

**III. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS**

**A. General**

Many hazards threaten Montour County that may result in significant emergencies or disasters. This plan is designed to provide guidance to appropriately respond to all hazard events likely to affect Montour County. Detailed action steps for these hazards are provided in the County EOP. For more information concerning analysis of these hazards, refer to the Montour County Hazard Vulnerability Analysis.

**B. County Location and Description**

Montour County is located a little east of the center of the state and is bordered by the Pennsylvania counties of Lycoming, Columbia, and Northumberland. The North Branch of the Susquehanna River passes through the southern section of the county. The most significant land feature is Montour's Ridge, crossing the county in a west to east direction.

Montour County experiences the four seasons, but rarely to the extremes. Daytime summer highs reach into the mid-80's (degrees Fahrenheit), but extremes can reach into the upper 90's (F). Winters are cold, with the average wind flow from the west-northwest at 11 mph. Winter daytime highs average in the upper 30's (F) and nighttime lows drop near 20 degrees (F). Precipitation is evenly distributed throughout the year, with an average annual rainfall in the upper 30's (inches). An inch or more of snow is observed an average of 42 days a year. Hurricane winds do not directly affect this area, but tropical storms have resulted in locally heavy rains. Some damage is reported annually from strong wind and hail associated with severe thunderstorms.

The county is largely rural, though urban and suburban land uses make up 22 percent of the land area. The remainder of land uses are agricultural, rural and forest land. The county contains a substantial amount of state park and game lands, and is replete with lakes, streams and waterfalls. Danville is the largest urban area in the county. Overall the county has a land area of approximately 131 square miles and a population density of 140 persons per square mile.

There are several major roadways to transport people and equipment in and out of the county. They are chiefly Interstate 80 and US Route 11. Interstate 80 passes in an east-west direction, while US Route 11 passes in a northeastern direction across the southern portion of the county.

The 2000 Census recorded a Montour population of 18,236. The county has experienced an increase in population over recent decades. Between 1990 and 2000, its population increased by 2.8 percent and between 1960 and 2000 it increased by 9.0 percent. Its population is projected to increase by 8 percent between 2000 and 2020.

Montour County is made up of 11 municipalities. Most have a population of less than 1,500, with the exceptions of Danville Borough (4,897), Mahoning Township (4,263) and Valley Township (2,093). The table below shows population by municipality and age group. Montour County's population is rather evenly dispersed among age groups, but increases somewhat for the age group 35-49. Age groups 0-17 years and 65+ years are likely to be the most vulnerable in hazard situations.

<b>Age Groups</b>						
<b>County Subdivisions</b>	<b>0-17</b>	<b>18-34</b>	<b>35-49</b>	<b>50-64</b>	<b>65+</b>	<b>Subdivision Total</b>
Anthony Township	392	266	322	242	166	1388
Cooper Township	234	110	292	185	145	966
Danville Borough	1065	1173	1041	667	951	4897
Derry Township	358	261	275	197	124	1215
Liberty Township	369	235	419	287	166	1476
Limestone Township	302	185	240	156	121	1004
Mahoning Township	951	594	922	686	1110	4263
Mayberry Township	51	48	74	43	28	244
Valley Township	542	320	584	400	247	2093
Washingtonville Borough	49	50	54	29	19	201
West Hemlock Township	133	81	153	79	43	489
<b>Age Group Total</b>	<b>4446</b>	<b>3323</b>	<b>4376</b>	<b>2971</b>	<b>3120</b>	<b>18236</b>

US Census 2000

Major employers in the county are Geisinger Health System, Danville Area School District, Grandview Health Home, TRW, Strick Corporation, Cabinet Industries, and Pennsylvania Power and Light Company. Geisinger is the top employer and accounts for the presence of a number of related support businesses located in the county.

Montour County has several schools, community facilities and group quarters. The table below gives nursery school/preschool enrollment and kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade enrollment, based on the 2000 Census. Enrollment numbers are shown for both public and private schools. There is only one public school district in Montour County—Danville Area School District. The last accounting of private schools totaled their number at five. In addition to schools, there are six day care centers listed with the PA Department of Education, and several which are not listed and are likely to be located in private homes.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Number</b>
<b>Nursery School &amp; Preschool Enrollment</b>	267
<b>Public School</b>	136
<b>Private School</b>	131
<b>Kindergarten to Grade 12 Enrollment</b>	3479
<b>Public School</b>	3073
<b>Private School</b>	406

US Census 2000

A small portion of the population resides in group quarters as counted in the 2000 Census. This includes a substantial number in mental hospitals, as well as those that reside in correctional facilities, nursing homes and group homes. See the table below.

Category	Number
Correctional Institutions	25
Juvenile Institutions	125
Hospitals	286
Nursing Homes	297
Group Homes	203
Other Non-institutional Group Quarters	67
<b>Total</b>	<b>1003</b>

US Census 2000

Other community facilities include health care facilities, a county library and several volunteer fire companies. The Geisinger Medical Center is a full service, 437-bed hospital located in Danville, PA. The hospital includes a trauma and several renown centers that specialize in pediatrics, women's health, heart, cancer, kidney transplants, neurological diseases and infertility. It also serves as a referral center for many of the most critically ill and injured patients throughout Northeastern and Central Pennsylvania.

Generally, the average summer temperature is about 70 degrees F. and about 30 degrees F. in winter, but this is not truly across the state. There are five temperature zones ranging from south to north. Variations in temperature will depend on which part of the state you are in. Whether graced by spring pastels, summer greens, autumn hues or newly fallen winter snow, Sullivan County's mountains are profoundly beautiful. Summer temperatures average between mid 70's & low 80's. Winter temperatures average in the low to mid 30's. Annual rainfall averages 35 inches; annual snowfall averages 70 inches.

### **C. County Capabilities and Resources**

#### **1. General**

Montour County currently has the capabilities, resources and expandable potential, which, if required in the event of an emergency situation (*natural, man-made, or technological*), would contribute materially to the preservation of life, property, and continuity of government services. Such capabilities include, but are not limited to: emergency communications and warning system; ready access to extensive county and municipal resources; mutual aid agreements; and highly qualified police, fire and ambulance services.

2. Emergency Operations Center

The EOC is located 30 Woodbine Lane, Danville, Pa. This facility has approximately 2,500 square feet of space with rest rooms, generator, cooking, and water storage capabilities to sustain operations for a minimum of 14 days. It contains the County 911 Center that operates on a 24 hour basis. The 911 Center accepts all calls for assistance and has the capability to communicate by radio with all fire departments, police departments and basic life and advanced life support services within the County. The Center monitors the County's flood warning system. The EOC is located 30 Woodbine Lane, Danville, Pa. This facility has approximately 2,500 square feet of space with rest rooms, generator, cooking, and water storage capabilities to sustain operations for a minimum of 14 days. It contains the County 911 Center that operates on a 24 hour basis. The 911 Center accepts all calls for assistance and has the capability to communicate by radio with all fire departments, police departments and basic life and advanced life support services within the County. The Center monitors the County's flood warning system.

3. Hazardous Materials Preparedness

Pennsylvania Act 165-1990 requires each county to maintain a hazardous materials response capability. Montour County has contracted with the TEEM Environmental Services and Minuteman Spill Response Services Hazardous Materials Teams. Both teams are state certified and provide countywide hazardous materials response service. These teams provide an integrated multi-agency response capability of volunteers to provide adequate response to reported emergencies involving hazardous materials. This concept ensures that adequately trained personnel and specialized equipment are available to respond with technical assistance, containment, control and decontamination equipment and as a unified team reporting directly with initial response and incident command units.

Hazardous Materials are substances that can cause harm to people and the environment. These substances can be complex and unique to a special industry process, or common everyday commodities such as gasoline. They can be seemingly harmless substances, but when used improperly or exposed in extraordinary concentrations, the results could be disastrous. We are potentially exposed to these substances daily. A comprehensive inventory of the types of hazardous materials being stored in and transported through Montour County is presented in the County's Hazardous Commodity Flow Study, which is filed with the County's EMA.

All SARA Title III planning facilities in Montour County have current plans filed with the Montour County EMA. Off-site facility plans are prepared by the County EMA Coordinator and approved by the Montour County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).

4. Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

In Pennsylvania, the Hazardous Material Emergency Planning and Response Act of 1990, P.L. 639, No. 165, supplements the federal law,

Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 (*also known as SARA, Title III*). Each county has established a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). These committees are faced with identifying hazardous material facilities, maintaining chemical inventory reports and planning for off-site releases of hazardous materials.

The Montour County LEPC is comprised of 25 active volunteer members representing various groups, including the County Board of Commissioners and the County EMC. The LEPC conducts quarterly meetings, which are publicly advertised. The Montour County Commissioners have established a \$75.00 Chemical Fee for Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS) or Hazardous Substances (HS) in amounts equal to or above their reporting quantity, as defined by SARA, Title III, a \$100.00 Planning Fee, and established a Montour County HAZMAT Restricted Account.

5. Emergency Communications and Warning

Montour County's 9-1-1 Center serves as the public safety answering point (PSAP) for all residents of Montour County. The 9-1-1 Center is co-located with the county's EOC and is co-managed by the County's Emergency Management Coordinator. Communications personnel staff it on a 24-hour basis. Sufficient warning equipment and capabilities are available to provide the warning necessary for most emergencies. Montour County maintains a 911 Plan as required by Act 78.

6. Regional Counter-Terrorism Task Force (Act 227-2002)

Montour County is a member county to the East Central PA Counter-Terrorism Task Force. Training, education and preparedness are being addressed through that committee with representation from emergency service organizations. Volume II, Section V of the County EOP provides further information on the Regional Counter-Terrorism Task Force and addresses the county's standard operating procedures for terrorism and weapons of mass destruction incidents.

**D. Hazard Vulnerability Analysis**

In general, a hazard vulnerability analysis serves several functions:

1. To develop an awareness among agencies, officials and the public of the major hazards for a given jurisdiction.
2. To encourage cooperative management of emergency situations based on an understanding of hazards and their impact.
3. To enhance emergency and disaster response and recovery capabilities for all hazards.

4. To encourage plans and action for preventive measures and effective responses to preserve life and property.

To aid in this process, Pennsylvania has assembled a document titled *Commonwealth of Pennsylvania: Multi-Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment*. It gives a history of disasters in Pennsylvania (1954 through September 1999). It also charts responses by all participating municipalities on the potential impact of specific hazards in their jurisdictions. In general, Montour County respondents noted that the county is most vulnerable to the following hazards:

1. Droughts
2. Floods
3. Winter Storms

A table of major hazards that have occurred in the county is provided below. These are extracted from document cited above, specifically the section titled "History of Disasters in Pennsylvania, 1954 –September 1999." Montour County has experienced several major disasters during this time period. The most devastating disasters have been floods, but heavy snow falls and winter storms, high winds, droughts and even a truckers strike have plagued the county.

Type of Disaster	Date	Disaster Declaration
<b>Flood (Agnes)</b>	June 1972	Presidents/MD, Governors, SBA
<b>Flood (Eloise)</b>	September 1975	Presidents/MD, Governors, SBA
<b>Flood</b>	January 1996	Presidents/MD
<b>Flood (Floyd)</b>	September 1999	Governors
<b>Drought</b>	July 1991	Governors
<b>Drought</b>	September 1995	Governors
<b>Drought</b>	July 1999	Governors
<b>Blizzard</b>	February 1978	Governors
<b>Blizzard</b>	March 1993	Presidents/Emerg, Governors, SBA
<b>Heavy Snow</b>	January 1966	Governors
<b>Heavy Snow</b>	February 1972	Governors
<b>Heavy Snow</b>	January 1978	Governors
<b>High Winds</b>	April 1975	None
<b>Severe Winter Storms</b>	January 1994	Presidents/MD, Governors
<b>Severe Winter Storms</b>	January 1996	Presidents/MD, Governors
<b>Truckers Strike</b>	February 1974	Governors

(\* Codes: Governors = Governor's Declaration of Disaster Emergency; Presidents/MD = President's Declaration of Major Disaster; Presidents/Emerg = President's Declaration of Emergency; SBA = US Small Business Administration Disaster Loan Authorization)

A synopsis of hazards or disaster that have or could possibility occur in Pennsylvania are given below.

***Winter storms.*** Although most do not cause major economic disruption or destruction, many storms slow or immobilize traffic, resulting in stranded motorists and an isolated rural population.

***Drought.*** A drought can be defined in three different ways. "Meteorological drought" is an atmospheric moisture deficiency, which can occur with few effects on crops or water supplies, depending on the water conditions before the drought. "Agricultural drought" occurs when soil moisture inhibits crop growth. When this type of drought persists for weeks or months, a more serious "hydrologic drought" can develop. Such a prolonged lack of rainfall can be devastating for agriculture and causes streams, lakes, and the groundwater table to fall below seasonal averages.

***Earthquake.*** An earthquake is a sudden motion or trembling caused by an abrupt release of accumulated strain on the tectonic plates that comprise the earth's crust. The entire state is susceptible to minor tremblers.

***Landslide.*** A landslide is a downslope movement of a mass of soil and/or rock. Any area with steep slopes may experience landslides as a result of heavy precipitation.

***Subsidence.*** Subsidence is the downward movement of the earth's surface material. Subsidence can be due to mining or sinkholes. Sinkholes sometimes form when an increase in storm water runoff, due to a greater area of paved surfaces, sends water rushing underground and rapidly destabilize the supporting material.

***Flooding.*** Flooding is a frequent and expensive natural disaster that occurs throughout the Commonwealth. Between 1978 and 1995, Pennsylvania has 3,726 flood insurance claims of \$38 million. As recent history suggests, virtually all parts of the state are vulnerable to flooding damage.

***Tornado.*** A tornado is a localized atmospheric windstorm with a whirlpool-like, funnel-shaped cloud. The winds at the center of the cloud can reach up to 300 mph. The path of a tornado is usually about 1/8 mile wide and 10 miles long, with forward speed of about 40 mph. The entire state is vulnerable to tornadic activity, mainly during June and July. Windstorms occur more frequently, but typically cause far less damage than tornadoes.

***Tropical storms.*** Tropical storms, which are spawned from hurricanes that move inland from the Atlantic or the Gulf of Mexico, have been infrequent, but have caused widespread damage and human suffering. A tropical storm has winds of more than 39 mph spiraling counterclockwise around a very localized low pressure center known as the "eye;" a tropical depression has winds less than 39 mph. The flooding that results from tropical storms has caused widespread damage in the state.

**Wildfires.** Wildfires burn an average of 10,000 acres of Pennsylvania's forest land each year. At least 98 percent of these fires are caused by human carelessness. Debris burning typically causes the greatest number of forest fires each year.

**Dam failures.** Dam failures are usually associated with intense rainfall or prolonged flood conditions where the spillway system is inadequate to accommodate peak flows. The areas most threatened by dam breaks are those immediately downstream.

**Hazardous materials.** Hazardous materials fall into a number of classes, including flammable liquids, solids, and gases, combustible liquids, explosives, blasting agents, radioactive materials, oxidizing materials, corrosive materials, poisons, refrigerated liquids, hazardous waste, hazardous substances, and other regulated materials. The constant increase in the production, storage, and use of hazardous materials poses one of the greatest threats to the health and safety of Pennsylvanians. The threat of release of *hazardous substances from a fixed facility* is less significant than that posed by *transported hazardous substances*. The control of hazardous materials is one of the most complex and serious problems facing Pennsylvania.

**Water contamination.** The impact of unintended or untreated releases to the waterways is being better understood scientifically. The chain reaction of their impact can be substantial. Common rural releases are manure and milk.

**Civil disorder.** Civil disorder or riots, have tended to be racially motivated in recent years. Riots in the mid-1960s caused extensive property losses due to vandalism and some loss of human life. School and workplace violence are also being recognized as a hazard with substantial physically and psychologically impact.

**Strikes.** Strikes have impacted Pennsylvania, as demonstrated by the Truckers strike of 1974. Strikes can disrupt the operation of infrastructure or the flow of goods and services, isolating people and having significant economic impact.

**Terrorism.** The fastest growing threat to society today is terrorism, which is defined as a "violent act, or an act dangerous to human life in violation to the criminal laws of the U.S. or any state, to intimidate or coerce a government, the population, or an segment thereof in furtherance of political or social objectives." There are numerous target areas for potential attack, based upon their proximity to critical infrastructure or population centers. There appears to be an increasing threat of terrorism by biological or chemical devices.

**Fixed nuclear facility accident.** The worst fixed nuclear facility accident in U.S. history occurred in Pennsylvania in March 1979 at the GPU facility at Three Mile Island. After this accident, comprehensive, coordinated, and exercised plans were developed for the state, counties, and municipalities to assure the safety of the population.



**Transportation accidents.** Transportation accidents are the most costly of all hazards in terms of lives lost, injuries, and economic losses. Any region of the state is vulnerable to the problems caused by transportation accidents, including the areas adjacent to rail lines and airports.

**Power failures.** Power failures can occur in the winter due to breakage of power lines on which ice and snow have accumulated. Energy emergencies may also be caused by lightning or wind storms, intense heat (i.e., high energy demand), traffic accidents, or oil embargoes. A long-term shortage of fuel, especially during the winter months, would be most detrimental to the health of elderly and disabled people.

**Urban fire.** Urban fire hazards are a threat in many areas of the state, particularly those with older buildings. Individuals are most vulnerable to death by fire in their own homes.

## **E. Critical Infrastructure Protection**

### **Introduction**

1. In October 1997, the White House issued Presidential Decision Directive 63 (PDD-63), "Protecting America's Critical Infrastructure." PDD-63 calls for a national effort to assure the security of the United States' increasingly vulnerable and interconnected infrastructure, such as telecommunications, banking and finance, energy, transportation and essential government services. PDD-63 requires the Federal government to serve as a model to the rest of the country for how infrastructure protection is to be attained and seeks the voluntary participation of private industry to meet common goals for protecting our critical systems through public-private partnerships.
2. Critical infrastructure protection (CIP) pertains to the proactive activities for protecting critical infrastructures: the people, physical entities, and cyber systems that are indispensably necessary for national security, economic stability, and public safety. CIP methods and resources deter or mitigate attacks against critical infrastructures caused by people (e.g., terrorists, other criminals, hackers, etc.), by nature (e.g., hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, floods, etc.), and by hazardous material accidents involving nuclear, biological, or chemical substances.
3. PDD-63 emphasized eight critical infrastructures whose services are so vital that their incapacity or destruction would have a debilitating impact on the defense or economic security of the United States. These critical infrastructures are:
  - a. Information and Communications  
  
The Information and Communications (I&C) sector includes the Public Telecommunications Network (PTN), the Internet, and the many millions of computers for home, commercial,

academic, and government use. The PTN includes the landline networks of the local and long distance carriers, the cellular networks, and satellite service. The system's two billion miles of fiber and copper cable remain the backbone of the I&C sector, with the new cellular and satellite wireless technologies largely serving mobile users as extended gateways to the wireline network. The PTN provides both switched telephone and data services and long term leased point-to-point services.

b. Physical Distribution

- 1) The physical distribution infrastructure is critical to the national security, economic well-being, global competitiveness, and quality of life in the US. The vast, interconnected network of highways, railroads, ports and inland waterways, pipelines, airports and airways facilitate the efficient movement of goods and people and provides this nation a distinct competitive advantage in the global economy.
- 2) Most of our nation's transportation infrastructure is owned by the private sector—railroads and pipelines; the vehicles and equipment operating on our roads, on the water, and in the air; and by state and local governments—our roads, airports, mass transit systems, and ports. To this end, it is imperative that a cooperative relationship exists between the public and private sectors in protecting the County's critical infrastructure.

c. Energy

The security, economic prosperity, and social well being of the US depend on a complex system of interdependent infrastructures. The lifeblood of these interdependent infrastructures is energy, the infrastructure composed of three distinct industries that produce and distribute electric power, oil, and natural gas.

d. Banking and Finance

The US financial system is central not only to the functioning of domestic and global commerce, but to the daily lives of virtually all Americans. It represents bank holdings of about \$4.5 trillion, a capital market of \$7 trillion, investment bank underwriting of \$1 trillion, almost \$3 trillion in daily payment transactions, and about 10 million jobs.

e. Vital Human Services

The Vital Human Services (VHS) sector includes three of the critical infrastructures named in Executive Order 13010: water supply, emergency services, and government services.

f. Water Supply

There is no "typical" water supply system for the US, at least not to any significant degree of detail. But, at a general level, all systems share five common elements.

- 1) A water source, either surface waters in impoundments such as lakes and reservoirs or flowing waters in rivers or ground water in aquifers.
- 2) Treatment facilities in which particulates are filtered out and disinfectants are added.
- 3) A system of aqueducts, tunnels, reservoirs, and/or pumping facilities to convey water from the source through the rest of the system and to provide storage and the means to balance flows.
- 4) A distribution system carrying finished water to users through a system of water mains and subsidiary pipes.
- 5) A waste water collection and treatment system.
- 6) The major uses of the water supply infrastructure are for agriculture, industry (including various manufacturing processes, power generation and cooling), business, fire fighting and residential purposes. In many cases, the water supplies for agriculture and industry come from

outside the public water supply system, being drawn by the users directly from surface or ground sources.

g. Emergency Services

- 1) This infrastructure includes firefighting, police, rescue, and emergency medical services. Its objectives are to contain and deal with emergencies in order to save lives and preserve property.
- 2) Except for certain parts of the emergency medical services element, this infrastructure is mostly government owned and operated. It is focused at the local level; state and federal services play an important but supporting role. The infrastructure as defined by the Commission does not include investigative or law

enforcement functions, nor does it include activities in the recovery phase.

- 3) Local authorities faced with large scale incidents turn, where necessary, first to neighboring jurisdictions with whom they have mutual aid agreements for assistance and then, if necessary, to the state. As a general rule, with few exceptions, federal authorities must be invited before they can play a role.

h. Government Services

Executive Order 13010 designated "continuity of government" as a critical infrastructure. This term has traditionally applied to the survival of our constitutional form of government in the face of a catastrophic crisis such as nuclear war. In January 1997, a memorandum to the Chairman of the President's Commission on Critical Infrastructure Protection (Commission) from the Acting Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs noted that this traditional concept is distinct from the continuation, in the face of physical and cyber threats to our infrastructures, of services provided by federal, state, and local government. The memorandum stated that it was the latter problem that the Commission was expected to address. Consequently, the Commission has considered government services as a critical infrastructure.

4. Critical Infrastructure Information (CII) Procedures

In accordance with the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Section 214, the Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Directorate has submitted its Critical Infrastructure Information (CII) procedures to the Federal Register for public notice and comment period of 60 days. These procedures, as required in the legislation, are designed to ensure that important and sensitive information which the private sector voluntarily submits to the federal government, assists the Nation in protecting and reducing the vulnerability of critical infrastructures to terrorist attack. As Congress recognized in providing the Department the ability to protect such information, these procedures are critical to ensuring that the Nation is able to protect critical infrastructure, 85 percent of which is owned by the private sector. The CII Procedures will establish rules for receipt, care and proper storage of the information and will ensure the Congressional mandate that such information not be shared with the general public. Subject to proper safeguards, this information will be used by the Department for the protection of critical infrastructure and reducing the vulnerability of the infrastructure in the interest of national security.

5. State Homeland Security Assessment and Strategy--2003

The East Central PA Counter-Terrorism Task Force, in conjunction with the County EMA, maintains an inventory of the County's critical infrastructure and potential targets for weapons of mass destruction (WMD). This data was developed under the State Homeland Security Assessment and Strategy (2003), which is further explained in Volume II, Section VI of the County EOP.

**F. Planning Assumptions**

1. Montour County and its 11 municipal governments have the primary responsibility for response in emergency/disaster situations. It is assumed they will commit all available resources to save lives and minimize injury to persons and damage to property.
2. Montour County and its 11 municipalities have appointed qualified personnel of their respective organization to act as Emergency Management Coordinators (EMC). The EMCs are responsible for coordinating their respective government emergency preparedness and response capabilities in accordance with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code (Pa C.S. Title 35 Sections 7101-7707).
3. A major disaster, emergency or terrorism event will cause numerous fatalities and injuries, property loss, and disruption of normal life-support systems, and will have an impact on the regional economic, physical, and social infrastructures.
4. The extent of casualties and damage will reflect factors such as the time of occurrence, severity of impact, weather conditions, population density, building construction, and the possibility of secondary events such as fires, explosions, structural collapse, contamination issues, loss of critical infrastructure and floods.
5. The large number of casualties, heavy damage to structures and basic infrastructure, and disruption of essential services will overwhelm the capabilities of the local (*municipal*) governments along with their emergency response agencies in their response to meet the needs of the situation.
6. Within a short time following the occurrence of a major emergency/disaster, the county will be requested to coordinate and support the activities in accordance with the provisions of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code. The County Emergency Management Agency will need to respond on short notice to provide timely and effective assistance.
7. By utilization of the tiered response system, the resources and capabilities of the East Central Terrorism Task Force will be requested by the county to provide additional coordination and support activities

in accordance with the Counter-terrorism Planning, Preparedness and Response Act (Act 2002-227).

8. Due to limited resources available to Montour County and its municipalities, and upon the county's determination that its resource needs exceeds those available through mutual aid agreements with neighboring counties and the East Central Terrorism Task Force, the county will request assistance from the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA).
9. The occurrence of a major disaster or emergency based upon these planning assumptions will result in the declaration of an emergency by the Governor. Such a declaration, dependent upon the severity, may result in the declaration of an emergency by the President.