



## Report to Council

Department: Community Services  
Division: Fire and Rescue Services  
Date: March 3, 2025  
Prepared by: Jason Pillon, Fire Chief  
Report Number: Fire and Rescue Services – 2025-04  
Subject: Cobalt Magnet (CM25) Nuclear Emergency Exercise  
Number of Pages: 3

### **Recommendation(s)**

**That** Fire and Rescue Services Report – 2025-04 entitled “Cobalt Magnet (CM25) Nuclear Emergency Exercise” prepared by Jason Pillon, Fire Chief dated March 3, 2025, be received for information.

### **Purpose**

To provide Council with an overview on the upcoming Cobalt Magnet (CM25) Emergency Exercise scheduled for March 2025.

### **Background and Discussion**

The Cobalt Magnet (CM25) exercise is led by the Department of Energy (DOE) and the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), focusing on managing the off-site consequences of a radiological or nuclear incident.

Planning for this exercise began in 2023, with the goal of having response organizations collaborate in a full-scale environment to establish working relationships prior to an incident,

validate operational concepts, and identify best practices, capability gaps, and areas for improvement.

The exercise is aligned with the Provincial Nuclear Emergency Response Plan (PNERP), which outlines the actions municipalities will take in response to a nuclear emergency at the Fermi 2 Nuclear Generating Station (NGS) that results in off-site impacts. The PNERP specifies that municipalities will serve as Host Municipalities in the event of a nuclear emergency. Host municipalities are responsible for managing reception centers, accommodating evacuees, and coordinating monitoring and decontamination efforts. The Town of Essex and the City of Windsor are designated as Host Municipalities for the primary zone on Canadian territory during a nuclear emergency at Fermi 2.

As part of the Town of Essex's Emergency Response Plan, there is a designated nuclear host municipality plan, which will be tested during the exercise to identify any gaps or necessary revisions. Recently, Emergency Management Ontario (EMO), along with the Town of Essex and the City of Windsor, have been collaborating on a joint reception/evacuation center plan, which will also be tested during the exercise.

This exercise will be the largest simulated nuclear emergency in North American history, engaging all levels of both American and Canadian governments, and is expected to receive significant media coverage. As part of the exercise, the Town of Essex's Municipal Emergency Control Group (MECG) will take part in the full-scale Cobalt Magnet exercise, scheduled from March 14 to March 21. The Town of Essex will be involved only on March 17 and 18, during which the reception center at Fire Station 2 and the town's Emergency Operations Center will be activated and fully operational. You can anticipate increased activity at Fire Station 2 on these dates, with more exercise participants and external agencies present.

## **Financial Impact**

There is no financial impact

## **Consultations**

Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services

Doug Sweet, CAO

## **Link to Strategic Priorities**

- Embrace asset management best practices to build, maintain, and continuously improve our municipally owned infrastructure.
- Leverage our Town's competitive advantages to promote jobs and economic investment.
- Take care of our natural environment and strengthen the sense of belonging to everyone who makes Essex "home".
- Deliver friendly customer service in an efficient, effective, and transparent manner while providing an exceptional working environment for our employees.
- Build corporate-level and community-level climate resilience through community engagement and partnership and corporate objectives.

## Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Cobalt Magnet (CM25) Nuclear Emergency Exercise.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Feb 20, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:



**Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services - Feb 20, 2025 - 12:36 PM**



**Doug Sweet, Chief Administrative Officer - Feb 20, 2025 - 1:19 PM**