

IND: PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT NO. 1

(Can be used immediately after the explosion, as soon as the fire department arrives and detects radiation and it appears to have been a nuclear terrorism incident.)

There has been an explosion at _____ [site of detonation]. Fire and police personnel are responding. Because of the size and extent of the explosion, and the presence of significant radiation levels, this may have been a nuclear explosion, releasing large quantity of radioactive material. People should stay away to facilitate response efforts and reduce the possibility of radiation exposure from this incident. If you are outside, go inside the nearest stable building. If you are inside building, you should stay inside. If the building has a basement, you should go to the lowest level. If the building does not have a basement, you should get as close as possible to the center of the building and go up two or three floors if it is a multistory building.

We request that people avoid using telephones, including cell phones, to ensure lines are available for emergency responders. We will provide a follow-up message on this issue in 1 h or sooner if additional information becomes available. This follow-up message is estimated to be issued not later than _____ [e.g., give time as X:XX am/pm].

Source: National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP). Responding to a Radiological or Nuclear Terrorism Incident: A Guide for Decision Makers. NCRP report no. 165. Bethesda, MD: NCRP; 2010, pp. 128-129.