



Connecticut DOT

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Bureau of Engineering and Construction

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ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION DIRECTIVE

Chief Engineer

Emergency Declaration Procedures

This Directive supersedes the March 24, 1994 memorandum "Procedures for Emergency Declaration Projects."

When the Commissioner of Transportation declares an emergency condition, the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) 13b-26(f), and in limited circumstances CGS 13b-4(d), allows the Department to bypass certain administrative and regulatory requirements in order to respond to the emergency in an expeditious manner. In such instances, the Department will be required to take action to insure public safety and/or to restore essential transportation service.

An effective response to emergencies requires close coordination among staff while a response plan is developed and resources are marshalled. An emergency condition may necessitate departing from standard business practices and requirements. In order to facilitate a prompt response, **the Commissioner's emergency authority may be used to ensure procedural requirements do not delay or impede timely actions by the Department.**

This Directive is specific to highway infrastructure and, where applicable, rail infrastructure. Emergency guidance pertaining to the safe operation or maintenance of public transportation assets, Department buildings, and any other non-highway related infrastructure are beyond the scope of these current procedures. Bureau staff should seek direction from management for support services related to such other emergencies.

A separate guidance document entitled [Emergency Declaration \(ED\) Procedures](#) has been developed and can be found in the ProjectWise Construction Libraries folder (file name 2018-07-01_ED_Procedures_CN_OOC_Miscellaneous.pdf).

The emergency response procedures described in the guidance include:

- Evaluating the need for an ED
- Preparing and processing an ED
- Responding to the emergency condition under the auspices of an ED