

Lithium-Ion Battery Fire Incident Command Quick Reference Guide

Assess

- ☐ Identify: presence of lithium-ion batteries (EVs, e-bikes, ESS, tools, etc.)
- ☐ Assess: smoke color (white/gray), popping sounds, unusual odors reported, visible fire
- ☐ Request HMTF & DNTF for resources and decontamination

Implement

- ☐ Use copious amounts of water for cooling
- ☐ Use thermal imaging to monitor battery temperature
- ☐ Ventilate immediate area/structure with PPV fans
- ☐ Do not move battery unless life safety or exposure risks are present
- ☐ Protect adjacent structures, vehicles, and other combustibles

Plan

- ☐ Full structural PPE with SCBA
- ☐ Establish minimum isolation zone of 150 ft
- ☐ Eliminate ignition sources
- ☐ Be aware of toxic gases: H₂, CO₂, CO, LEL (approximately 3% or greater, especially indoors)
- ☐ Consider up to ½ mile evacuation if large system or multiple batteries are involved

Evaluate

- ☐ Continue cooling with water until no heat signatures remain (below 150 F)
- ☐ Isolate battery or vehicle if necessary
- ☐ Contact fire investigation and document battery type, manufacturer, and serial
- ☐ Ensure all PPE is technically decontaminated with soap and water and immediately remitted to QM for cleaning

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Assess Benchmarks/Notes

- ☐ Visual clues:
- ☐ Size and number of batteries:
- ☐ Additional resources:

Plan Benchmarks/Notes

- ☐ 150-foot isolation zone established
- ☐ Utilities controlled
- ☐ Meter and temperature readings:

Implement Benchmarks/Notes

- ☐ Water on fire
- ☐ Ventilation established
- ☐ Exposures protected

Evaluate Benchmarks/Notes

- ☐ Battery temperature readings:
- ☐ Technical decon established/completed
- ☐ Battery information: