

National Infrastructure Advisory Council

March 31, 2008

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

We are pleased to submit the final report and recommendations of the National Infrastructure Advisory Council (NIAC) study on **“Chemical, Biological, and Radiological (CBR) Events and the Critical Infrastructure Workforce.”** The NIAC would like to thank Ms. Martha H. Marsh, President and Chief Executive Officer of Stanford Hospital and Clinics; Mr. Bruce A. Rohde, Chairman and CEO Emeritus of ConAgra Foods, Inc.; and Chief Rebecca F. Denlinger (ret.), former Chief of Cobb County (GA) Fire and Rescue for their leadership in this important study. The NIAC also would like to thank the many others who also participated and brought subject matter expertise and sector knowledge to this extensive study.

The study, which commenced at the October 11, 2005 NIAC business meeting, examined the impact of chemical, biological, and radiological (CBR) events on the critical infrastructure worker, and developed recommendations that will strengthen our nation’s ability to respond to a CBR event. Additionally, the biological portion of the initiative provided the framework for the NIAC study and recommendations on “Prioritization of Critical Infrastructure for a Pandemic Outbreak in the United States,” which NIAC delivered to you in January 2007.

The study addressed the following six key questions for each type of event – chemical, biological, and radiological:

- Do organizations have programs focused on CBR event planning, preparedness, response or training?
- Is there a market or other financial incentive to invest in CBR planning, preparedness, response or training capabilities?
- Is there a sufficient communications infrastructure in place to support CBR event response and recovery?
- What tools and technologies are available, or should be made available in the future, to support CBR event planning, preparedness, response or training programs?
- Is there sufficient coordination between Federal, state, local, and private sector entities in support of CBR planning, preparedness, response, or training programs?
- What can the Federal government do to encourage or enhance planning, preparedness, response, and training capabilities across the public and private sectors?

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In light of these six questions, the NIAC developed multiple recommendations, which address all aspects of a chemical, biological, or radiological threat posed to the nation's critical infrastructure workforce. These recommendations are contained in the full report, which is enclosed.

Mr. President, on behalf of my fellow NIAC members, thank you for the opportunity to serve our country through participation in this Council.

Sincerely,



Erle A. Nye
Chairman Emeritus
TXU Corp
Chairman, NIAC

cc The Honorable Dick Cheney
The Honorable Michael Chertoff, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security
✓ Mr. Thomas P. Bossert, Acting Senior Director for Preparedness Policy, Homeland Security Council

Attachment: Final Report and Recommendations – Chemical, Biological, and Radiological Events and the Critical Infrastructure Workforce – January 8, 2008