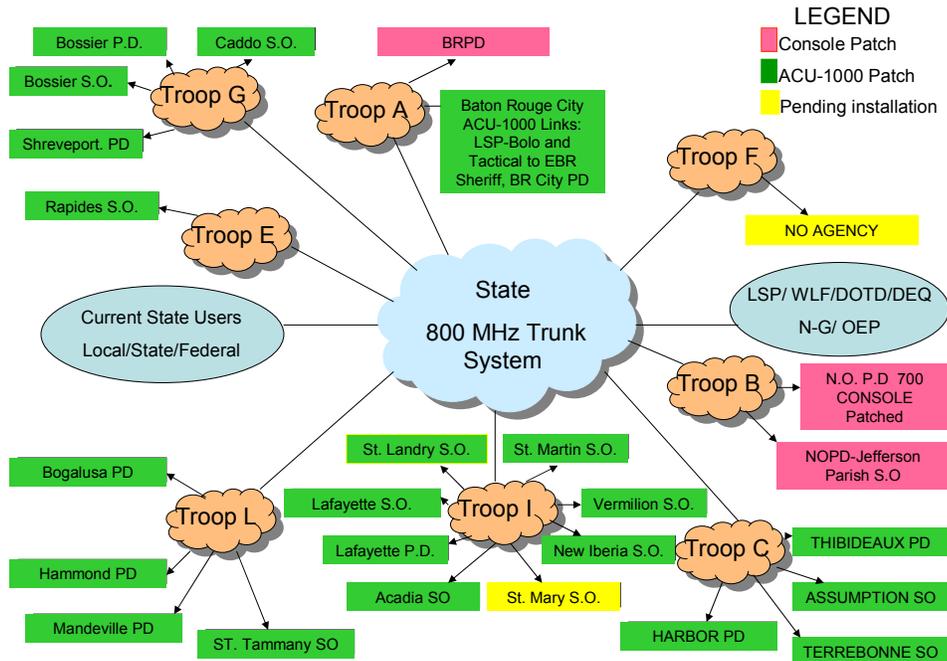


Figure 4.2-2: Existing Legacy/Interoperability Systems Connections

In order to encourage migration from existing technologies to newly-procured technologies, which includes usage of the statewide system, the State is paying 100% of all maintenance and operation fees for the infrastructure of the P25 System. Additionally, local first responder agencies are not assessed fees for locally-owned infrastructure and systems connected to the statewide system. To further encourage use of the P25 System, the SIEC has purchased subscriber units for each parish Office of Homeland Security/Emergency Preparedness.

All procurements utilized by the State's dedicated funding for the P25 System will be authorized for the purchase of P25-compliant equipment. In addition, GOSHEP, as the State Administrative Agency for the federal Homeland Security Grant Program, strongly encourages local jurisdictions to invest new monies into P25-compliant radios. However, due to significant investments already made at the local level, GOHSEP will allow parishes to continue to utilize grant funds to support existing legacy systems. In order to compensate for this, the State, through the Louisiana National Guard, State Police and GOHSEP, maintains multiple means to tie into the State network with local

systems in the event of a major incident requiring emergency response from multiple agencies and cross-jurisdictions.

### **Strategic Technology Reserve**

A variety of communication resources are available for immediate deployment in an emergency or major incident. These assets are available upon request through Emergency Support Function (ESF) 2, and include the following:

- Radio Caches-Several caches of extra radios are maintained by DPSS to deploy in connection with a specific public safety response. The SIEC holds 200 radios in its inventory available to all local and state agencies, which are to be deployed for local and statewide events. Louisiana State Police (LSP) has a total of 144 radios distributed in caches and located at each LSP Troop headquarters within the nine regions.
- Mobile Command Posts – ESF 2 has three Mobile Command Posts available in its inventory. LSP – (2), GOHSEP – (1)
  - Though not all inclusive, these command posts are equipped with 700/800 MHz, VHF, UHF, aviation and HF radio communications systems, IP gateway devices, satellite communications, video teleconferencing, telephone and computer systems.
- Mobile Communications Equipment Trailers –
  - Currently, there are three state-owned mobile command trailers in the ESF 2 inventory. SIEC (2), LSP (1)
    - These trailers are located in the northern, state headquarters and southeast regions of the state. These trailers are equipped with 700/800 MHz P25 trunked site, 800 MHz mutual aid repeaters, VHF/UHF mutual aid base stations, satellite dish, interoperability gateway and internet and Voice-Over IP access.
    - There is one LSP owned 800 MHz Smartzone System trailer equipped for the 800 MHz system and includes 800 MHz mutual aid repeaters.
    - In addition, LSP owns one satellite dish trailer to restore a broken T-1 line at a tower site and one box satellite dish trailer to expand capacity at a site.
- Interoperable Communications Extension System (ICE\_S). The Louisiana National Guard owns and maintains one ICE\_S, a mobile tower with satellite backhaul and 100 cell phones provisioned to operate on that tower as well as commercial networks. ICE\_S is one of 24 systems currently in operation with the Army and Air National Guard, Northern Command, and FEMA. These other systems are available to the Louisiana National Guard upon request in times of emergency.

- Rapid Restoration of Communications (Rapidcom) – The GOHSEP owned mobile trailer provides immediate on-site communications enhancement or supplementation to local governments when deployed from GOHSEP headquarters. There are *three* units available, each having the following capabilities: radio communications, satellite connectivity, voice over IP telephony, and wireless network and internet connectivity.

### **4.3 Standard Operating Procedures**

The Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) that will govern the operation of Louisiana's P25 System are being developed. The Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee (SIEC) has designated the Radio Communications Section of the Department of Public Safety Services (DPSS) as Statewide System Manager, to draft the P25 System SOP. The SOP that governs the Smart Zone system is still in effect. While the State recognizes that Smart Zone SOP is inadequate for the full challenges of interoperability, it will be an important source document for a revised SOP for the new statewide system.

The SIEC broadly represents the first responder community and other stakeholders at the state level. Regional emergency response committees, with representatives from all key stakeholder organizations, including key federal agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), also collaborate on plans, procedures, memoranda, training, and exercises relevant to interoperable communications at the regional level. Parish committees plan and coordinate emergency response, including communications, at the parish level. Tribal authorities participate on the parish level with other local agencies. The net effect is that plans, memoranda, and SOPs are drafted with the participation of all key organizations at every level.

Organizations with input to, and that are bound by, statewide P25 system procedures are:

- Local Government
- Local Fire and Rescue
- Local Law Enforcement Agencies
- Local Sheriffs' Departments
- Emergency Medical Services
- Private Ambulance Services
- Louisiana State Police
- Louisiana National Guard
- Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
- Department of Health and Hospitals
- Governor's Office of Homeland Security

- Nongovernmental Agencies Organizations involved in Disaster Response
- Federally Recognized Tribal Authorities
- Key Federal Agencies, such as Coast Guard, FEMA, FBI

Additionally, the SIEC has recognized the need for increased representation of tribal authorities and key NGOs, and will petition the governor for amendments to the charter to include representatives from these groups.

Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Region 1 (Region 1 – New Orleans) and UASI Region 2 (Region 2- Baton Rouge) have written Tactical Interoperable Communications (TIC) Plans in accordance with DHS requirements. Currently, Louisiana's other homeland security regions are developing TIC Plans. Once completed, these regional TIC Plans will be integrated into the Statewide TIC Plan. These documents will serve as additional sources for a statewide interoperable communications SOP. In addition, our major transit systems, primarily in Region1, are integrated in the TIC Plans for these Regions. In addition all five major ports along the Mississippi River are integrated and have access to the State P25 System.

Louisiana State Police (LSP) and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) are negotiating a Memorandum to integrate several 700MHz sites in Mississippi into Louisiana's zone controller to facilitate interstate interoperability and share resources in areas adjacent to state borders. An SOP, the Gulf States Mutual Aid Radio Talkgroups (GSMART), already exists that provides for the use of common talkgroups between Mississippi and Louisiana over a satellite communications network.

Standard Operating Procedures or Memoranda of Agreement or Memoranda of Understanding (MOAs/MOUs), which govern mutual aid, exist throughout the State among municipalities, parishes, tribal governments, and within regions. Each parish has SOPs that govern daily usage among responder disciplines. These are assessed as adequate for day-to-day operations with currently deployed technologies. As new technology is deployed or as events highlight possible improvements, agencies update or amend procedures.

Many multi-jurisdictional or multi-disciplinary agreements required for decision-making and sharing resources exist for providing mutual aid. Plans exist for likely contingencies at Louisiana's ports, airports, rail lines, key industries, and important infrastructure. More discussion on these issues is found in Section 4.1, Governance Structure, and Section 4.5, Usage.

Local and intra-agency SOPs are updated as needed, typically frequently, due to the need to address deficiencies quickly in order to improve day-to-day operations. Each agency or inter-agency working group at the local level has procedures that govern the

review, amendment, and publication of changes to SOPs which apply to those agencies.

Plans at higher levels require a more formal review process. The Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan and the State TIC Plan, when published, will be reviewed once per year, in addition to following a major exercise or following a real world event which tests the plans. SIEC is the lead agency for reviewing these plans. DPSS is the system manager for the P25 System and is drafting the SOP to regulate this system. GOHSEP is the lead agency for disaster response plans, which all have interoperable communications sections. These plans, including Emergency Support Function (ESF) 2 communications functional plans, are updated annually and reviewed by GOHSEP.

All first responder organizations within Louisiana, key federal agencies, and key NGOs comply with SIEC, DPSS, and GOHSEP plans and procedures.

Compliance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) is an integral part of the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for ESF 2, Communications. Executive Order KBB 2006-34 mandates that all Louisiana homeland security and emergency preparedness functions follow the principles outlined in NIMS. In accordance with this executive order, the Louisiana EOP incorporates Incident Command System concepts into the policies and structure for the State Government management of emergencies and disasters.

ESF 2 of Louisiana's EOP assigns primary responsibility for initiating, organizing, and coordinating all aspects of communications to GOHSEP, LSP and the Louisiana National Guard.

The following agencies are required to develop and maintain communications plans, procedures, and asset inventories in support of ESF 2:

1. The Department of Agriculture and Forestry.
2. The Department of Corrections.
3. The Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism.
5. The Department of Economic Development.
6. The Department of Education.
7. The Department of Environmental Quality.

8. The Office of the Governor – Division of Administration.
9. The Office of the Governor – Elderly Affairs.
10. The Office of the Governor – Oil Spill Coordinators Office.
11. Louisiana State University System
12. The Department of Health and Hospitals.
13. The Department of Justice.
14. The Department of Labor.
15. The Louisiana Public Service Commission.
16. The Louisiana Board of Regents.
17. The Department of Revenue.
18. The Department of Social Services.
19. The Department of Transportation and Development.
20. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.
21. Parish Office of Homeland Security/Emergency Preparedness and Parish  
Emergency Operations Center
22. Volunteer Organizations.

GOHSEP requires revision of agency Communications Plans annually as part of the validation of the state's EOP. Agencies are required to submit revised plans to GOHSEP for validation.

#### **4.4 Training and Exercise Plan**

Louisiana recognizes that statewide communications training and exercises provide the State with a means of attaining, practicing, validating and improving its communications capabilities. In conducting its training and exercise program, the State strives to develop and enhance communications with Federal, State and local agencies to ensure interoperable communications will be maintained during all-hazards incidents or events.

Under the administration of the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), the State has developed the Multi-Year Exercise Plan to help coordinate planning and exercising to strengthen the State's overall defenses. The Multi-Year Exercise Plan lays out the proposed exercise activities for the years 2007, 2008, and 2009. The exercise agenda is binding for all State-level response agencies, as well as for any local response agencies receiving State homeland security funds. GOHSEP, acting as the State Administrative Agency, requires all sixty four parishes to participate in an either a local or regional exercise every year to ensure that they are validating their plans, procedures and protocols, to include on their communications systems. In order to ensure that the parishes can meet this requirement GOHSEP will assist in the development and delivery of exercises either through direct support by our Preparedness and Regional Support Sections or when necessary through a contract that GOHSEP currently has in place with Titan Corporation.

The Multi-Year Exercise Plan has adopted the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation (HSEEP) guidelines established by the Department of Homeland Security. The HSEEP has and will continue to serve as the overriding guidance on how the State and locals conduct exercises. Through this process, the State will conduct After Action Reports to identify gaps that were experienced during the exercise. This will culminate with a detailed Improvement Plan that will address each of the gaps and offer recommendations to improve those areas to insure a more robust capability in the future.

Communications is integrated into all state planned exercises to test existing and future technology, communications plan and protocols. For instance, in May 2006 during the GOHSEP Full Scale Exercise, communications plans and procedures were validated to identify areas requiring further refinement. Some of the statewide exercises are listed below according to the exercise type:

Discussion-Based Exercises typically highlight existing plans, policies, mutual-aid agreements and procedures and include seminars, workshops and tabletop exercises.

- Louisiana Hurricane Preparedness Exercise (Tabletop Exercise)
- Unified Command (Tabletop Exercise)
- National Incident Management System (Workshops)

Operations-Based Exercises are used to validate plans, policies, agreements and procedures solidified in discussion-based exercises. Operations-based exercises include drills, functional exercises and full-scale exercises.

- GOHSEP Hurricane Preparedness Exercise (Functional Exercise)
- GOHSEP Ice Storm (Functional Exercise)
- Riverbend Nuclear Power Plant (Full Scale Exercise)

After actions reports are the primary means to evaluate exercise effectiveness. After action reports provide a vehicle for not only documenting system improvement but also can, if desired, provide a work plan for how these improvements can be implemented. These reports will be made available to all public safety and emergency management organizations.

One of the areas that has been recognized as a weakness of the State's 3 Year Exercise Plan is the lack of Communications specific exercises. As the State and the Regions develop their Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan this area will be identified and addressed to ensure that routine communication exercises are scheduled and conducted that incorporate multi-agency, cross-jurisdictional, and redundant means of communications. The State has already held a very successful communications exercise through the Louisiana National Guard in which both military and civilian communication methods were utilized and successfully integrated. This exercise was also done in conjunction with Federal, State and Local partners and will serve as a model for the future State communication exercises. In addition, Region 1 has had a successful communication exercise at the beginning of the 2007 Calendar year in which the new P25 System was tested in the New Orleans metropolitan area. This will provide an excellent example for other Regions to base their exercise plans and concepts on as their Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans are developed.

The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Public Safety Services (DPSS) in coordination with GOHSEP will provide appropriate training on the P25 System as equipment is fielded. Training will be required on the statewide standard policies/procedures for utilization of the P25 System, a statewide programming template, maintenance program for managing the communication system, and emergency notification and EOC management systems, and for the IP-based interim solution technology and equipment. Requests for training will be sent to [Radio.Communications@dps.la.gov](mailto:Radio.Communications@dps.la.gov). Additionally, DPSS will coordinate with GOHSEP Regional Coordinators to provide an annual training for each region to meet the changing technology operational environment and to address future training. Local jurisdictions and state agencies will then implement train-the-trainer approach to its users to ensure training at the lowest level.

Levels of training will be accessed using the exercise program to ensure that the State's first responders have the necessary training to successfully integrate their local system with the State system, especially for those Parishes that have not made the switch over to the P25 System and are currently using UHF and VHF radios systems.

Paramount to these efforts will be to ensure that sufficient training has been delivered for the successful integration of bridging devices, such as the ACU-1000, to ensure the agencies operating on different systems can create a working environment to allow multi-agencies and multi-jurisdictions to communicate in times of emergency. In addition to the bridging devices, DPSS along with GOHSEP will ensure that training is made available to any discipline or users that request the training. The will be done with direct coordination through the Emergency Managers in all sixty four parishes. To ensure the successful implementation of portable and mobile radios, GOHSEP will develop an interactive reference guide as well as a quick reference guide that will be available to any user on the system that provides instruction on the full usage of radios purchased for the purpose of operating on the P25 System.

## **4.5 Usage**

The statewide communications system is designed to support interagency interoperability during times of emergency and for day to day operations. For example, day to day security operations in New Orleans require the coordination of the Louisiana National Guard, the Louisiana State Police, and the New Orleans Police Department. These agencies conduct effective joint operations through the use of the statewide communications systems.

Various methods to use and promote interoperability on a daily basis are in place throughout the State. At the lowest level, responders from multiple disciplines but within a single jurisdiction use compatible equipment, either P25-compatible or locally-owned legacy equipment, or use a console patch to connect different systems in accordance with standard operating procedures within the jurisdiction. At the next level, two or more jurisdictions will provide mutual aid in accordance with memoranda of agreement that govern these arrangements. They communicate with compatible systems or console patches for daily operation. Ultimately, the State hopes that all jurisdictions will see the benefit of participation in the statewide system based upon shared standards. An important obstacle to this is the cost of subscriber units for the P25 System for the smaller jurisdictions. Jurisdictions that choose not to migrate to the statewide P25 System can still access the statewide system through gateway devices at local communications centers and through 700 MHz command and control radios provided by the Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee (SIEC).

Incidents and events require the use of interoperable communications frequently at the local, tribal, regional, and state levels. Planned events and small incidents are handled in accordance with appropriate Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Larger incidents, occurring more rarely, require the establishment of incident command posts and the deployment of state or federal interoperable communications assets that replace damaged communication infrastructure or enhance infrastructure that may be

inadequate for incident command needs. Escalation procedures are in accordance with local, regional, or state SOPs, depending upon the size of the incident, and applicable law. Typically, this involves a request for assistance to the next higher authority.

There are a number of task force agreements in place for specific occasions throughout the State. Examples include large events at the Superdome, Tiger Stadium, and other major arenas; Mardi Gras; hurricanes and tropical storms; various festivals, fairs, tribal pow-wows, and rodeos. The agencies and jurisdictions included in the mutual aid agreements represent all disciplines and jurisdictions appropriate to the event, and key state agencies. Large events, particularly those in metropolitan areas, also include federal agencies based in the jurisdiction. These events each have an emergency response plan, including a communications section, which provides for interoperable communications. These plans may call for the deployment of mobile systems to enhance interoperable communications.

Interoperable equipment is used routinely in support of daily operations for many jurisdictions and agencies. P25 compliant systems are in use by Louisiana State Police, Louisiana National Guard, and many other state agencies. The metropolitan areas of New Orleans and Baton Rouge routinely use the P25 System available to them. Parishes outside of the metropolitan areas all have some P25 capability due to SIEC-purchased radios, and plans are in place to roll-out the P25 System, and procure additional P25 compliant subscriber units. Additionally, all parishes have the capability to connect legacy systems now in place with the statewide network through console patches and IP-based gateway devices.

Payment of all system infrastructure maintenance costs with state general funds encourages usage of the statewide system by local first responders. A dramatic increase in users is occurring as local first responders now have a dedicated funding source from the State for annual maintenance on the statewide P25 system.

## **5 Strategy**

### **5.1 Vision for Interoperability**

Louisiana implements an emergency response communications system that allows seamless interoperability among first responders. The system includes the technical equipment and infrastructures, appropriate governance structures, and necessary interagency and inter-jurisdictional procedures for seamless interoperable communications. It is capable of the transmission of voice, data, and critical imagery to permit on-the-scene coordination between tactical units and facilitate decision-making at incident command posts up to unified command level. It meets all requirements of the National Incident Management System. The system provides superior coverage throughout every jurisdiction in the state, and permits local, regional, tribal, state, and federal responders from all disciplines and agencies to communicate quickly and clearly, using the newest technology, when available, and connecting legacy systems, when necessary. Furthermore, the system permits state citizens to receive timely text message or email alerts, permitting citizens to avoid or mitigate the effects of all-hazards incidents. These capabilities ensure state citizens can expect rapid and appropriate emergency response from their local, state, tribal, and federal governments and key non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

### **5.2 Mission**

Through a collaborative effort among key stakeholders, the State of Louisiana provides interoperable public safety communication—voice, data, and critical imagery— through a statewide wireless network and a common architecture capable of connecting disparate systems, in order to support public decision-making and to ensure rapid and appropriate emergency response to citizens throughout the state.

### **5.3 Goals and Objectives**

Implementation of Louisiana’s vision for a totally interoperable communications environment for its first responder and emergency preparedness stakeholders will be directed by goals and objectives that encourage broad-based participation among all disciplines and among all levels of government. These goals and objectives inform the accomplishments and activities needed to assimilate the existing communications plans within the state, first, into nine regional plans and then into a collective statewide plan. Existing plans are already being subsumed into regional plans through creation of interoperable talk groups and mutual aid channels.

In addition, these goals and objectives foster the spirit of collaboration needed to integrate local and state plans into a comprehensive document that reflects true statewide interoperability. The efforts of the Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee (SIEC) to catalog the capacities and needs of local first responders through an on-going series of regional meetings and workshops, serve to remind local first responders that Louisiana's frequent, dissimilar hazards often overwhelm local capabilities and economic realities militate in favor of cooperation rather than continued isolation.

Guided by the goals and objectives in this State Communications Interoperability Plan, Louisiana will achieve a totally interoperable environment for first responders and emergency managers.

The goals and objectives below subsume and improve upon previous planning efforts within Louisiana. In 2004, the Louisiana Totally Interoperable Environment (LATIE) User Group was formed to develop a statewide interoperable communications solution. Recognizing the need for inter-disciplinary cooperation, LATIE was comprised of 21 members representing a cross section of the emergency service community from each of the nine emergency preparedness regions across the state. A subcommittee was appointed to provide guidance and assist with technical issues. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita interrupted progress, but served to strengthen Louisiana's resolve for a statewide interoperable emergency communications environment. These goals and objectives are also synchronized with the State's 5 Year Enhancement Plan that describes how the State will utilize its Homeland Security Grant Funding over a five year period.

The SIEC, created in 2006, continues the work of LATIE. Existing plans are already being subsumed into regional plans through creation of interoperable talk groups and mutual aid channels.

In addition, after Hurricane Katrina, the State's Emergency Operations Plan, including Emergency Support Function (ESF) 2, Communications, transitioned from its initial framework into a resourced and exercised plan which integrates the assets and capabilities of state agencies, now ready to respond to any disaster or emergency. ESF 2 through its co-leads - the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), the Louisiana National Guard, and the Louisiana State Police - not only created a comprehensive emergency communications plan, but prioritized acquisition of communications equipment for the rapid restoration of infrastructure.

These objectives are tightly integrated under goals, and each objective is a milestone, or is split into several milestones, which are found in the implementation matrix at Appendix G. These goals and objectives are organized like, and synchronized with, previous planning efforts and investment justifications written by GOHSEP. The statewide plan will tightly integrate with the efforts of major metropolitan areas within

the state to achieve synergy in the capability of installed systems and in the funding that supports them.

**Goal 1: Governance/Organization** –Establish a statewide interoperable communications governance board that provides representation to regional, parish, local and tribal interests; all first responder disciplines; key NGOs and all State entities who have a need for wireless communications to conduct daily operations or to respond to any disaster. This body shall drive the establishment of protocols, procedures and policy, and direct the use of available funding to fully implement a statewide interoperable communications system available to all first responder agencies.

*Objective 1.1*-Petition the Governor to reconstitute the SIEC, with recommended changes regarding representation and staggered terms, pending codification in the legislation.

*Objective 1.2*-Establish protocols, policy, and procedures to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of interoperable communications systems and networks developed as described in Goal 3.

*Objective 1.3*-Coordinate the efforts of local, tribal, state and federal emergency service agencies on matters impacting interoperable communications.

**Goal 2: Standard Operating Procedures/Planning**–Develop a Statewide Interoperable Communications Plan to coordinate, plan, and implement an interoperable communications environment throughout the State for first responders and other stakeholder. Develop a State Tactical Interoperable Communications (TIC) Plan, incorporating regional TIC Plans, to allow all first responder command nodes to effectively coordinate all disaster responses.

*Objective 2.1*-Collect data to assess the interoperability of communication among local, tribal, state and federal emergency service agencies.

*Objective 2.2*-Continue the assessment of current communication technology, equipment, and critical communication infrastructure at the parish, regional, tribal, and state levels. Compile existing findings and best practices identified through studies, evaluation, and pilot projects to provide an information base for implementation planning and system design. Develop a database of existing communication technology, equipment, and critical communication infrastructure. Geo-Code all technology, equipment, and critical communication infrastructure.

*Objective 2.3-*Develop common language protocols for all public safety responders in Louisiana to ensure clear interagency communication.

*Objective 2.4-*Develop statewide standard policies and procedures for utilization of the primary P25 System and the interim IP network.

*Objective 2.5-*Develop a statewide programming template including talk groups for P25 compliant trunk radios.

*Objective 2.6-*Plan and implement a maintenance program for managing the communication system.

*Objective 2.7-(Public Awareness)* Develop partnerships with local , Tribal, State, Federal and private entities to raise awareness, educate, and implement the State Communications Interoperability Plan.

*Objective 2.8-(Public Awareness)* Promote and communicate statewide solutions, standards and technologies to local, Tribal, State and Federal emergency service agencies and government officials.

*Objective 2.9-(Gulf States)* Develop a multi-state communications plan and memorandum of understanding for utilization, deployment, training, and exercise of communication equipment and systems.

*Objective 2.10--*Exercise multi-state capabilities annually.

*Objective 2.11--(Funding)* Identify funding sources to ensure that adequate technology and policy solutions are employed.

*Objective 2.12-(Funding)* Analyze costs associated with maintenance, bonding, and reinvestment for a statewide communication system.

*Objective 2.13-(Funding)* Identify key opportunities for resource sharing that minimize cost and increase efficiency and effectiveness.

*Objective 2.14-* Create a cache of radios to be kept in reserve to provide for specific or extraneous needs within the statewide interoperability system.

**Goal 3: Technology/Equipment** –Create robust and redundant system infrastructure available for use by authorized Federal, State, and Tribal agencies, as well as local entities that have eligibility in the Public Safety Radio Pool as described in Federal Communications Commission Rules and Regulations (47 CFR-Part 90). The system should provide wireless transmission of voice, data, and critical imagery; connection to

the public switched telephone network and mobile telephone networks; an all-hazards text messaging/email alert system; and the integration of legacy systems in use throughout the state.

*Objective 3.1*-Establish P25 System to serve as the backbone of the larger statewide system in a phased rollout using all available funding sources. The system will provide secure 95% or better coverage when using a portable radio inside a building at street level in the more densely populated seven metropolitan areas of the State, and secure 95% or better coverage when using a mobile street level radio in all other areas of the State.

*Objective 3.2*-Address communications needs of Louisiana's major metropolitan areas such as New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Alexandria, Shreveport, and Monroe, and create a system that will utilize a combination of simulcast and multicast tower sites.

*Objective 3.3*-Acquire and install infrastructure and backup/redundancy equipment for the expansion of the P25 System to include repeaters, T-1 lines, microwaves, satellites, and any other wired or wireless communication technology.

*Objective 3.4*-Procure P25-compliant subscriber units to allow first responders to participate on statewide P25 System.

*Objective 3.5*-Make system access available to local agencies without user fees to encourage the adoption of the system statewide. Agencies will be expected to maintain their own subscriber units.

*Objective 3.6*- Ensure the system provides gateways for each of the 64 parishes to: provide legacy reach back for voice on selected talk groups/channels for system users as they transition from existing system; permit system access to jurisdictions and organizations that choose not to transition to the P25 System; and to integrate agencies from outside Louisiana providing aid when needed.

*Objective 3.7*-Evaluate the need for the removal and reinstallation of Smart Zone system infrastructure from the southern to the northern parts of the state as an interim interoperability solution while the primary P25 System is rolled out in accordance with the phased roll out plan.

*Objective 3.8*-Facilitate ongoing voice interoperability on selected talk groups/channels between the P25 System and other VHF, UHF, and/or Smart Zone public safety voice with the adjoining states in border areas.

*Objective 3.9*-Evaluate public-private broadband projects, when available, in order to procure high performance data equipment and wireless broadband coverage equipment in selected densely populated areas to enhance interoperable communications where economically feasible. The system shall provide secure high speed broadband data and imaging using selected devices in selected areas of the State of Louisiana.

*Objective 3.10*-Identify existing and emerging technologies which will enhance communication capabilities.

*Objective 3.11*-Create a cache of reserve communications equipment to be used when the communications system is overwhelmed.

**Goal 4: Training/Exercise** – Establish a statewide training program that provides technical expertise and training on the utilization of subscriber units, radio systems, and incorporation of gateway devices to allow reach back of legacy systems into the statewide network. Incorporate communications into routine exercises at the State, Regional, Tribal, and local levels on a routine basis and to conduct an annual statewide interoperable communications exercise that incorporates all means of available communications and includes all nine Homeland Security Regions, Louisiana and States throughout the Gulf Coast. Exercises will use and comply with Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program guidelines.

*Objective 4.1*-Enhance the knowledge and proper use of existing and future communications equipment by providing frequent and routine training for users.

*Objective 4.2*-Provide assistance to local agencies on implementation of communications interoperability consistent with established statewide practices.

*Objective 4.3*-Conduct statewide and local exercises on a yearly basis to test integration of different communication systems.

**Goal 5: Usage** – Establish an environment that eliminates hurdles and encourages maximum use of the statewide network for local, tribal, regional and state first responders for all planned events and emergency incidents. Implement a robust infrastructure with enhanced capabilities and appropriate protocols, policies, and procedures that encourages all localities to adopt and participate in the statewide system for daily use by first responders as legacy systems reach the end of their service lives.

*Objective 5.1*-Eliminate any technical hurdles that prohibit local first responders from integrating their communication systems on to the P25 System.

*Objective 5.2*-Increase the number of users on the P25 System to facilitate better integration of local and state first responders during times of emergency

## **5.4 Strategic Initiatives**

The State of Louisiana intends to significantly enhance the State's interoperable communications through the implementation of four initiatives, outlined as follows:

1) Development of a Statewide Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan that incorporates the needs of local first responders and encompasses regional plans that will be integrated into a statewide plan. This will be accomplished over the first year of the State's execution of the Statewide Communications Interoperable Plan and set the conditions for long term capability to successfully integrate the State and local first responders for any response to a naturally occurring disaster or terrorist attack.

2) Maintain the existing governance structure at the local, tribal, regional and state level to provide guidance and direction on establishing and maintaining a statewide interoperable communications environment. The necessary ingredient for any long term planning effort is to ensure that the State has a governance structure that encompasses multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional partners who collaborate and determine the direction that is in the best interest of all the State's first responders as a collective entity. Through the life of this plan, this governance structure will be needed to ensure that the system can successfully meet the requirements of the first responder community and integrate continuing changing technological advances of new communication systems.

3) Procure the necessary equipment to expand our existing P25 System, upgrade existing towers to add the capacity to transmit data and imagery, to procure subscriber units and consoles for the first responder community, and invest in new technologies that enhance the ability of first responders to communicate during a disaster. This is a long term initiative that will continue to change based on new technological solutions developed by the private sector that incorporate new advances in communications equipment. To fully incorporate the P25 system statewide will be a three year initiative culminating in a ninety five percent coverage rate for mobile radios statewide. In order to achieve a ninety five percent coverage rate for portable radios through all our major metropolitan areas will be a much longer goal consisting of a five to ten year period.

4) Continue to enhance interoperable communications among Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana through the Gulf States Interoperable Communications Cooperative (GSICC). While advances will be made over the 2008 calendar year, it is anticipated a full integration of communications for all three states will consist of a three to five year period.

Upon completion of these four initiatives, the State and its regional and parish partners will have established the capability to share information through a true interoperable environment.

## **5.5 National Incident Management System (NIMS) Compliance**

The very nature of the State Communications Interoperability Plan promotes and supports the use of NIMS operating procedures. The initiatives, outlined in Section 5.4, Initiatives, provide the strategy for establishing data and communications systems interoperability to enable effective, efficient and collaborative incident management at all levels. Furthermore, the Louisiana Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) implements and supports standard operating procedures designed to improve interoperability among jurisdictions and disciplines in the areas of training, communications, and technology.

The SCIP is a collaborative, multi-disciplined, multi-jurisdictional document that promotes intrastate and interstate mutual aid agreements to promote a cooperative environment when responding to and recovering from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity.

Training and exercise is the cornerstone to any successful response and maintaining a high level of preparedness and incident management. The SCIP promotes and supports the integration of communications training and exercises into all statewide emergency preparedness exercises. These exercises incorporate NIMS. Furthermore, Executive Order KBB 2005-61 (See Appendix E) requires that NIMS be adopted and implemented as the State of Louisiana's standard for incident management.

The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) is also working with the 64 parishes to ensure NIMS compliance at the local level and is currently collecting the necessary data and inputting required information into NIMSCAST. In addition, GOHSEP acting as the State Administrative Agency is ensuring compliance at the local level by requiring all recipients of Homeland Security Grant funds to be NIMS compliant in order to have access to existing and future grant monies. Finally, GOHSEP will begin auditing parishes to validate that all information provided is accurate and in compliance with NIMS beginning in Federal Fiscal Year 2008.

## **5.6 Review and Update Process**

In conjunction with the State's Emergency Support Function 2, the Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee (SIEC), with a membership that is representative of all regions and all responder disciplines will review the State Communications Interoperability Plan annually to ensure that the plan represents Louisiana's on-going vision for improved public safety communications. Additionally, the plan will be reviewed and updated to record recommended changes resulting from after action reviews or reports following major exercises or training events. The SIEC website is the primary means by which the SIEC communicates updates or revisions to its plans to the emergency response community. However, it is the responsibility of the SIEC members to communicate these changes to their respective agencies.

## **6 Implementation**

The approval and publication of this strategic plan, which subsumes and improves upon previous planning efforts, are important steps in the on-going implementation of the statewide interoperability system. This plan incorporates previous planning and lessons learned, and will drive future efforts to develop the technical system and the policies and procedures which will govern it. It incorporates short and long term objectives with a funding strategy (for planning purposes short term goals are to be complete by December 2008). A detailed list of milestones, with dates and performance measures is found in Appendix G.

The Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee (SIEC), established by Executive Order, is not a permanent body, but the SIEC anticipates that the next governor of Louisiana, elected in the fall of 2007, will continue it. Legislation is pending in the next session of the legislature to codify the SIEC in law. This achieves Goal 1 of this plan.

The development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and other necessary policies is underway in order to achieve Goal 2. The SOP governing use of the current state system is still in force, and will form a key resource in the revision that will become the SOP for the new system. Urban Area Security Initiative Regions 1 and 2, the cities of New Orleans and Baton Rouge and environs, respectively, have written SOPs which will also be source documents for the statewide SOP. Finally, most municipalities, parishes, tribes, and regions have SOPs for the conduct of their daily activities, and memoranda that govern mutual aid.

The State is also writing a tactical interoperable communications (TIC) plan, with input from all nine homeland security regions, to be completed by December 2008. As of November 2007, Regions 1 and 2 have completed and approved its regional TIC Plans. Region 3 is in the final stages of approving its TIC Plan and the other regions are in various stages of writing its TIC Plans.

The SIEC has completed its initial assessment of the communications technology and infrastructure in place within Louisiana. It cooperates with key agencies, with regional and local responder organizations, and with key vendors to plan installation of systems, and to ensure installed systems meet the needs of responder organizations.

The Department of Public Safety Services (DPSS) is the system manager with responsibility for maintaining the P25 System. DPSS is also drafting SOPs to govern the system and the development of a common programming template. This template is well along—with mutual aid channels and key statewide talkgroups programmed.

Local agencies are developing common templates among themselves, and DPSS is constructing a database of talkgroups to de-conflict issues that arise.

The SIEC plans and funds the maintenance of the statewide interoperable communications system.

The statewide interoperability system is formed around a statewide 700/800 MHz digital public safety band wireless system. The State is well-along in the planning, development, and funding of this network. Currently, the P25 System is in use in the southern portion of the State where the major cities of New Orleans and Baton Rouge are located. This initial build-out is funded from a variety of sources, and includes substantial federal aid in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. Maps of the system expansion are located at Appendix H.

The next stage of development includes the further expansion of the P25 System in the interior of the State with the addition of 11 towers sites using appropriated State funds. These sites are expected to be online by April 2008. The expansion continues with the addition of 22 towers in the northern part of the State, and the addition of capacity-enhancing and redundant equipment in the southeast. The SIEC expects to use portions of the State's PSIC grant to fund this expansion.

Additionally, Louisiana State Police has received a Community Oriented Policing Services grant to fund 6 sites to expand the system. The specific sites are not yet identified, and matching funds are not yet available to implement this as of November 2007.

Finally, the SIEC is planning an additional 34 sites to increase coverage and capacity. The specific sites are not yet identified, and funding is not yet available for this expansion. The SIEC is seeking funding for these 34 sites from the legislature in its FY 2008-2009 budget request.

In the interim, the SIEC is evaluating the practicality of removing Smart Zone equipment from sites in the southern part of the State, which has P25 System coverage, and reinstalling it in the northern part of the State to improve Smart Zone coverage there until the P25 System is expanded. This measure was initially planned to enhance interoperability during the deployment of the P25 System, but the P25 System is proceeding so rapidly that this may be unnecessary.

Details of the system in place are contained in the Section 4, Current Statewide Assessment and Section 4.2, Technology. Details on the build-out of the P25 System are found in Section 4, Current Assessment. Additionally, a graphic summary of the P25 System expansion is found in Appendix H.

Additionally, the SIEC has evaluated existing infrastructures and has purchased gateway devices to enable interim interoperability among legacy systems and the P25 System through IP-based networks. This provides a significant improvement to interoperability while the P25 System is built-up.

The SIEC has also purchased deployable, mobile equipment and additional subscriber units to form a strategic technology reserve to replace communications capability damaged in an incident or to enhance the communication capability in the area of a disaster. This will greatly increase the capability available to responders to these incidents.

The SIEC also recognizes the importance of monitoring emerging technologies that may have application in the enhancement of interoperable communications. The SIEC expects to use \$2 million of the PSIC grant to fund emerging technology purchases. The Committee is evaluating broadband IP based 2.4/4.9 GHz mesh network technologies.

Concurrently with the physical roll-out of the system, the SIEC is researching vendors to provide email or text message all-hazards alerts to the first responder community and to the citizens of Louisiana. The objective is to provide text messaging as a first responder communication channel, and to provide warnings to citizens so that they can take action to mitigate the danger and damage associated with disasters. The SIEC expects to solicit requests for proposal in the first quarter of calendar 2008.

Moreover, the SIEC, DPSS, GOHSEP, and other agencies involved in disaster response and mitigation are cooperating to develop communications-specific training and exercises to train personnel and assess systems, and to integrate interoperable communications equipment and procedures into future exercises.

There are ample opportunities for the involvement of local, state, and tribal agencies in the development, implementation, and evaluation of all facets of this plan. Section 4.1, Governance, describes the make-up of the SIEC and shows that the Committee is broadly representative of the first responder community, of all regions of the state, and state agencies. Even so, the SIEC will petition the Governor, who assumes office in January 2008, to improve the representation of tribal authorities and nongovernmental agencies. Section 4.3, Standard Operating Procedures, describes the procedures that govern the statewide system, mutual aid, and special events. The SIEC attends regional and local communications and emergency preparedness meetings and seeks input from first responders, reports on progress made, and fosters interagency agreement on a variety of issues. Local authorities often approach the SIEC to initiate cost-sharing arrangements that enhance the statewide system, and the SIEC always seeks input from local authorities to determine and address local needs.

The Gulf States Interoperable Communication Cooperative (GSICC) enhancement plan will enhance interoperable communications among Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, addressing the current inability of states along the Gulf Coast to communicate with each other. The completion of Louisiana's SCIP and a comparable plan for the GSICC will define requirements and will then be validated by an exercise. At this point we believe the approach in Louisiana will entail providing the linkage for state-to-state connectivity with our existing Smart Zone system, the P25 System, or satellite communications.

We expect this initiative to do the following: (1) Enhance relationships for interstate as well as intrastate regional collaboration. Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama are committed to becoming a national model for interstate communications. This relationship will enhance response for catastrophic events as complex as hurricanes and terrorists attacks, and will also be used for day-to-day real world operations in addressing criminal activities. (2) Finalize a tactical interoperable communications plan, to include a formalized communications resource database. (3) Evaluate, enhance, and expand existing networks to assist in the delivery of interoperable communications.

Louisiana has already established cooperation with Mississippi. For example, on August 30, 2007, FEMA held a Disaster Emergency Communications Planning meeting with the State of Louisiana and the State of Mississippi to discuss the interoperability of the Mississippi and Louisiana systems. At the end of this meeting, Louisiana and Mississippi set the guidelines for an intergovernmental agreement, between the states for sharing interoperability sites and channels. These sites include six sites provided by FEMA that are to be located within Mississippi along interstates I-10, I-55, and I-59 (under solicitation HSFEMS-07-R-0014).

Critical to the success of the SIEC implementing this plan is the ability to communicate the success of current initiatives to the statewide public safety community, to policy makers, to key stakeholders, and Louisiana citizens. In order to accomplish this, and seek input from stakeholders, the SIEC has developed an outreach program designed to educate all stakeholders of its ongoing efforts. The SIEC has established a website to help distribute information directly related to the development and implementation of the state plan. The website provides meeting times and locations, and minutes from previous meetings. Additionally, the SIEC holds its meetings throughout the state to encourage maximum participation and involvement from local public safety responders. The SIEC is actively attending regional interoperable communications meetings and giving briefings to continually educate, gain input, and gain buy in from local jurisdictions on interoperability goals and initiatives. The SIEC makes policy concerning interoperable communications for the state, and is fully informed on the status of its initiatives. Finally, the SIEC's charter requires an annual report to the

Governor to inform him and other interested parties about the progress of the statewide system and the procedures which will govern it.

The State is also developing performance measures and critical success factors to gauge the progress and success of interoperable communications improvement efforts. The procedure for identifying appropriate performance measures relies upon technical and operational experts on the SIEC or members of their staffs, the support staff of the SIEC, key vendors, and the input of system users from around the state who are consulted through the SIEC's outreach program. These experts meet and propose standards that are refined and adopted by the committee. Those performance measures and critical success factors that are identified at this time are included in the milestone matrix contained in Appendix G.

The execution of a performance management process will help ensure the successful achievement of the goals and initiatives outlined. The output and related processes that are part of the performance management approach begin with setting goals and performance measures.

The most significant challenges to plan execution are lack of sufficient funding and SOPs which are still under development. Details on funding implementation is detailed in Section 7, Funding.

The statewide point of contact for this plan is:

Name: Rizwan Ahmed  
Title: Chief Information Officer  
Agency: Division of Administration  
Phone: (225)342-7105  
E-mail: rizwan.ahmed@la.gov

POC is a full time interoperability coordinator.

## **7 Funding**

The State of Louisiana has been working diligently over the past several years to assemble a statewide interoperable communications system. Once in place, this system will support voice, data and imagery communications between all emergency service personnel. The importance of interoperable communications in Louisiana was reinforced during disaster mitigation efforts following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. As a result, the development and funding of a statewide interoperable communications system has become a top priority of the State's efforts to strengthen its emergency response program. However, the State's efforts continue to be hampered by the lack of funding.

The Governor of Louisiana, by Executive Order, designated the Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee (SIEC) to serve as the governance board of the interoperable communications system. The Executive Order charged the SIEC to develop among all levels of government, an inter-disciplinary approach to provide reliable communications for the entire emergency response community within the state. The SIEC, in turn, has assigned the role of Statewide System Manager to the Department of Public Safety Services (DPSS). As system manager, the DPSS will provide project management support for all phases of the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) and leverage, where possible, all technology solutions.

The cost of implementing a new communications system will be extremely expensive and no one agency or discipline will have the ability to fund such a project. The SIEC Budget and Finance Subcommittee will continue development of a comprehensive funding strategy to be completed by June 2008. This funding strategy will describe the anticipated process, timeframe, and participants responsible for: identifying and evaluating potential funding sources; identifying and evaluating anticipated costs of initiatives within the SCIP, including maintenance; and identifying resources to manage planning for and implementation of the goals. Identifying short and long term funding sources will generate the resources necessary to support the costs associated with acquiring and maintaining the P25 System for voice, data and imagery as outlined in the SCIP. The Subcommittee will continually research all available sources of funding, and define and complete the application processes for each. The Subcommittee will identify areas for savings and/or avoiding costs such as public/private partnerships and leveraging use of limited State and local appropriation funding.

Louisiana has aggressively leveraged several funding sources, including State and local homeland security grants, Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grants, and UASI Regions 1 and 2 grants. Additionally, State and local general funds have

been used to implement the majority of Phase I as defined in the SICP. The Louisiana legislature appropriated \$2.8 million in April 2006 for expansion of the P25 System in southwest Louisiana. In December 2006, the Louisiana Legislature gave their full support for communications interoperability and approved the creation and establishment of the Louisiana Interoperability Communications Fund within the Louisiana Treasury. Also they mandated that all monies in the fund shall be used solely to establish, design, develop, acquire, construct, administer, operate, and maintain an interoperability communications system within the state to serve state and local emergency first responders and to meet National Incident Management System communications requirements. The legislature again appropriated an additional \$9.8 million in March 2007 and \$11.5 million in June 2007 for recurring maintenance and operational costs, and implementation of an IP-based interim solution, full time SIEC and DPSS staffs, P25 System infrastructure expansion, P25 subscriber units, mobile communications units, and maintenance funding for existing infrastructure. The SIEC is aggressively working with Louisiana legislators to appropriate additional funding for the remaining implementation and sustainment of all phases of the SCIP. Current legislation is proposed for the State fiscal year 2008-2009 to include funding in the amount of \$34.3 million to continue implementation of the SCIP. The amount of \$21.1 million is designated for the build-out of the P25 System and the remaining funds will be used for the purchase of subscriber units, maintenance and staff salaries. In addition, the SIEC continues to prepare federal earmark requests for communication system enhancement and expansion.

State and local agencies spent over \$30 million outside of FEMA and homeland security grant funding, but additional funding is needed to complete all phases of the build out. A summary of funding for the P25 System infrastructure is listed below.

## Louisiana Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan

Statewide 700/800MHz P25 System Voice Infrastructure Funding		
Funding Source	Amount	Date Received
FEMA (Post Katrina)	15,900,000	Sep-2005
Region 1 Local/COPS/HS	17,000,000	Sep-2006
LSP Budget	2,800,000	Mar-2006
SIEC State Budget Adj.	1,500,000	Mar-2007
SIEC State Budget Adj.	3,980,000	Jul-2007
Region 2 COPS Grant	4,000,000	Sep-2006
LSP COPS Grant	2,646,000	Sep-2007
PSIC Grant	8,000,000	Oct-2007
SIEC FY08-09 Budget Request	21,162,784	Jul-2008
<b>TOTAL Infrastructure Funding</b>	<b>76,988,784</b>	



**Figure 7: P25 System Infrastructure Funding Map**

Due to the enormous expense of the statewide system, the SIEC adopted a multi-phase implementation strategy, which will allow the initial system acquisition costs to be spread across an acceptable period of time. A summary of implementation follows:

Statewide Build Out	Cost (Millions)	Start	Complete
<b>Phase I</b> – Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 9	\$41.2	2005	2007
<b>Phase II</b> – Region 2, 4, 5, and 6	\$3.98	2007	2008
<b>Phase III</b> – Region 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9	\$8	2008	2009
<b>Phase IV</b> – Region 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9	\$23.7	2008	2010

Phase I refers to the P25 System infrastructure that is in place in the Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 9 areas, which cover the Gulf Coast areas of Louisiana, which are most vulnerable to catastrophic natural disasters. Approximately \$41.2 million in funding for Phase I is from a variety of sources. Phase II refers to the build-out of 11 tower sites in the mid-section of the state with appropriated funds. Phase III refers to the build-out of 22 tower sites in the north part of the state and the addition of microwave redundancy in the southeast, using a portion of the PSIC grant. Phase IV refers to the build-out of 34 sites throughout all regions, providing secure 95% or better coverage when using a portable radio inside a building at street level in the more densely populated seven metropolitan areas of the State, and secure 95% or better coverage when using a mobile street level radio in all other areas of the State.

Maintenance costs are a major recurring expense that must be considered for future funding. The fiscal projections pertaining to the cost of maintaining the system are as follows:

State Fiscal Year	Maintenance Costs
2007-2008	\$4.9 million
2008-2009	\$8.3 million
2009-2010	\$15 million

The average costs per subscriber unit are as follows:

<b>Description</b>	<b>Average Cost</b>
Purchase of subscriber unit	\$2500 - \$3500 per unit
Infrastructure build out per subscriber	$\$76,988,784 / 35,000 = \$2,200$
Maintenance cost per subscriber FY2009-2010	$\$15,000,000 / 35,000 = \$429$

The projected cost to complete all phases of the SCIP, including voice, data, imagery, and maintenance, is in excess of \$200 million. Therefore, identifying long term funding sources for acquisition and recurring costs is critical to the success of a statewide interoperable communications system. Funding sources to be identified and researched by the SIEC Budget and Finance Subcommittee as with the current committed funding sources will be diverse and include, but are not limited to the following:

**State and local funds:** The State and local governments will continue to collaborate and coordinate requests for appropriation funding to be used towards implementation of the SCIP. Examples of State and local revenues which may be used to fund appropriation requests include, but are not limited to State taxes, bonds, and 911 surcharges, and commercializing available state-owned tower space.

**Grants:** The SIEC will continue to seek State and federal grants from areas such as, the Homeland Security Grant Program, Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant Program, COPS Grant Program, the Port Security Grant Program, and congressional earmarks.

**Public/Private Partnerships:** The SIEC will continue to enter into cooperative agreements with local and state agencies and private entities to support the goals and objectives of the SCIP. Projects which may be considered are: leasing versus buying technology and infrastructure; co-locating towers; and providing redundant connections to infrastructure. To continue further development and interest in partnerships, the SIEC established the following Policy in consideration of an application for partnership:

**STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**POLICY REGARDING REQUESTS FOR FUNDING**

The Statewide Interoperable Executive Committee (SIEC) hereby establishes the following criteria for consideration of an application for funding:

1. The application shall provide the name of the applicant, principal point of contact, description and location of the project, amount of funding requested, and a list of all other sources for funding for the project, and information regarding Criteria 3 and 4 below.
2. The project must support the goals and objectives of the SIEC for a statewide interoperable communications system for first responders.
3. The project must enhance regional interoperability or address a gap in the coverage or accessibility to the statewide system in effect on the date the request for funding is submitted.
4. Except in extraordinary circumstances, the SIEC will not fund the cost share for a grant; however, the SIEC may enter into an intergovernmental agreement or partnership for the collective use of resources in accordance with the goals and objectives of the SIEC.
5. Nothing in this policy shall prohibit the SIEC, on its own initiative, from providing funding for a project that meets the goals and objectives of the SIEC.
6. Approval of any application by the SIEC is contingent upon availability of funds.

## **8 Close**

Since September 11, 2001, Louisiana has been aggressively making efforts to improve its public safety communications systems and foster cooperative relationships among all first responders. Current improvements to interoperability and the formation of the Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee will ensure that law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, public works, emergency preparedness, National Guard, 911 communication dispatchers and others, working together, will truly achieve a secure homeland in Louisiana.

## Appendix A GOHSEP Working Group Participants

### 2. Team Member Identification:

The Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) hosted a three day workshop in Alexandria, Louisiana starting on Monday, February 13 and ending on Wednesday February 15, 2005. Approximately 120 stakeholders (not including GOHSEP personnel) from across the state converged to provide input on the development of the Louisiana Program and Capability Review and Investment Justification and Enhancement Plan.

#### Region 1:

Plaquemines Parish  
Michelle Arnold, Plaquemines GOHSEP  
Jesse St. Amant, Plaquemines GOHSEP  
Jonathon Garza, Orleans Homeland Security

Orleans Parish  
Matthew Kallmyer, Orleans Homeland Security  
Robert Williams, Orleans Homeland Security

#### Region 2:

East Feliciana Parish  
Travis Prewitt, East Feliciana GOHSEP  
Lily McAlister, East Feliciana Sheriff's Office

West Baton Rouge Parish  
Anthony Summers, West Baton Rouge GOHSEP  
Sharlot Edwards, West Baton Rouge GOHSEP

West Feliciana Parish  
Billie Giroir, West Feliciana Sheriff's Office

Livingston Parish  
Brian Fairburn, Livingston GOHSEP  
Anita Fairburn, Livingston GOHSEP

Pointe Coupee Parish  
Brooke Achee, Pointe Coupee Sheriff's Office  
Donald Ewing, Pointe Coupee GOHSEP  
Mayor Justin Cox, Pointe Coupee Parish  
Keith Davidson, Livonia Fire District

Ascension Parish  
Eddie Howard, Ascension GOHSEP  
Joycelyn Bibbs, Ascension GOHSEP

East Baton Rouge Parish  
Yvonne Murphy, East Baton Rouge GOHSEP

#### Region 3:

Lafourche Parish  
Chris Boudreaux, Lafourche GOHSEP

Terrebonne Parish  
Barbara Dupree, Terrebonne Parish  
Pam Roussel, South Central Planning Dist.

St. Charles Parish  
Jim Polk, St. Charles GOHSEP

St. John the Baptist Parish  
Chuck Bazile, St. John Parish

St. James Parish  
Gerald Falgoust, St. James GOHSEP  
Robert Jones, St. James Sheriff's Office

Assumption Parish  
John Boudreaux, Assumption GOHSEP

#### Region 4:

Acadia Parish  
Lee Hebert, Acadia GOHSEP  
Kim Boudreaux, Acadia GOHSEP

St. Landry Parish  
Lisa Vidrine, St. Landry GOHSEP  
Jude A. Moreau, St. Landry E-911

St. Martin Parish  
Chris Guilbeaux, St. Martin Parish  
Guy M. Bonin, St. Martin Fire Coordinator

Vermilion Parish  
Brandon Alleman, Vermilion Sheriff's Office  
Gabe Mathieu, Vermilion E-911

St. Mary Parish  
Duval H. Arthur, Jr., St. Mary GOHSEP

## Louisiana Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan

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Iberia Parish  
James Anderson, Iberia GOHSEP

Evangeline Parish  
Liz Hill, Evangeline E-911  
Michael Arnold, Evangeline Fire District

Lafayette Parish  
Art LeBreton, Lafayette Sheriff's Office  
Linda Lavergne, Lafayette GOHSEP

### Region 5:

Calcasieu Parish  
Norman Bourdeau, Calcasieu GOHSEP  
Dick Gremillion, Calcasieu GOHSEP

Cameron Parish  
Clifton Hebert, Cameron GOHSEP  
Ron Johnson, Cameron Parish

Jeff Davis Parish  
Warren Gary, Jeff Davis Sheriff's Office

Beauregard Parish  
Glen Mears, Sr., Beauregard Sheriff's Office

Allen Parish  
John Richer, Allen Fire Dist./GOHSEP  
Chad Doyle, Allen Sheriff's Office

### Region 6:

Rapides Parish  
Angie Branton, Rapides GOHSEP  
Sonya Wiley-Gremillion, Rapides GOHSEP  
William Brister, Rapides Sheriff's Office  
Debbie Hickman, Rapides Sheriff's Office  
Ronald Goudeau, Rapides DHH

LaSalle Parish  
Joe P. Stevens, LaSalle GOHSEP  
Christy Phillips, LaSalle Sheriff's Office

Avoyelles Parish  
Chip Johnson, Avoyelles GOHSEP  
Anzell Jones, Avoyelles GOHSEP

Grant Parish  
Bob Meecker, Grant GOHSEP

Catahoula Parish  
Debra Renda, Catahoula Parish  
Cherish Ellerbe, Catahoula Parish

Natchitoches Parish

Winn Parish  
Harry Foster, Winn GOHSEP

Concordia Parish  
Glenda White, Concordia GOHSEP  
Morris White, Concordia GOHSEP

Vernon Parish  
Ken Noble, Vernon Sheriff's Office  
Paula Fabre, Vernon GOHSEP

### Region 7:

Caddo/Bossier Parish  
Sanoy Davis, Caddo/Bossier GOHSEP  
Lisa Carmack, Caddo/Bossier GOHSEP

Desoto Parish  
Lt. Alan Bounds, DeSoto Sheriff's Office

Red River Parish  
Russell Adams, Red River GOHSEP

### Region 8:

West Carroll Parish  
Peggy Robinson, West Carroll GOHSEP

Ouachita Parish  
Marky Tucker, Ouachita Sheriff's Office  
Dean Dozier, Ouachita GOHSEP

Richland Parish  
Dolly Burgess, Richland GOHSEP  
Tommy Burgess, Richland GOHSEP  
Joe Seymour, Richland Sheriff's Office

Franklin Parish  
William Mulkey, Franklin GOHSEP

Union Parish  
Alan Hyde, Darbonne EMS  
Liz Hyde, Darbonne EMS  
Carlton White, Union Sheriff's Office  
Brian C. Halley, Union GOHSEP

Caldwell Parish  
Dale Powell, Caldwell GOHSEP  
Penny Jarrett, Caldwell GOHSEP

Madison Parish  
Earl J. Pinkney, Madison Police Dept./GOHSEP

Morehouse Parish  
Brian K. Shoemaker, Morehouse GOHSEP

## Louisiana Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan

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Gail Jones, Natchitoches Parish  
J.D. Thornton, Natchitoches Sheriff's Office

Sabine Parish  
Kenny Carter, Sabine GOHSEP  
Kim Eaves, Sabine GOHSEP

Jackson Parish  
Kenneth Pardue, Jackson Parish Government

Tensas Parish  
Rick Foster, Tensas GOHSEP

Lincoln Parish  
Dennis Ford, Lincoln Parish Fire Dist. Dennis  
Woodward, Lincoln GOHSEP

### Region 9:

Tangipahoa Parish  
Tom Davidson, Tangipahoa Sheriff's Office  
John Thomas, Tangipahoa Parish Hazmat  
Carol New, Tangipahoa GOHSEP

Washington Parish  
Dan Foil, Washington Sheriff's Office  
Thomas Thiebaud, Washington GOHSEP

St. Tammany Parish  
Rodney Hart, St. Tammany GOHSEP  
Dexter Accardo, St. Tammany GOHSEP

### State Agencies:

Charles Adams, DOTD  
Neal Underwood, DOA  
Mike Gusky, DOA  
Mike Abbiatti, Board of Regents  
Pat Skinner, Ag Center  
Joshua Gill, LDAF  
Din LeBlanc, LCLE  
Robert Mehriens, LCLE  
Mickey McMorris, LSP  
Carl Hebert, GOHSEP  
Chris Walker, GOHSEP  
Chris Perkins, LANG  
Dean W. Davis, LANG  
James Knotts, LANG  
Jay Diez, LDWF-Enf.  
Rachel Zechenelly, LDWF-Enf.  
Jeff McKee, USCG  
Eric Sivula, Corrections  
Billy Breland, Corrections  
Evon M. Smith, DHH/OPH/BEMS  
Christina Dayries, LSP  
Jerry Tarleton, St. George FD  
Dr. Rosanne Prats, DHH  
Dr. J. Guidry, DHH  
J. Naponick, DHH  
Sgt. John Porter, LSP  
Sgt. Ed Bobbit, LSP  
Brant Mitchell, GOHSEP  
Pat Santos, GOHSEP  
Neal Fudge, GOHSEP  
Steve Burr, GOHSEP

## Appendix B SIEC Members and Subcommittees

	<b>Representing Agency</b>	<b>SIEC Member</b>
1.	Commissioner of the DOA	Vacant
2.	Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness	Severance, Susan (Designee) 225-326-6712 GOHSEP <a href="mailto:severances@ag.state.la.us">severances@ag.state.la.us</a> Baton Rouge, LA
3.	Louisiana National Guard	Landreneau, Bennett (Major General) 318-641-3858 <a href="mailto:bennett.landreneau@us.army.mil">bennett.landreneau@us.army.mil</a> Pineville, LA  Johnson, Ron (Colonel) (Designee) 225-255-8446 <a href="mailto:ron.johnson@us.army.mil">ron.johnson@us.army.mil</a> Carville, LA
4.	Dept. of Public Safety & Corrections, Correction Services	Sivula, Eric (Colonel) (Designee) 225-342-1178 <a href="mailto:esivula@corrections.state.la.us">esivula@corrections.state.la.us</a> Baton Rouge, LA
5.	Dept. of Transportation & Development	Bradberry, Johnny 225-379-1200 <a href="mailto:johnnybradberry@dotd.louisiana.gov">johnnybradberry@dotd.louisiana.gov</a> Baton Rouge, LA  Drago, Joe (Designee) 225-935-0291 <a href="mailto:jdrago@dotd.louisiana.gov">jdrago@dotd.louisiana.gov</a> Baton Rouge, LA
6.	Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries	Broussard, Joe 225-765-2981 <a href="mailto:jbroussard@wlf.louisiana.gov">jbroussard@wlf.louisiana.gov</a> Baton Rouge, LA
7.	Dept. of Health & Hospitals	Driesse, Ed (Designee) 225-342-5643 <a href="mailto:edriesse@dhh.la.gov">edriesse@dhh.la.gov</a> Baton Rouge, LA

*Louisiana Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan*

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8.	Chief Information Officer	Ahmed, Rizwan (Chair) 225-342-7105 <a href="mailto:rizwan.ahmed@la.gov">rizwan.ahmed@la.gov</a> Baton Rouge, LA
9.	Dept. of Public Safety & Corrections, Public Safety Services (Louisiana State Police)	Griffin, Stanley (Colonel) 225-925-6118 <a href="mailto:stanley.griffin@dps.la.gov">stanley.griffin@dps.la.gov</a> Baton Rouge, LA  McMorris, Mickey (Lt. Colonel) (Designee) 225-922-2293 <a href="mailto:mickey.mcmorris@dps.la.gov">mickey.mcmorris@dps.la.gov</a> Baton Rouge, LA
10.	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Chauviere, Arnold 225-342-1403 <a href="mailto:arnoldc@lpsc.org">arnoldc@lpsc.org</a> Baton Rouge, LA
11.	Louisiana Sheriff's Association	Edwards, Ricky (Sheriff) (Designee) 337-821-2100 <a href="mailto:sheriff@jeffdavis.net">sheriff@jeffdavis.net</a> Jennings, LA
12.	Louisiana Police Chief's Association	Drennan, Freddy (Chief) 985-646-4285 <a href="mailto:fdrennan@slidellpd.com">fdrennan@slidellpd.com</a> Slidell, LA
13.	Louisiana Fire Chief's Association	Black, Robert (Chief) Designee 504-363-1494 <a href="mailto:dcfd100@bellsouth.net">dcfd100@bellsouth.net</a> Gretna, LA
14.	Regional Parish Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Director's Committee	Gremillion, Richard 337-721-3800 <a href="mailto:dgremillion@cppj.net">dgremillion@cppj.net</a> Lake Charles, LA
15.	Louisiana House of Representatives Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice	Martiny, Daniel (Representative) 504-934-7676 <a href="mailto:dmartiny@bellsouth.net">dmartiny@bellsouth.net</a> Metairie, LA
16.	Louisiana State Senate Judiciary B Committee	Marionneaux, Robert (Senator) 225-637-3623 <a href="mailto:lasen17@legis.state.la.us">lasen17@legis.state.la.us</a> Livonia, LA

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17.	Louisiana House of Representatives Special committee on Louisiana Homeland Security	Thompson, Francis (Representative) 318-878-9408 <a href="mailto:larep019@legis.state.la.us">larep019@legis.state.la.us</a> Delhi, LA
18.	Louisiana Senate Select Committee on Homeland Security	Barham, Robert (Senator) 318-244-5582 <a href="mailto:barhamr@legis.state.la.us">barhamr@legis.state.la.us</a>  Jeffers, Heywood (Designee) 225-342-2064 <a href="mailto:jeffersh@legis.state.la.us">jeffersh@legis.state.la.us</a>
19.	Louisiana Broadband Advisory Council	Vacant
20.	Region 1 Working Group Representative	Hughes, Kenneth (Colonel) (Designee) 504-363-5577 <a href="mailto:hughes_kc@jpsa.com">hughes_kc@jpsa.com</a> Harvey, LA
21.	Region 2 Working Group Representative	Murphy, Michael (Sgt.) (Designee) 225-389-5221 <a href="mailto:mmurphy@brgov.com">mmurphy@brgov.com</a> Baton Rouge, LA
22.	Region 3 Working Group Representative	Deroche, Eric (Designee) 225-562-2364 (Office) 225-206-1556 (Cell) <a href="mailto:eric.deroche@stjamesla.com">eric.deroche@stjamesla.com</a> Convent, LA
23.	Region 4 Working Group Representative	Brandon Alleman (337) 898-4350 <a href="mailto:brandon@vpso.net">brandon@vpso.net</a> Abbeville, LA
24.	Region 5 Working Group Representative	John Richer (337)584-5156 <a href="mailto:eltonfire@centurytel.net">eltonfire@centurytel.net</a> Oberlin, LA
25.	Region 6 Working Group Representative	Wiley-Gremillion, Sonya (Designee) 318-445-0186 <a href="mailto:sonyawiley@cox-internet.com">sonyawiley@cox-internet.com</a> Alexandria, LA
26.	Region 7 Working Group Representative	Davis, Sandy (Designee) 318-425-5351 <a href="mailto:sdavis@cbohsep.org">sdavis@cbohsep.org</a> Shreveport, LA

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27.	Region 8 Working Group Representative	Peters, Gary gpeters@3g.quik.com
28.	Region 9 Working Group Representative	Thiebaud, Tommy (Designee) 985-732-5200 <a href="mailto:washparoep@i-55.com">washparoep@i-55.com</a> Bogalusa, LA

## **SIEC Subcommittees**

### **Assessment & Technology Subcommittee**

Robert Black

Louisiana Fire Chief's Association (Chair)

Rizwan Ahmed

Chief Information Officer, Division of Administration

John Butterick

Calcasieu Parish Emergency Management

Eric Deroche

St. James Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness (Region 3)

Joseph Drago

Department of Transportation and Development

Freddy Drennan

Louisiana Fire Chief's Association

Ricky Edwards

Louisiana Sheriffs Association

Rodney Hoyt

Livingston Parish Office of Homeland Security

Kenneth Hughes

Region 1 Working Group Representative

Rex McDonald

Department of Public Safety and Corrections

Freddie Morris

Louisiana National Guard

Gary Peters

Region 8 Working Group Representative

Susan Severance

Governor's Office of Homeland Security, Emergency Preparedness

Richard Silverman

Department of Environmental Quality

Anthony Summers

West Baton Rouge Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness & Homeland Security  
(Region 2)

Cathy Trenkle

Department of Health and Hospitals

### **Finance & Funding SubCommittee**

Heyward Jeffers

Louisiana Senate Select Committee on Emergency Preparedness (Chair)

James Anderson

Governor's Office of Homeland Security, Emergency Preparedness  
Christina Dayries

Louisiana State Police

Dean Dozier

Oachita Parish Emergency Planning Committee

Freddy Drennan

Louisiana Fire Chief's Association

Dick Gremillion

Regional Parish Homeland Security Emergency Preparedness

Michael Murphy

Baton Rouge Police Department (Region 2)

Eric Sivula

Department of Public Safety and Corrections

Brian Spillman

Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Department

Thomas Thiebaud

Region 9 Working Group Representative

**Policy & Procedures Subcommittee**

Susan Severance

Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness (Chair)

Christina Dayries

Louisiana State Police

Freddy Drennan

Louisiana Fire Chief's Association

Dick Gremillion

Regional Parish Homeland Security Emergency Preparedness

Michelle Fontenot

Heyward Jeffers

LA Senate Select Committee on Homeland Security

Camille Perry

Pat Potier

Eric Sivula

Department of Public Safety and Corrections

Brian Spillman

Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Department

Tommy Thiebaud

Washington Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness (Region 9)

Stanley Griffin

Louisiana State Police

**Planning Subcommittee**

Dick Gremillion

Regional Parish Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Director's  
Committee (Chair)

Eric DeRoche

St. James Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness (Region 3)

Micheal Murphy

Baton Rouge Police Department (Region 2)

Ken Hughes

Plaquemines Parish Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness  
Louisiana Sheriff's Association (Region 1)

Mickey Morris

Louisiana State Police

Richard Silverman

Department of Environmental Quality

## Appendix C Executive Order KBB 2006-17



### EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. KBB 2006 - 17

#### STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- WHEREAS,** the state of Louisiana presently operates a statewide analog wireless communication system which was installed in 1996 for voice communication and is presently used by approximately seventy (70) agencies with ten thousand (10,000) subscribed users;
- WHEREAS,** since September 11, 2001, interoperability of voice, data, and imagery communications with emergency service agencies is of paramount importance, and the current communication system expansion is severely limited;
- WHEREAS,** the necessity of reliable communications and interoperability for first responders was demonstrated in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita; and
- WHEREAS,** the citizens of the state of Louisiana will best be served by a statewide interoperable communication system executive committee which shall develop an inter-disciplinary approach among all levels of government to provide reliable communications for the entire emergency response community within the state;
- NOW THEREFORE I, KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO,** Governor of the state of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the state of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:
- SECTION 1:** The Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee (hereafter "Committee") is hereby established within the executive department, Office of the Governor.
- SECTION 2:** The duties of the Committee shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
- A. Design, construct, administer, and maintain a statewide shared communication system with capacity to transport voice, data, and imagery within the system;
  - B. Develop and approve system design, system testing, and implementation plan;
  - C. Establish policies and secure funds for the system operation, administration, and maintenance;
  - D. Establish policies for acquisition, allocation, and management of system resources and future use of the voice, data, and imagery capabilities;
  - E. Establish policies for system admission and use of the voice, data, and imagery capabilities; and
  - F. Enter into legal contracts consistent with the purposes of this Order.
- SECTION 3:** The Committee shall also establish subcommittees to advise the Committee on specific issues. The Committee shall review the recommendations of the subcommittees.
- SECTION 4:** The Committee shall submit a written comprehensive report to the governor, by March 1 of each year, which addresses the issues set forth in Section 2 of this Order.

## Louisiana Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan

- SECTION 5:**
- A. Each Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Region shall establish an interoperable communication working group composed of the following members:
1. The director of each Office of Emergency Preparedness Parish Office, or the director's designee;
  2. The sheriff of each parish throughout the state of Louisiana, or the sheriff's designee;
  3. One (1) chief of police representing each parish of the state of Louisiana selected by the chiefs of police within each parish;
  4. One (1) fire chief representing each parish of the state of Louisiana selected by the fire chiefs within each municipality within each parish;
  5. One (1) emergency medical services director selected by the Emergency Medical Services Directors within each parish;
  6. One (1) state police troop commander, or troop commander's designee.
- B. Each of the nine regional working groups shall assign one member to represent the region on the Committee on a discipline rotation as follows:

REGION	DISCIPLINE BY YEAR			
	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
1	L. E.	Fire	L. E.	EMS
2	L. E.	EMS	L. E.	Fire
3	Fire	L. E.	EMS	L. E.
4	EMS	L. E.	Fire	L. E.
5	L. E.	Fire	L. E.	EMS
6	L. E.	EMS	L. E.	Fire
7	Fire	L. E.	EMS	L. E.
8	EMS	L. E.	Fire	L. E.
9	L. E.	Fire	L. E.	EMS

- SECTION 6:**
- The Committee shall be composed of twenty-seven (27) members, selected as follows:
- A. The commissioner of the Division of Administration, or the commissioner's designee;
  - B. The director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, or the director's designee;
  - C. The adjutant general of the Louisiana National Guard, or the adjutant general's designee;
  - D. The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Corrections Services, or the secretary's designee;
  - E. The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development, or the secretary's designee;
  - F. The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, or the secretary's designee;

## Louisiana Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan

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- G. The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, or the secretary's designee;
- H. The deputy secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Public Safety Services, or the deputy secretary's designee;
- I. The executive secretary of the Louisiana Public Service Commission, or the executive secretary's designee;
- J. The president of the Louisiana Sheriff's Association, or the president's designee;
- K. The president of the Police Chiefs Association, or the president's designee;
- L. The president of the Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association, or the president's designee;
- M. The chair of the Regional Parish Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Directors Committee, or the chair's designee;
- N. The chair of the Louisiana House of Representatives Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, or the chair's designee;
- O. The chair of the Louisiana State Senate Judiciary B Committee; or the chair's designee;
- P. The chair of the Louisiana House of Representatives Special Committee on Louisiana Homeland Security, or the chair's designee;
- Q. The chair of the Louisiana State Senate Select Committee on Homeland Security, or the chair's designee;
- R. One (1) representative of the Louisiana Broadband Advisory Council, selected from a list of three (3) nominees submitted by the Louisiana Broadband Advisory Council; and
- S. One (1) representative from each of the nine regional interoperable communications working groups as established in Section 5 of this Order.

**SECTION 7:** The chair of the Committee shall be appointed by the governor from the membership of the Committee. All other officers, if any, shall be elected by and from the membership of the Committee.

**SECTION 8:** The Committee shall meet at regularly scheduled intervals and at the call of the chair. The Committee's membership as outlined in Section 6(R) of this Order shall not be considered as part of a quorum until such time as the regional workgroup is duly constituted and selects its representative.

**SECTION 9:** Committee members shall not receive additional compensation or a per diem from the Office of the Governor for serving on the Committee. However, such Committee members shall be entitled to reasonable and necessary travel expenses consistent with travel allowances for state classified employees as provided in the latest Policy and Procedure Memorandum (PPM 49) and approved by the chair, if funding becomes available.

**SECTION 10:** Support staff, facilities, and resources for the Committee shall be provided by departments and/or agencies which form the membership of the Committee.

**SECTION 11:** All departments, commissions, boards, offices, entities, agencies, and officers of the state of Louisiana, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate

with the Committee in implementing the provisions of this Order.

**SECTION 12:**

Executive Order No. KBB 2006-4, issued on January 25, 2006, is hereby terminated and rescinded.

**SECTION 13:**

This Order is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the governor, or terminated by operation of law.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the city of Baton Rouge, on this 31st day of March, 2006.



/S/ Kathleen Babineaux Blanco  
**GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA**

**ATTEST BY**  
**THE GOVERNOR**

/S/ Al Ater  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**

## Appendix D Executive Order KBB 2006-24



### EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. KBB 2006 - 24

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*AMEND EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. KBB 2006-17  
STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE*

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- WHEREAS,** Executive Order No. KBB 2006-17, issued on March 31, 2006, established a Statewide Interoperable Communication System Executive Committee (hereafter Committee") to develop an inter-disciplinary approach among all levels of government to provide reliable communications for the state of Louisiana's entire emergency response community;
- WHEREAS,** it is necessary to add the chief information officer to the membership of the Committee and to correct other information relative to this Order;
- NOW THEREFORE I, KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO,** Governor of the state of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the state of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:
- SECTION 1:** Section 6 of Executive Order No. KBB 2006-17, issued on March 31, 2006, is amended as follows:
- The Committee shall be composed of twenty-eight (28) members, selected as follows:
- A. The commissioner of the Division of Administration, or the commissioner's designee;
  - B. The director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, or the director's designee;
  - C. The adjutant general of the Louisiana National Guard, or the adjutant general's designee;
  - D. The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Corrections Services, or the secretary's designee;
  - A. The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development, or the secretary's designee;
  - A. The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, or the secretary's designee;
  - G. The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, or the secretary's designee;
  - H. The chief information officer, or the chief information officer's designee;
  - A. The deputy secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Public Safety Services, or the deputy secretary's designee;
  - B. The executive secretary of the Louisiana Public Service Commission, or the executive secretary's designee;

## Louisiana Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan

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- I. The president of the Louisiana Sheriff's Association, or the president's designee;
- L. The president of the Police Chiefs Association, or the president's designee;
- M. The president of the Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association, or the president's designee;
- N. The chair of the Regional Parish Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Directors Committee, or the chair's designee;
- O. The chair of the Louisiana House of Representatives Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, or the chair's designee;
- P. The chair of the Louisiana State Senate Judiciary B Committee; or the chair's designee;
- Q. The chair of the Louisiana House of Representatives Special Committee on Louisiana Homeland Security, or the chair's designee;
- R. The chair of the Louisiana State Senate Select Committee on Homeland Security, or the chair's designee;
- S. One (1) representative of the Louisiana Broadband Advisory Council, selected from a list of three (3) nominees submitted by the Louisiana Broadband Advisory Council; and
- T. One (1) representative from each of the nine regional interoperable communications working groups as established in Section 5 of this Order.

**SECTION 2:** Section 8 of Executive Order No. KBB 2006-17, issued on March 31, 2006, is amended as follows:

The Committee shall meet at regularly scheduled intervals and at the call of the chair. The Committee's membership as outlined in Section 6(T) of this Order shall not be considered as part of a quorum until such time as the regional workgroup is duly constituted and selects its representative.

**SECTION 2:** All other sections, subsections, and paragraphs of Executive Order No. KBB 2006-17, issued on March 31, 2006, shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 3:** This Order is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the governor, or terminated by operation of law.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the city of Baton Rouge, on this 2nd day of June, 2006.

/S/ Kathleen Babineaux Blanco  
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY  
THE GOVERNOR

/S/ Al Ater  
SECRETARY OF STATE

## Appendix E Executive Order KBB 2005-61



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. KBB 2005 - 61

*THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) DESIGNATION*

- WHEREAS, it is necessary and desirable that all federal, state, local, and tribal emergency agencies and personnel coordinate their efforts to effectively and efficiently provide the highest levels of incident management;
- WHEREAS, the President in Homeland Security Directive (HSPD)-5, directed the secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (hereafter NIMS ), which would provide a consistent nationwide approach for federal, state, local and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity;
- WHEREAS, the collective input and guidance from all federal, state, local and tribal homeland security partners has been, and will continue to be, vital to the development, effective implementation and utilization of a comprehensive NIMS;
- WHEREAS, to facilitate the most efficient and effective incident management, it is critical that federal, state, local and tribal organizations utilize standardized terminology, standardized organizational structures, interoperable communications, consolidated action plans, unified command structures, uniform personnel qualification standards, uniform standards for planning, training and exercising, comprehensive resource management, and designated incident facilities during emergencies or disasters;
- WHEREAS, the NIMS standardized procedures for managing personnel, communication, facilities and resources will improve the state s ability to utilize federal funding to enhance local and state agency readiness, maintain first responder safety, and streamline incident management process;
- WHEREAS, the Incident Command System components of NIMS are already an integral part of various incident management activities throughout the state, including current emergency management training programs;
- WHEREAS, the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks (9-11 Commission) has also recommended adoption of a standardized incident command system; and
- WHEREAS, the best interests of the citizens of the state of Louisiana are served by the adoption of the standardized incident command system to facilitate the most efficient and effective incident management;
- NOW THEREFORE I, KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO, Governor of the state of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the state of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:
- SECTION 1: The National Interagency Incident Management System (NIMS) is hereby established within the Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness as the state of Louisiana s standard for incident management.

## Louisiana Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan

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- SECTION 2:** As mandated by Homeland Security Presidential Directive/HSPD-5, beginning in fiscal year 2005, adoption of NIMS will be a requirement for receipt of sub-grant funds from the Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.
- SECTION 3:** All departments, commissions, boards, offices, entities, agencies, and officers of the state of Louisiana, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate with the implementation of the provisions of this Order.
- SECTION 4:** This Order is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the governor, or terminated by operation of law.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the city of Baton Rouge, on this 13th day of October, 2005.

/S/ Kathleen Babineaux Blanco  
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY  
THE GOVERNOR

/S/ Al Ater  
SECRETARY OF STATE

## Appendix F Mutual Aid and Interoperable Channels and Talkgroups

VHF radios are recommended to be programmed with the following channels:

DESIGNATOR	FREQUENCY	MODE	USE
VCALL10	155.7525 MHz.	simplex	Interoperability Calling
VTAC11	151.1375 MHz.	simplex	Interoperability Operations
VTAC12	154.4525 MHz.	simplex	Interoperability Operations
VTAC13	158.7375 MHz.	simplex	Interoperability Operations
VTAC14	159.4725 MHz.	simplex	Interoperability Operations

UHF radios are recommended to be programmed with the following channels:

DESIGNATOR	FREQUENCY	MODE	USE
UCALL40	453.2125 MHz.	base/mobile	Interoperability Operations
UCALL40D	458.2125 MHz.	mobile	
UTAC41	453.4625 MHz.	base/mobile	Interoperability Operations
UTAC41D	458.4625 MHz.	mobile	
UTAC42	453.7125 MHz.	base/mobile	Interoperability Operations
UTAC42D	458.7125 MHz.	mobile	
UTAC43	453.8625 MHz.	base/mobile	Interoperability Operations
UTAC43D	458.8625 MHz.	mobile	

All 700 MHz radio subscriber units operating under the Louisiana State license or licensed under the Region 18 Plan are required to have the following 700 MHz and 800 MHz talk groups/channels programmed:

To provide interoperability with public safety units from throughout the State and Nation, all such 700 MHz subscriber radios shall be equipped to operate on all of the National Public Safety Planning Advisory Committee (NPSPAC) 800 MHz conventional mutual aid channels in analog mode as follows:

NATIONWIDE 800 MHz. BAND

PUBLIC SAFETY INTEROPERABILITY CHANNELS

DESIGNATOR (POST-REBANDING)	DESIGNATOR (PRE-REBANDING)	USE	MOBILE/PORTABLE TRANSMIT FREQUENCY	MOBILE/PORTABLE RECEIVE FREQUENCY	CTCSS (TONE SQUELCH) FREQUENCY
8CALL90	ICALL	CALLING, ESTABLISHING CONTACT ONLY IN REPEATER NETWORKS	821.0125 MHz.	866.0125 MHz.	156.7 Hz.
8TAC91	ITAC1	TACTICAL REPEATER	821.5125 MHz.	866.5125 MHz.	156.7 Hz.
8TAC92	ITAC2	TACTICAL REPEATER	822.0125 MHz.	867.0125 MHz.	156.7 Hz.
8TAC93	ITAC3	TACTICAL REPEATER	822.5125 MHz.	867.5125 MHz.	156.7 Hz.
8TAC94	ITAC4	TACTICAL REPEATER	823.0125 MHz.	868.0125 MHz.	156.7 Hz.
8CALL90D	ICALLD	CALLING, ESTABLISHING CONTACT ONLY IN SIMPLEX NETWORKS	866.0125 MHz.	866.0125 MHz.	156.7 Hz.
8TAC91D	ITAC1D	TACTICAL SIMPLEX	866.5125 MHz.	866.5125 MHz.	156.7 Hz.
8TAC92D	ITAC2D	TACTICAL SIMPLEX	867.0125 MHz.	867.0125 MHz.	156.7 Hz.
8TAC93D	ITAC3D	TACTICAL SIMPLEX	867.5125 MHz.	867.5125 MHz.	156.7 Hz.
8TAC94D	ITAC4D	TACTICAL SIMPLEX	868.0125 MHz.	868.0125 MHz.	156.7 Hz.

NOTE: POST-REBANDING FREQUENCIES ARE 15 MHz LOWER THAN THOSE SHOWN. All such 700 MHz subscriber radios shall be equipped with the following talk groups for operation in the statewide 700/800 MHz P25 communications system:

- \*STATE-1
- \*STATE-2
- \*STATE-3
- \*STATE-4
- \*INTEROP-1
- \*INTEROP-2
- \*INTEROP-3
- \*INTEROP-4
- \*INTEROP-5
- \*INTEROP-6
- \*INTEROP-7
- \*INTEROP-8
- \*INTEROP-9
- \*INTEROP-10
- \*R1-COORDCALL
- \*R1-COORDTK-1

- \*R1-COORDTK-2
- \*R1-BOLO (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R1-TACTICAL (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R2-COORDCALL
- \*R2-COORDTK-1
- \*R2-COORDTK-2
- \*R2-BOLO (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R2-TACTICAL (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R3-COORDCALL
- \*R3-COORDTK-1
- \*R3-COORDTK-2
- \*R3-BOLO (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R3-TACTICAL (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R4-COORDCALL
- \*R4-COORDTK-1
- \*R4-COORDTK-2
- \*R4-BOLO (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R4-TACTICAL (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R5-COORDCALL
- \*R5-COORDTK-1
- \*R5-COORDTK-2
- \*R5-BOLO (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R5-TACTICAL (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R6-COORDCALL
- \*R6-COORDTK-1
- \*R6-COORDTK-2
- \*R6-BOLO (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R6-TACTICAL (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R7-COORDCALL
- \*R7-COORDTK-1
- \*R7-COORDTK-2
- \*R7-BOLO (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R7-TACTICAL (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R8-COORDCALL
- \*R8-COORDTK-1
- \*R8-COORDTK-2
- \*R8-BOLO (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R8-TACTICAL (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R9-COORDCALL
- \*R9-COORDTK-1
- \*R9-COORDTK-2
- \*R9-BOLO (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)
- \*R9-TACTICAL (LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIOS ONLY)

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All such 700 MHz subscriber radios shall also be equipped with the following channels for operating in both the conventional repeater mode and the direct (talkaround) mode using P25 digital modulation. These channels operate outside of the trunked system so they can be used in the direct mode for short range radio to radio anywhere or if the trunked system is down:

DESIGNATOR	MODE	USE
*NPSPAC-1	base/mobile mobile	Interoperability
*NPSPAC-2	base/mobile mobile	Interoperability
*NPSPAC-3	base/mobile mobile	Interoperability
*NPSPAC-4	base/mobile mobile	Interoperability
*NPSPAC-5	base/mobile mobile	Interoperability
*NPSPAC-6	base/mobile mobile	Interoperability
*NPSPAC-7	base/mobile mobile	Interoperability
*NPSPAC-8	base/mobile mobile	Interoperability

## Appendix G Milestones

Start	End	Status	Obj	Milestone	Performance Measure/ Critical Success Factor
Jan. 2008	March 2008	Pending new Governor taking office	1.1	Petition the Governor to reconstitute the current SIEC, with recommended changes regarding representation and staggered terms, pending codification in the legislation.	Governor accepts or rejects amended charter
Jan 2006	Dec 2008	Ongoing	1.2	Establish protocols, policy, and procedures to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of interoperable communications systems and networks developed as described in Goal 3.	TICPs written, P25 System SOP published, Gateway Device rules published
Oct 2007	Mar 2008	Ongoing	1.2.A	Establish SOPs for P25 System.	SOP published
Jan 2006	Indef	Ongoing	1.3	Coordinate the efforts of local, tribal, state and federal emergency service agencies on matters impacting interoperable communications.	All stakeholder issues addressed, add tribal representative to SIEC
July 2006	July 2009	Data collected routinely	2.1	Collect data to assess the interoperability of communication among local, tribal, state and federal emergency service agencies.	Evaluate system during and following events, incidents, and exercises

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July 2006	July 2009	Initial assessment complete. Databases are being continually updated.	2.2	Continue the assessment of current communication technology, equipment, and critical communication infrastructure at the parish, regional, tribal, and state levels. Compile existing findings and best practices identified through studies, evaluation, and pilot projects to provide an information base for implementation planning and system design. Develop a database of existing communication technology, equipment, and critical communication infrastructure. Geo-Code all technology, equipment, and critical communication infrastructure.	Evaluate system during and following events, incidents, and exercises
July 2006	July 2008	Early stages	2.3	Develop common language protocols for all public safety responders in Louisiana to ensure clear interagency communication.	Protocols published and adopted by 60% of jurisdictions
Jan 2006	Dec 2008	Ongoing	2.4	Develop statewide standard policies and procedures for utilization of the primary P25 Systems and the interim IP network.	Policies published
Jan 2006	Mar 2007	Complete	2.4.A	Complete TICPs for most populous cities (Regions 1 and 2).	TICPs Approved

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Jan 2007	Jan 2008	Final Drafting	2.4.B	Complete TICPs for Regions 3 and 4.	TICPs approved
Jan 2008	Jan 2008	Meeting Planned	2.4.C	Hold TICP Statewide Coordination meeting to assist remaining regions with TICP completion.	Meeting held; TICPs begun
Jan 2008	July 2008	No status	2.4.D	Complete TICPs for Regions 5-9.	TICPs Approved
Jan 2008	Dec 2008	No status	2.4.E	Complete statewide TICP.	TICP approved
Jan 2007	Dec 2007	Nearing completion	2.5	Develop a statewide programming template including talk groups for P25 compliant trunk radios.	Template complete
Jan 2007	Oct 2007	Complete	2.6	Plan and implement a maintenance program for managing the communication system.	Plan complete
Jan 2006	Indef	Ongoing	2.7	Develop partnerships with local, tribal, state, federal and private entities to raise awareness, educate, and implement the State Communications Interoperability Plan.	Partnerships necessary to plan implementation established
July 2006	Dec 2012	Ongoing	2.8	Promote and communicate statewide solutions, standards and technologies to local, tribal, state and federal emergency service agencies and government officials.	All jurisdictions afforded opportunity to participate in system; gateway systems and C2 radios in place

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Jan 2007	Dec 2009	Early stages	2.9	Develop a multi-state communications plan and MOU for utilization, deployment, training, and exercise of communication equipment and systems.	MOUs signed and first exercise complete
Jan 2009	Indef	Not executed	2.10	Exercise multi-state capabilities annually.	Annual exercise
Jan 2006	Indef	Significant work done	2.11	Identify funding sources to ensure that adequate technology and policy solutions are employed.	Funding obtained for critical components of system
Jan 2006	Indef	Initial estimate complete; current system maintenance done	2.12	Analyze costs associated with maintenance, bonding, and reinvestment for a statewide communication system.	System performs to standard
Sep 2005	Indef	Occurs frequently	2.13	Identify key opportunities for resource sharing that minimizes cost and increases efficiency and effectiveness.	Costs reduced for each MOA
Jan 2006	Sep 2007	Caches exist in several key places	2.14	Create a cache of radios to be kept in reserve to provide for specific or extraneous needs within the statewide interoperability system.	Caches exist; radios programmed; deployment procedures published

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July 2006	Dec 2010	See Milestones 3.1.A-D below	3.1	Establish the P25 System public safety wireless system to serve as the backbone of the larger statewide system in a phased rollout using all available funding sources. The system will provide secure 95% or better coverage when using a portable radio inside a building at street level in the more densely populated seven metropolitan areas of the State, and secure 95% or better coverage when using a mobile street level radio in all other areas of the State (See Appendix H).	System provides stated coverage
Oct 2005	Aug 2007	Complete	3.1.A	Complete P25 System (voice) in south east and along coast (Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9).	System in place and functioning to stated coverage.
Mar 2007	Mar 2008	Contracts awarded; work in progress	3.1.B	Complete 11 site expansion of P25 System in mid-section of state. Use SIEC funds (Regions 2, 4, 5, 6).	System in place and functioning to stated coverage.
Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Site selection in progress	3.1.C	Complete 22 site expansion of P25 System in northern part of the state. Use portion of PSIC funds (Regions 4, 6, 7, 8, 9).	System in place and functioning to stated coverage.
Mar 2009	Mar 2011	Sites not selected and funding not found	3.1.D	Complete 32 site expansion of P25 System to enhance capacity and improve coverage (all regions).	System in place and functioning to stated coverage.

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Oct 2005	Indef	Four cities have 700 MHZ coverage as of Oct 2007	3.2	Address communications needs of Louisiana's major metropolitan areas such as New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Alexandria, Shreveport, and Monroe, and create a system that will utilize a combination of simulcast and multicast tower sites.	System provides stated coverage
Oct 2005	Indef	Much installed; more planned	3.3	Acquire and install infrastructure and backup/redundancy equipment for the expansion of the P25 System to include repeaters, T-1 lines, microwaves, satellites, and any other wired or wireless communication technology.	Redundancy exists for critical systems
Jan 2006	Dec 2012	Many unit procured; more purchases planned	3.4	Procure P25-compliant subscriber units to allow first responders to participate on P25 System.	All key state agencies and all parishes have C2 units for interoperability
Jan 2006	Jun 2007	Complete	3.5	Make system access available to local agencies without user fees to encourage the adoption of the system statewide. Agencies will be expected to maintain their own subscriber units.	No user fees

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Jan 2006	Mar 2007	Complete	3.6	Ensure the system provides gateways for each of the 64 parishes to: provide legacy reach back for voice on selected talk groups/channels for system users as they transition from existing system; permit system access to jurisdictions and organizations that choose not to transition to the P25 System; and to integrate agencies from outside Louisiana providing aid when needed.	All parishes have gateway devices and C2 radios for statewide system; mobile systems are in reserve
Jan 2006	Dec 2009	May not be required	3.7	Evaluate the need for the removal and reinstallation of Smart Zone system infrastructure from the southern to the northern parts of the state as an interim interoperability solution while the primary P25 System is rolled out in accordance with the phased roll out plan.	P25 System expansion slowed may require Smart Zone transfer
Jan 2006	Dec 2012	Progress made continually	3.8	Facilitate ongoing voice interoperability on selected talk groups/channels between the P25 System and other VHF, UHF, and/or Smart Zone public safety voice with the adjoining states in border areas.	Systems validated by daily use and by exercise

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Jun 2007	Dec 2012	Evaluation of needs and alternative solutions is beginning	3.9	Evaluate public-private broadband projects, when available, in order to procure high-performance data equipment and wireless broadband coverage equipment in selected densely populated areas to enhance interoperable communications where economically feasible. The system shall provide secure high speed broadband data and imaging using selected devices in selected areas of the State of Louisiana.	Broadband exists in seven metro areas
Jan 2006	Dec 2012	In progress	3.10	Identify existing and emerging technologies which will enhance communication capabilities.	Technology delivers sufficient bandwidth
July 2006	July 2008	Caches exist; will be improved as funds become available	3.11	Create a cache of reserve communications equipment to be used when the communications system is overwhelmed.	Caches exist within 2 hours deployment time of all areas of state
Jan 2006	Indef	Constantly in progress	4.1	Enhance the knowledge and proper use of existing and future communications equipment by providing frequent and routine training for users.	No major problems by end of exercises

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July 2006	July 2008	Constantly being done	4.2	Provide assistance to local agencies on implementation of communications interoperability consistent with established statewide practices.	SIEC responds to all requests; SIEC meets with each region annually
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## Appendix H P25 System Phased Build-out Maps

P25 System Build-out Plan as of 1 Dec 2007

### Phase I

South-east region and coastal areas (Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9)

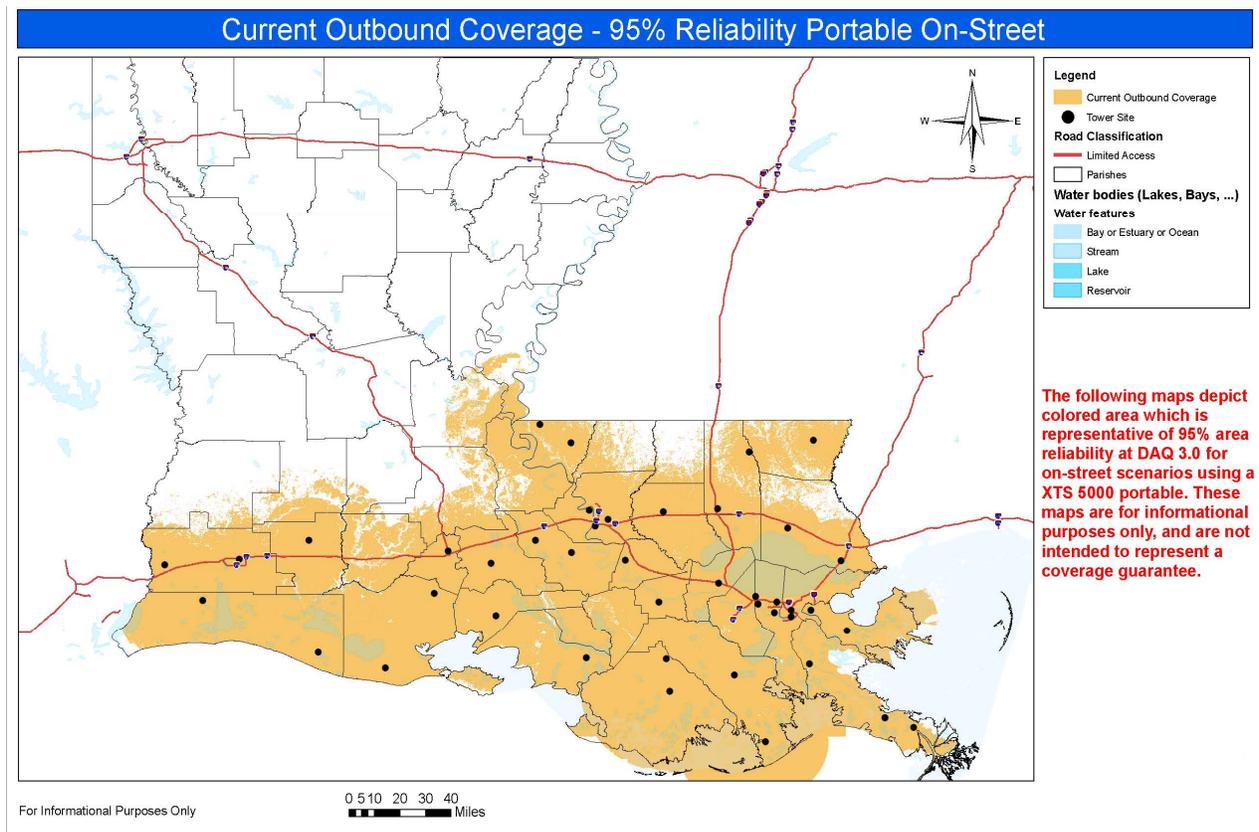
\$15.9 million - FEMA (2005)

\$2.8 million - LA State Police Budget (2006)

\$1.5 million - SIEC funds (2007)

\$17 million - Region 1 COPS grant (2006)

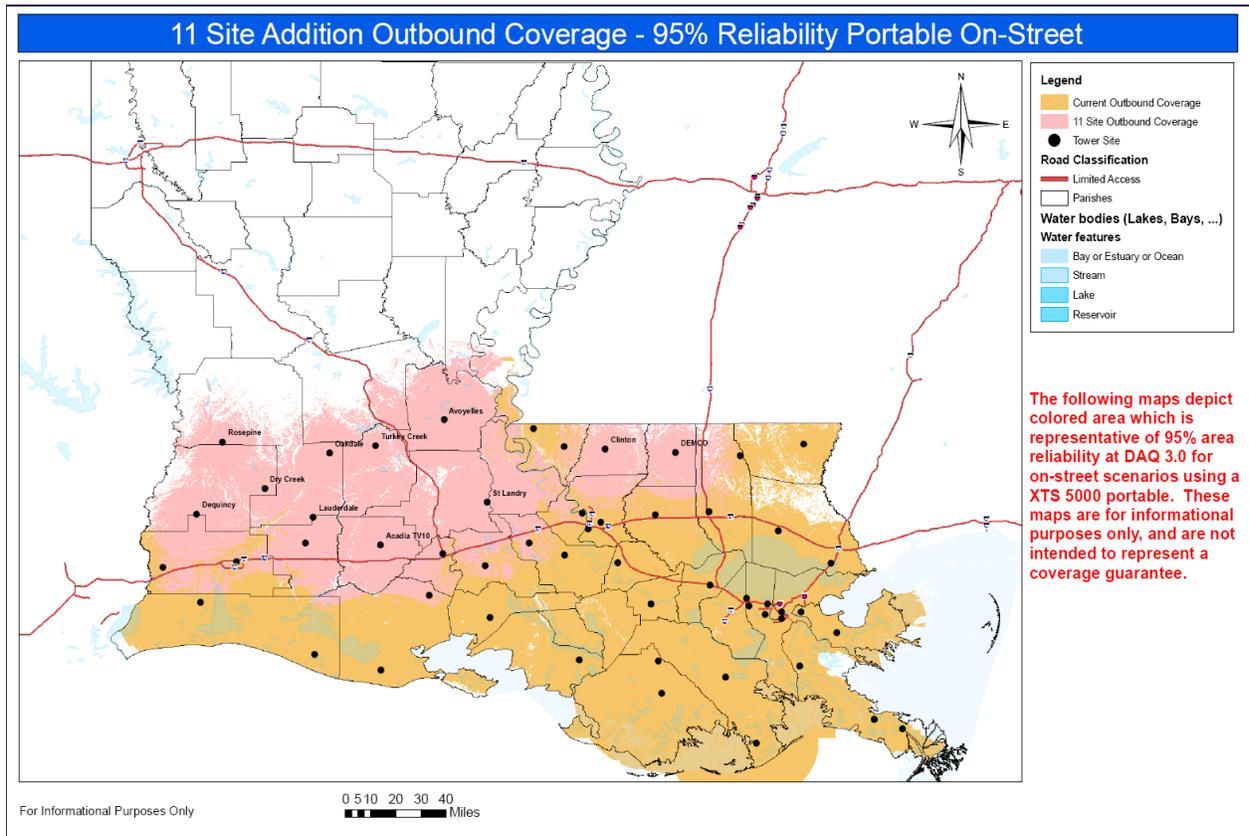
\$4 million - Region 2 COPS grant (2007)



P25 System Build-out Plan

Phase II

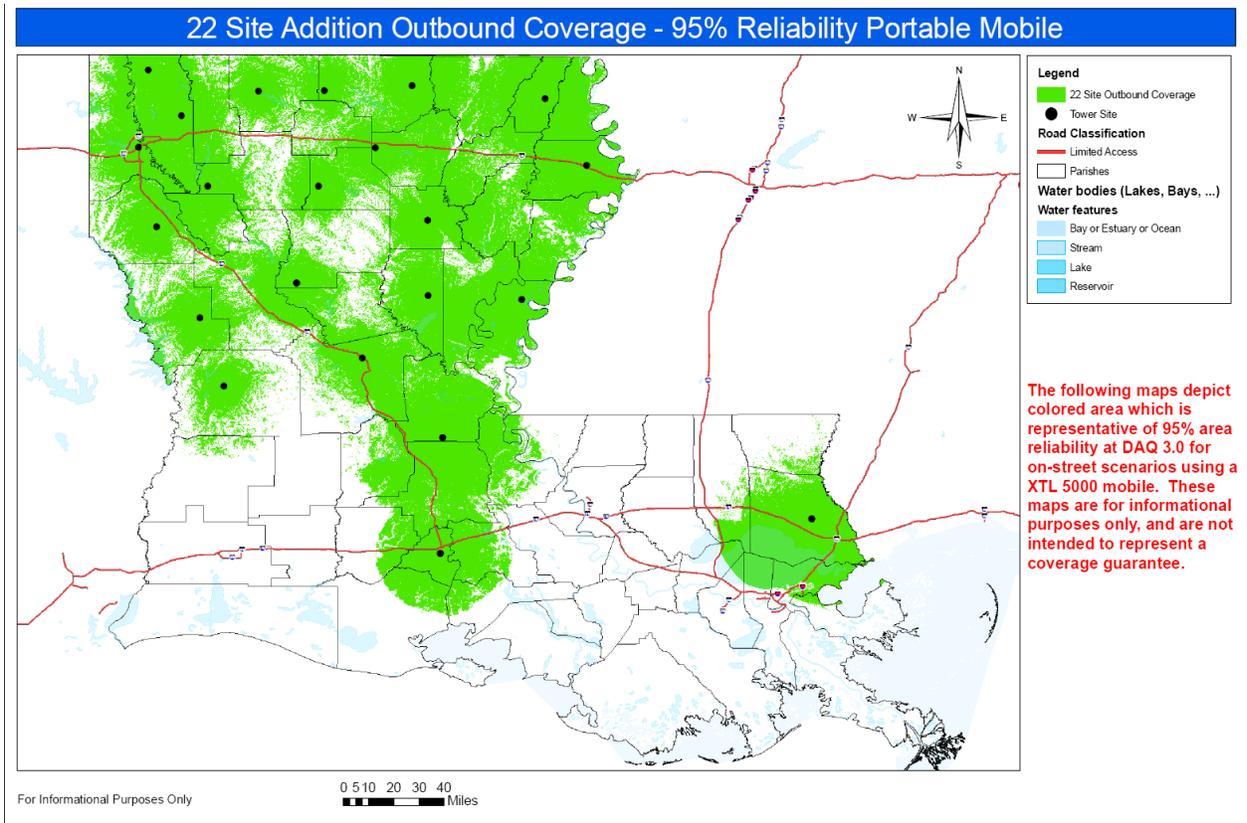
Mid-section of the state (11 sites- Regions 2, 4, 5, 6)  
\$3.98 million - SIEC funding (2007-2008)



P25 System Build-out Plan

Phase III

Northern part of state (22 sites- Regions 4, 6, 7, 8, 9)  
\$8 million - PSIC grant (projected) (2008)



P25 System Build-out Plan

Phase IV

Additional sites to increase and improve coverage

\$2.6 million - LA State Police COPS grant (2008)

-match requested in FY08-09 Budget

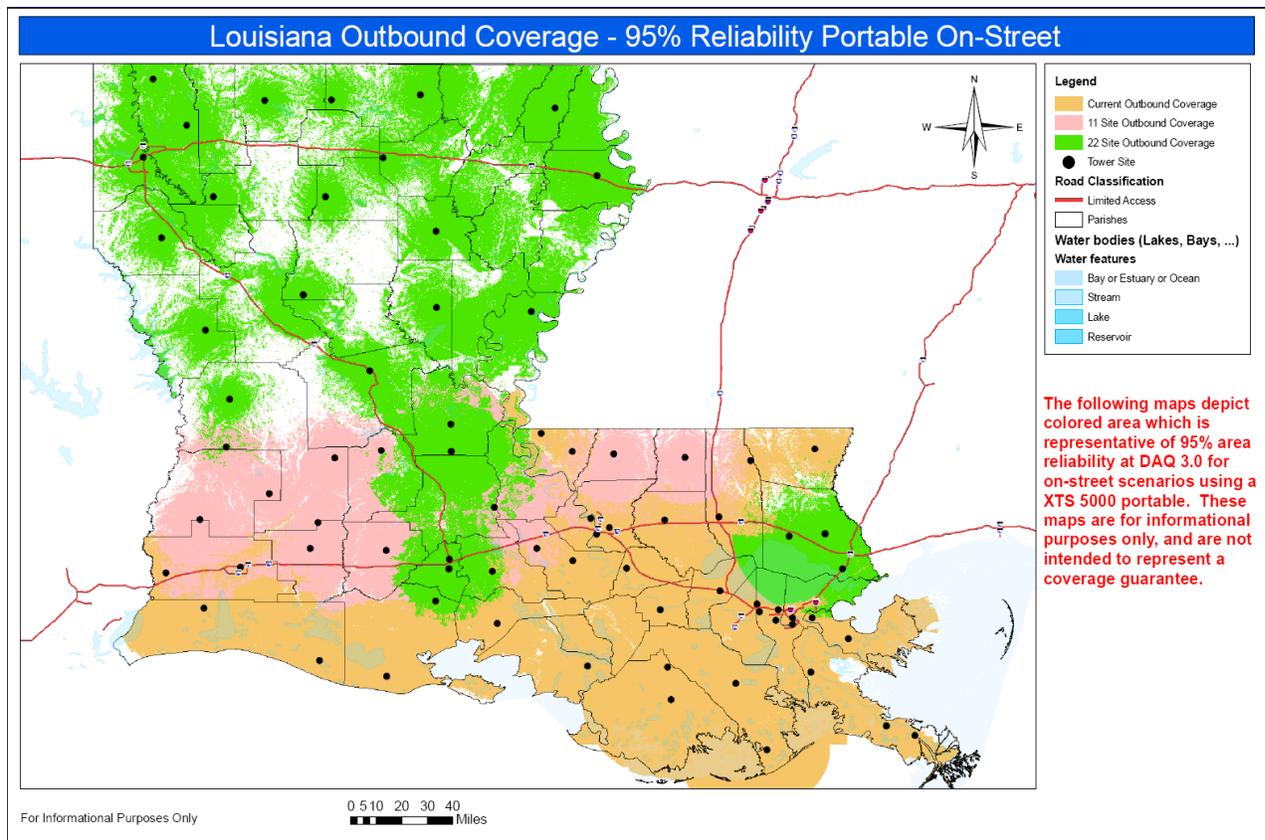
-grant to expand coverage at 6 sites which are not yet determined

-sites will be selected in cooperation with local authorities

\$21.1 million - Remaining expansion (34 sites)

-sites will be selected in cooperation with local authorities

-sites will enhance coverage and close gaps identified in system



NOTE: Map shows system at the completion of parts I-III of the system expansion. Phase IV sites are not yet depicted because the site determinations are not yet made.

## Appendix I Glossary

Item/Acronym	Definition
ACU-1000	Audio bridge used in fixed and mobile configurations. Requires radio from each connected communications system. Gateway device used to link disparate radio systems.
Audio Bridge	Connects four-wire audio from disparate radio systems to provide interoperability.
Console Patching	Ability to connect dispatch consoles
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DHH	Department of Health and Hospitals
DPS	Department of Public Safety
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
GOHSEP	Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
ICALL	Calling Channel for ITAC
ICS	Incident Command System
ICTAP	Interoperable Communications Technology Assistance Program
Inter-agency	Located or occurring between two or more agencies
Interoperable	Ability of a system to use the parts or equipment of another system
MAA	Mutual Aid Agreement
MHz	Abbreviation for megahertz. 5 MHz = 5,000,000 Hz or 5,000 kHz.
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
Mutual Aid	Personnel, equipment, or services provided to another jurisdiction

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<b>Item/Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NPSPAC	National Public Safety Planning Advisory Committee
NRP	National Response Plan
POC	Point of Contact
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Point
RF	Radio Frequency
SAFECOM	Oversees all initiatives and projects pertaining to public safety communications and interoperability. Managed by DHS, it is the first national program designed by public safety for public safety and works cooperatively with more than 50,000 local and state public safety agencies.
SCIP	Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
Talkgroup	Term usually used with trunked radio systems. A talkgroup is a predefined list of radios/users assigned a unique ID which allows them to communicate with each other over the trunked radio system.
TIC Plan	Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan
UASI	Urban Areas Security Initiative
UHF	Ultra High Frequency – Range of 300 to 3,000 MHz. For public safety LMR, usually refers to two bands. 380 to 460 MHz (low) and 460 to 512 MHz (high).
VHF	Very High Frequency – For public safety LMR, usually refers to VHF High Band with a range of 136 to 164 MHz. VHF Low Band has a frequency range below 100 MHz.

## Appendix J PSIC Criteria/SCIP Cross Reference Table

Criteria #	Description	Section/Page #
<b>1.</b>	<b>Background and Preliminary Steps</b>	
1.1	Provide an overview and background information on the state and its regions. Include geographic and demographic information.	2.1
1.2	List all agencies and organizations that participated in developing the plan. (List them according to the categories recommended for a communications interoperability committee in the All-Inclusive Approach section above.)	2; Appendix A, Appendix B
1.3	Identify the point of contact. DHS expects that each state will have a full time interoperability coordinator. The coordinator should not represent or be affiliated with any one particular discipline and should not have to balance the coordinator duties with other responsibilities.	2.3
1.4	Describe the communications and interoperability environment of the current emergency response effort.	4; 4.2; 4.3; 4.5
1.5	Include a problem definition and possible solutions that addresses the challenges identified in achieving interoperability within the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum.	5; 6
1.6	Identify any Tactical Interoperability Communications Plans in the state.	2.1.3
1.7	Set the scope and timeframe of the plan.	2.4
<b>2.</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	
2.1	Describe the strategic vision, goals, and objectives for improving emergency response interagency wireless communications statewide, including how they connect with existing plans within the state.	5.2; 5.3
2.2	Provide a strategic plan for coordination with neighboring states. If applicable, include a plan for coordination with neighboring countries.	4.3; 5; 5.5
2.3	Provide a strategic plan for addressing data interoperability in addition to voice interoperability.	4.1; 4.4; 5
2.4	Describe a strategy for addressing catastrophic loss of communication assets by developing redundancies in the communications interoperability plan.	4.5; 5; 6
2.5	Describe how the plan is, or will become, compliant with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the National Response Plan.	5.5; 4.3
2.6	Describe a strategy for addressing communications interoperability with the safety and security elements of the major transit systems, intercity bus service providers, ports, and passenger rail operations within the state.	4.3
2.7	Describe the process for periodic review and revision of the state plan.	5.6; 4.3
<b>3.</b>	<b>Methodology</b>	
3.1	Describe the method by which multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary input was provided from all regions of the state. For an example of a methodology that ensures input from all regions, see the Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan, or SCIP, methodology developed by SAFECOM.	3
3.2	Define the process for continuing to have local input and for building local support of the plan.	3; 4.3; 5.6
3.3	Define how the TICPs were incorporated into the statewide plan.	2.1.3; 4.3; 5; 5.4; Appendix G
3.4	Describe the strategy for implementing all components of the statewide plan.	5; 6
<b>4.</b>	<b>Governance</b>	
4.1	Identify the executive or legislative authority for the governing body of the interoperability effort.	4.1; Appendix C; Appendix D

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4.2	Provide an overview of the governance structure that will oversee development and implementation of the plan. Illustrate how it is representative of all of the relevant emergency response disciplines and regions in the state.	4.1
4.3	Provide the charter for the governing body, and use the charter to state the principles, roles, responsibilities, and processes.	Appendix C; Appendix D
4.4	Identify the members of the governing body and any of its committees. (List them according to the categories recommended for a communications interoperability committee in the All-Inclusive Approach section above.)	Appendix B
4.5	Provide a meeting schedule for the governing body.	4.1
4.6	Describe multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary agreements needed for decision-making and for sharing resources.	4.1; 4.3; 4.5
<b>5.</b>	<b>Technology</b>	
5.1	Include a statewide capabilities assessment (or a plan for one) which includes, critical communications equipment and related interoperability issues. At a minimum this should include types of radio systems, data and incident management systems, the manufacturer, and frequency assignments for each major emergency responder organization within the state. Ultimately more detailed information will be required to complete the documentation of a migration strategy. States may use the Communications Asset Survey and Mapping (CASM) tool to conduct this assessment.	4
5.2	Describe plans for continuing support of legacy systems, and developing interfaces among disparate systems, while migrating to newer technologies.	4.2; 4.5; 5.3; 6
5.2.1	Describe the migration plan for moving from existing technologies to newly procured technologies.	4.2; 5.3; 6
5.2.2	Describe the process that will be used to ensure that new purchases comply with the statewide plan, while generally allowing existing equipment to serve out its useful life.	4.2
<b>6.</b>	<b>Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)</b>	
6.1	Include an assessment of current local, regional, and state operating procedures which support interoperability.	4.3
6.2	Define the process by which the state, regions, and localities will develop, manage, maintain, upgrade, and communicate standard operating procedures (SOPs), as appropriate.	4.3
6.3	Identify the agencies included in the development of the SOPs, and the agencies expected to comply with the SOPs.	4.3
6.4	Demonstrate how the SOPs are NIMS-compliant in terms of the Incident Command System (ICS) and preparedness.	4.3
<b>7.</b>	<b>Training and Exercises</b>	
7.1	Define the process by which the state will develop, manage, maintain and upgrade, or coordinate as appropriate, a statewide training and exercises program.	4.4
7.2	Describe the process for offering and requiring training and exercises, as well as any certification that will be needed.	4.4
7.3	Explain how the process ensures that training is cross-disciplinary.	4.4
<b>8.</b>	<b>Usage</b>	
8.1	Describe the plan for ensuring regular usage of the relevant equipment and the SOPs needed to improve interoperability.	4.5
<b>9.</b>	<b>Funding</b>	
9.1	Identify committed sources of funding, or the process for identifying and securing short- and long-term funding.	7

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9.2	Include a plan for the development of a comprehensive funding strategy. The plan should include a process for identifying ongoing funding sources, anticipated costs, and resources needed for project management and leveraging active projects.	7; Appendix H
<b>10.</b>	<b>Implementation</b>	
10.1	Describe the prioritized action plan with short- and long-term goals for achieving the objectives.	6; Appendix G; Appendix H
10.2	Describe the performance measures that will allow policy makers to track the progress and success of initiatives.	Appendix G
10.3	Describe the plan for educating policy makers and practitioners on interoperability goals and initiatives.	6
10.4	Describe the roles and opportunities for involvement of all local, state, and tribal agencies in the implementation of the statewide plan.	6
10.5	Establish a plan for identifying, developing, and overseeing operational requirements, SOPs, training, technical solutions, and short- and long-term funding sources.	6; 4.3; 4.5
10.6	Identify a POC responsible for implementing the plan.	6
10.7	Describe critical success factors for implementation of the plan.	Appendix G
<b>11.</b>	<b>PSIC Requirements</b>	
11.1	Describe how public safety agencies will plan and coordinate, acquire, deploy and train on interoperable communications equipment, software and systems that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) utilize reallocated public safety - the public safety spectrum in the 700 MHz frequency band;</li> <li>2) enable interoperability with communication systems that can utilize reallocated public safety spectrum for radio communications; or</li> <li>3) otherwise improve or advance the interoperability of public safety communications system that utilize other public safety spectrum bands</li> </ul>	4.3; 4.4; 4.5; Appendix G
11.2	Describe how a strategic technology reserve (STR) will be established and implemented to pre-position or secure interoperable communications in advance for immediate deployment in an emergency or major disaster.	4.2; 4.5; 6
11.3	Describe how local and tribal government entities' interoperable communications needs have been included in the planning process and how their needs are being addressed.	3; 4.1; 4.3; 5.3; 6
11.4	Describe how authorized non-governmental organizations' interoperable communications needs have been included in the planning process and how their needs are being addressed (if applicable).	3; 4.1; 4.3; 5.3; 6

## **Appendix K Louisiana Totally Interoperable Environment Needs Assessment**



# State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee

Post Office Box 3677  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3677

**Michael Abbiatti**

Chairman

(225) 342-4253

(225) 342-6926 fax

Abbiatti@regents.state.la.  
us

**Rizwan Ahmed**

Vice Chairman

(225) 342-7105

(225) 219-4994 fax

Rizwan.Ahmed@la.gov

## Needs Assessment

### DIRECTIONS:

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee has undertaken the task of assessing the needs of State and local agencies that wish to participate in the new statewide system. It is important that we, as a committee, obtain information about your existing system. This information will allow us to collect data such as your current specifications, capabilities, and requirements for the new communications system. In order to better understand your present and future needs, it is important that you complete the following questionnaire. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

This questionnaire should be completed by the individual who is most knowledgeable about wireless radio communications within your agency.

1. Read each question carefully.
2. If you wish to provide further information, please make additional comments at the end of the questionnaire.
3. If you need assistance or additional information, please email your regional representative.

<b>Parish:</b>		<b>Homeland Security Region #:</b>	
<b>Agency Name:</b>			

### Information below is for the person completing assessment

<b>First Name:</b>		<b>Last Name:</b>			
<b>Official Title:</b>					
<b>Mailing Address:</b>					
<b>City:</b>		<b>State:</b>	Louisiana	<b>Zip:</b>	
<b>Telephone:</b>		<b>Fax:</b>			
<b>Email:</b>					

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### 1. Definitions:

- **Interoperability**

Essential communication links within or between public safety and public service communication systems that permit units from two or more different agencies to interact with one another and to exchange information according to a prescribed method in order to achieve predictable results. This may include communication between governmental and non-governmental public safety and public service providers.

- **Subscriber**

A subscriber is each device that will communicate on the system such as portable radios, mobile radios, and mobile data terminals (MDT).

- **Critical Infrastructure**

Those "systems and assets, whether physical or virtual, so vital that the incapacity or destruction of such systems and assets would have a debilitating impact on security, health or safety, or any combination of those matters."

### 2. Types of Interoperability Responses:

- **Day-to-Day Response** (e.g., automatic aide, routine structure fire, automobile accident)

- Most often encountered type of interoperability.
- Commonly used in areas of concurrent jurisdiction.
- Commonly used where agencies need to monitor each other's routine traffic.
- If agencies are using different radio bands, may involve the use of multiple radios.
- Communications with other primary response agencies.
- Communications with receiving medical facilities.

- **Mutual Aid Response** (e.g., railroad derailment, hazardous materials incident, multi-related disasters)

- Can involve multiple agencies with little opportunity for prior planning.
- Often requires assignment of several to many small groups, each on their own talk group or frequency.
- Once on scene, typically involves the use of portable and mobile radios.

- **Task Force Response** (e.g., extended response/disaster recovery operation or major event)

- Usually involves several levels of government (federal, state, and/or local).
- Typically an opportunity for prior planning exists.
- Usually involves use of portable and/or covert equipment.
- Often requires extensive close-range communications.
- Users may rove in and out of infrastructure coverage (metro to rural, in and out of buildings).

### 3. Types of Organizations Involved:

- **Public Safety Organizations** include all federal, state, and local agencies that have been given, by law, the responsibility for protecting and preserving life, property and natural resources.
- **Public Service Organizations** include all agencies that help furnish, maintain, and protect the infrastructures that promote the public's safety and welfare.

#### Examples of Different Levels of Organizations:

##### Federal Level Organizations

- Public Health Service
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

##### State Level Organizations

- State Police
- State Emergency Preparedness
- State Fire Marshal
- State Dept. of Transportation

##### Local Level Organizations

- City Police Department
- City Fire Department
- Parish Fire District
- Sheriff's Department

**Please complete all questions listed below.**

**1. Estimate the current population of your jurisdiction:**

**2. Please list the number of each of the following buildings which you desire to have in building communication coverage:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| a. High rise buildings (e.g. more than ten stories) | d. Federal owned Critical Infrastructure Buildings |
| b. Parish owned Critical Infrastructure Buildings   | e. Large building (e.g. more than 100,000 sq ft)   |
| c. State owned Critical Infrastructure Buildings    |  |

**3. How many square miles does your jurisdiction cover?**

**4. Please list the number of the separate jurisdictions for each agency type within your parish:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| a. Municipal Police Departments  | h. Private for Profit Ambulance Service |
| b. Parish Fire Districts (Volunteer, Combination or Full Time)                     | i. Public Health and Hospitals          |
| c. Municipal Fire Departments  | j. Emergency Management                 |
| d. Sheriff Department  | k. Public Safety Communications (E-911) |
| e. Special Fire Department (e.g. Industrial Fire Brigade, Airport, Harbor)         | l. University Police Departments        |
| f. Government Public Support (e.g. public works, animal control, mosquito control) | m. Other                                |
| g. Government Operated EMS Service   |   |

**5. Which category below best describes your agency?**

- Fire Protection District/Volunteer Fire Department
- Municipal/City Fire Department
- County/Parish Fire Department
- State Fire Marshal
- Special Fire Department (e.g. Industrial Fire Brigade, Airport, Harbor)
- Private For-Profit Ambulance Provider
- Government Operated EMS Service
- Non-Government Operated Provider/EMS Provider
- Emergency Management Center
- Search and Rescue
- Other

**6. Identify each public safety and/or public service organizations your agency requires radio communication with under the following response situations:**

**a. Federal Level**

1. Public Health	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
2. FBI	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
3. FEMA	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
4. Forest Service	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
5. Coast Guard	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
6. Marshal Service	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
7. DEA	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
8. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
9. Other	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force

**b. State Level**

1. State Police	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
2. Emergency Preparedness	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
3. Fire Marshal	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
4. DOTD	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
5. Wildlife & Fisheries	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
6. Health & Human Services	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
7. Emergency Medical Service	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
8. Agriculture	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
9. University Police Department	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
10. Department of Environmental Quality	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
11. Other	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force

**c. Local Level**

1. City Police Department	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
2. Fire Department / District	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
3. Sheriff Department	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
4. Public Health and Hospitals	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
5. Emergency Management	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
6. Government Public Support (public works, etc)	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
7. Public Safety Communications (E-911)	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
8. Emergency Medical Services	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
9. Urban Search & Rescue Team	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
10. Private Security	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
11. Chemical Recovery Companies	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
12. Utilities	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
13. American Red Cross	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force
14. Other	Day to Day	Mutual Aid	Task Force

**7. Which of the following best describes your agency's arrangement for dispatch?**

If other, please specify:

**8. How many dispatch consoles does your agency have?**

**9. How many calls for service did your agency receive in 2005?**

**10. Does your agency have at least one radio channel solely designated for voice communication with other public safety / public service agencies (interoperability channels)?**

If so, what is the frequency used?

**11. Does your agency have at least one radio channel solely designated for communicating with other organizations?**

If yes, how many channels?

**12. List the number of current and expected future (over 5 years) subscribers on each communications system, which your agency utilizes. Mark all that apply.**

Current Subscribers	Current Digital or Analog?	Future Subscribers (over 5 years)	Future Digital or Analog?	Type of Communication System
				a. Lowband VHF (25 -50 MHz)
				b. Highband VHF (150-174 MHz)
				c. UHF (405-512 MHz)
				d. 800 (806-869 MHz)
				e. 700 MHz
				f. 4.9 GHz
				g. High Frequency
				h. Other

**13. Which best describes your primary land mobile radio base system?**

Analog    Digital    Both

**14. Which best describes your primary land mobile radio system?**

Conventional (not trunked)    Trunked

**15. How many repeaters are in your land mobile radio system?**

**16. Approximately how old is your current land mobile radio system?**

years old

**17. List the number of current and expected future (over 5 years) subscribers for the following applications. Mark all that apply.**

Current subscribers	Future Subscribers (over 5 years)	Application
		a. Hand-held land mobile radio
		b. Vehicle-mounted land mobile radio
		c. Mobile data terminal/laptop computer
		d. Paging
		e. Cell phone

**18. List the number of current and expected future (over 5 years) subscribers for the following system capabilities. Mark all that apply.**

Current subscribers	Future Subscribers (over 5 years)	Capabilities
		a. Telephone Voice Over IP (VOIP) Phones
		b. Photos / Images
		c. Data
		d. Streaming video (e.g. traffic , vehicle mounted)
		e. Finger print identification
		f. Email
		g. Instant Messages (IM)
		h. Electronic Medical Information
		i. Other

**19. List the towers leased or owned by your agency including latitude, longitude, tower heights and tower locations.**

	Tower Latitude	Tower Longitude	Leased/Owned	Tower Height
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

**20. What is the primary radio language used by your agency when communicating with other organizations?**

"Plain" English  
Code System  
Other

If other, please specify:

**21. Rate your agency's ability to establish a radio communication link with each of the following levels of public safety and/or public service organizations.**

a. Federal Level?	Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Very Good	Excellent
b. State Level?	Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Very Good	Excellent
c. Local Level?	Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Very Good	Excellent

**22. Does your department have inter-governmental communications agreements with neighboring jurisdictions for mutually defined calls for service or disasters (i.e., automatic aid agreements)?**

**23. Based on your agency's experience, indicate the severity of each of the following obstacles to interoperability.**

a. Different Bands?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
b. Human and Institutional Limitations?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
c. Different Communication Modes (analog vs. digital)?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
d. Different Communication Modes (conventional vs. trunked)?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
e. Different Coverage Areas?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
f. Limitations of Commercial Services?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
g. Lack of Adequate Planning?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
h. Limitations in Funding?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem

**24. How serious are the following problems regarding your land-mobile radio systems?**

a. Not enough channels?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
b. Not enough talk groups?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
c. Dead spots?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
d. Fading?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
e. Frequency Interface?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
f. Static?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
g. Battery problems?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
h. Not enough equipment?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
i. Outdated equipment?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
j. Equipment size/weight?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem

k. Different types of equipment?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem
l. Operational Difficulty?	Not a Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Substantial Problem	Major Problem

**25. If you marked "not enough channels" as a problem in the previous question, estimate the number of additional channels your agency needs for each of the following:**

- a. Additional Voice-only Channels
- b. Additional Data-only Channels
- c. Additional Alternate Voice and / or Data Channels

**26. Does your agency have plans to replace or substantially upgrade its land mobile radio system within the next 10 years?**

**27. Identify the radio frequencies your agency needs for its next land mobile radio base system and indicate the total number of channels it will need in each band. Include all channels needed for voice and / or data transmissions. Fill in only those that apply.**

Currently Uses	Total # of Voice and Data Channels
a. Lowband VHF (25 -50 MHz)	
b. Highband VHF (150-174 MHz)	
c. UHF (405-512 MHz)	
d. 800 (806-869 MHz)	
e. 700 MHz	
f. 4.9 GHz	
g. High Frequency	
h. Other	

**28. How does your agency plan to fund its next land mobile radio system?**

- State funding
- General fund budget appropriations
- Capital improvement budget
- Bond financing
- Fees
- Other
- Don't know

**29. Does your agency use a paging system for emergency "alerting" of personnel?**

**30. Which of the following best describes your agency's paging system?**

- Tone and / or voice
- Alfa-numeric digital
- Both
- Other

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

**31. As new technologies are introduced and digital communications mature, do you think there should be federal or state mandates with "date-certain" timelines to ensure interoperability?**

**32. What are the wireless communications interoperability issues for your department? How have you solved them?**

**33. Does the lack of wireless radio interoperability affect your department's ability to interact with other agencies in surrounding jurisdictions? If yes, briefly describe how and what adjustments have been made.**

**34. What operational, technological or regulatory issues do you think should be considered in the planning and implementation of a nationwide wireless network for public safety and emergency preparedness entities at all levels of federal, state and local government?**

**35. Additional comments?**

Created by: **SIEC Region1** on **11/30/2007 09:33:04 AM** via IP address **170.145.102.1**

Last updated by: **SIEC Region1** on **11/30/2007 09:33:04 AM** via IP address **170.145.102.1**