

REIMBURSEMENT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

GENERAL

1. The following policy replaces Bulletin 00-11 dated June 2000 contained in the PEP Policy and Procedures Manual and will be effective from November 30, 2005.

Changes have been highlighted for ease of reference.

POLICY

2. PEP will reimburse local governments for use of their fire or public works vehicle(s) for search and rescue activities, or for a response to an emergency outside their jurisdiction or to an area(s) where no other such service exists.
3. Reimbursement rates will conform to those:
 - authorized by the Government of British Columbia for travel status;
 - listed in the BC Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association Equipment Rental Guide (Authorized by the Government of British Columbia); or
 - recommended by the Office of the Fire Commissioner in the case of fire fighting and associated vehicles and services.

CONDITIONS

4. Conditions for reimbursement are as follows:

Fire/Rescue Vehicles

Response Within Jurisdiction (Fires, Dangerous Goods Incidents, Auto Extrication)

- a. PEP **will not** reimburse regional districts, municipalities or improvement districts for use of their fire vehicles or trucks responding to fires, dangerous goods incidents, extrication calls or other emergencies.

- b. PEP **may** reimburse regional districts, municipalities or improvement districts at the same rate paid to volunteer groups when a fire vehicle or rescue vehicle is used in support of a search (see Reimbursement Rates - Volunteers and Volunteer Groups, Chapter 6, Article 6.07).

Response Outside Jurisdiction

- c. PEP **will** reimburse regional districts, municipalities or improvement districts for use of their fire vehicles or rescue trucks responding to an area outside their district, where fire protection or auto extrication services are not available, under the following circumstances:
 - (1) the request must be made by the police, fire department, ambulance service, local government emergency coordinator, Ministry of Transportation and Highways or a PEP regional manager;
 - (2) in the case of fire, there must be an actual or suspected imminent threat to life, (i.e., there is a person trapped);
 - (3) in the case of a dangerous goods spill/leak, there must be an imminent threat to life, or serious threat to life or property;
 - (4) the service provided is not covered under a mutual aid agreement or extended service bylaw.
 - (5) PEP will not pay the costs over and above the fixed rate for extra shifts required to staff a fire hall; and
 - (6) PEP will not pay "fire truck and crew" rate for a fire truck to accompany a rescue truck, unless there is an indication a fire exists, or that fuel spills/leaks present a hazard. The "additional truck" rate will apply.

Note: WCB coverage and liability insurance in these instances is provided by the regional district, municipality or improvement district for its workers.

Public Works Vehicles (Dump Truck, Loader, Grader)

Response Within Jurisdiction

- d. PEP **will not** reimburse regional districts, municipalities or improvement districts for their public works vehicles attending dangerous goods spills, or other emergency incidents.

Response Outside Jurisdiction

- e. PEP **will** reimburse regional districts, municipalities or improvement districts for their public works vehicles responding to cleaning up a dangerous goods spill outside their jurisdiction under the following circumstances:
- (1) the request must have been made by the police, fire department, ambulance service, local government emergency coordinator, Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, Ministry of Transportation and Highways or a PEP regional manager;
 - (2) there must be an imminent threat to life or property; and
 - (3) the service provided is not covered under a mutual aid agreement or extended service bylaw.

PROCEDURE

5. An emergency response task number must be obtained from PEP Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) 1-888-344-5888 (24 hours/day) **In order to ensure that volunteers are covered under the Workers' Compensation Act and have liability protection under the Emergency Program Act, an emergency response task number must be obtained from PEP Emergency Coordination Centre at the commencement of the task. Responding volunteers may use a designate to contact the ECC in situations where any delay will result in life safety issues..** The request must include details of the incident, who is requesting response and the estimated costs.
6. The request for reimbursement must be forwarded to the PEP regional office along with a properly completed incident report and receipts if claiming for lost/damaged equipment. The task numbers must be noted on all documents.



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