

B 005 09

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Creating the Colorado Statewide Interoperability Executive Council

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Office of the Governor of the State of Colorado, I, Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order creating the Statewide Interoperability Executive Council.

I. Background and Purpose

The public safety of all Coloradans is of paramount importance. Public safety communications provides a critical role protecting the lives and property of the citizens of Colorado. Public Safety Interoperable Communications is a high priority of the State and National homeland security strategy. The Federal Communications Commission is adopting changes that will affect the ability of public safety communications systems to interoperate with one another, due to new technology and shifts in standards. Moreover, effective public safety interoperable communications between jurisdictions allows them to coordinate voice and data information and is critical to the mission of public safety.

State agencies along with local, tribal, and federal agencies as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) should be able to work cooperatively to identify approaches that promote and enhance statewide interoperability. Indeed, wireless radio communications would benefit from coordination statewide promoting coordination and cooperation of a statewide interoperability goal, is an ongoing and long-term effort.

II. Mission

The Colorado Statewide Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC) shall:

- A. Provide policy level direction and promote efficient and effective use of resources for matters related to public safety communications interoperability;
- B. Develop a statewide vision for interoperable communications;

- C. Promote established standards for public safety communications as established by the Chief Information Officer (CIO), Governor's Office of Information Technology;
- D. Promote cooperation among local, tribal, state, and federal public safety agencies, as well as NGOs in the business of providing public safety in addressing statewide radio interoperability needs in Colorado;
- E. Review priorities set by State and Local Homeland Security initiatives and those set forth in the Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan for statewide radio interoperability needs;
- F. Assist Public Safety entities in the development of projects, plans, policies, standards, priorities, guidelines and training for radio interoperability;
- G. Coordinate with other communications over-sight groups to ensure adequate wireless spectrum to accommodate all users;
- H. Research statewide interoperable communications best practices of other states and municipalities; and
- I. Provide recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature, when appropriate, concerning issues related to statewide interoperable radio communications for public safety in Colorado. Such recommendations would include but not be limited to governance, standard operating procedures, technology, training and exercise, planning and funding.

III. Membership

- A. The SIEC shall consist of up to seventeen members, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor, as follows:
 - 1. Nine individuals, each representing one of the nine All Hazard Regions;
 - 2. One individual who is a member of the Southern Ute or Ute Mountain Ute tribe;
 - 3. One representative of the Governor's Office of Information Technology;
 - 4. Two representatives of state agencies that have interest and expertise in interoperable communications;

5. One representative of the Enhanced Digital Access Communication System (EDACS) Users Group;
 6. Up to three additional members with expertise and interest in interoperable communications.
- B. The Governor shall appoint a chair and vice-chair from among the members of the SIEC.
 - C. The SIEC may establish working groups, task forces or other structures from within its membership or with outside members to assist it in its work or to address issues including, but not limited to: technical support and education issues regarding interoperable communications in Colorado; federal funding availability; and, outreach and liaison with federal agencies and other SIECs in other states working on interoperable communications solutions.
 - D. The SIEC shall meet regularly, at least four times per year, at the direction of its chair. Working groups, task forces or other structures established by the SIEC shall determine their own meeting schedules.
 - E. The SIEC shall prepare and present a report to the Homeland Security All-Hazards Senior Advisory Council by June 30 of each year describing the SIEC's activities and measureable progress of the previous year.
 - F. The SIEC shall adopt by-laws, which shall be drafted and approved by the SIEC within six months of this Executive Order.

IV. Funding and Staffing

- A. Each state agency shall cooperate with the SEIC and furnish it with such information and assistance as is necessary or useful to further the purposes of this Executive Order and the SEIC.
- B. The Governor's Office of Homeland Security shall provide administrative support for the SEIC.
- C. The SIEC shall have the power to accept money and in-kind contributions from private entities and persons only to the extent such donations are necessary to cover its expenses. Any money contributed to the SIEC shall be directed to the Office of the Governor and deposited with the Treasurer of the State of Colorado in an account within the Office of the Governor's budget.

- D. Members of the SIEC shall serve without compensation, but may, subject to available funds and at the discretion of the chair and approval of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and in accordance with any applicable federal grant criteria, be reimbursed for any actual expenses incurred.

V. Directive

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Council is hereby created.

VI. Duration

This Executive Order shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded by the Governor.

GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the State of
Colorado this 17th of
September, 2009.

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor