

Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT)

2010-02 Winter Storm February 5-6

Situation Report #4

1700 6 February 2010

SUMMARY

Governor McDonnell declared a State of Emergency for the Commonwealth of Virginia on 3 February 2010 authorizing state agencies to assist local governments responding to major winter storm impacting the Commonwealth Friday and Saturday, 5 and 6 February, with significant snowfall ranging from 6 to 32 inches and ice accumulation up to ½ inch. The heaviest snowfall amounts, 16 to 32 inches, occurred overnight Friday through late Saturday afternoon across the Northwest and Northern Virginia. Heavy snowfall and strong winds from 15 to 25 mph with gusts up to 35 mph will create blizzard like conditions for the northern parts of the Commonwealth. Wind gusts in excess of 50 mph with sustained wind speeds of 30-40 mph along the coast combined with high tides resulted in minor coastal flooding.

EXECUTIVE ACTION

EOC Activation: VEOC at Response Operations with augmentation of the VERT. FEMA Region III State Liaison Officer arrived on 5 February 2010 at the VEOC.

State of Emergency: Governor McDonnell declared an emergency for the Commonwealth on Wednesday evening, February 3, 2010

Protective Actions:

Local Emergencies Declared (38)

[CLICK FOR VDEM REGIONS](#)

Region 1: Essex County, King and Queen County

Region 2: Frederick County, Fredericksburg City, Greene County, Madison County, Caroline County, Shenandoah County, Page County, Winchester City, Orange County, Culpeper County, King George County, Fauquier County, **Louisa County, Rappahannock County, Spotsylvania County**

Region 3: Augusta County, Waynesboro City, Charlottesville City, Albemarle County, Staunton City, Fluvanna County

Region 4: Tazewell County

Region 6: Pittsylvania County, Rockbridge County, Danville City, Franklin County, **Bedford County, Martinsville City**

Region 7: Manassas City, Manassas Park City, Alexandria City, Stafford County, Arlington County, Fairfax County, Loudoun County, Prince William County

Local Emergency Operation Centers Opened (21)

Region 2: **Culpepper County, Shenandoah County, Page County, King George County,**

Region 3: Charlottesville City, Albemarle County, **Fluvanna County**

Region 4: Russell County

Region 6: Rockbridge County, Danville City, Martinsville City, Henry County, **Pittsylvania County**

Region 7: Manassas City, Fairfax County, Loudoun County, Fairfax City, Prince William County, Manassas Park City, Alexandria City, Stafford County,

(17) Local Shelters Open with (107) Occupants

Region 2: Culpeper County: Salem Volunteer Fire Church (0), St Stephen's Episcopal Church (9 Occupants)

Madison County: Madison County Fire Department (6 Occupants)

Fredrick County: James Wood MS (0)

Page County: Stanley Fire Department (15 Occupants)

Shenandoah County: Peter Muhleburg MS (0)

Spotsylvania County: Thornburn MS (0)

Warren County: Fire Station #6 (6 Occupants)
 Region 3: Augusta County: Riverheads High School (HS) (6 Occupant)
 Charlottesville/Albemarle: Monticello HS (2 Occupants)
Fluvanna County: Palmyra Fire Station (8 Occupants)
Region 4: Tazewell County: Tazewell DSS (0)
Region 6: Patrick County: Patrick Henry Community College (15 Occupant)
Henry County/Martinsville: Martinsville MS (40 Occupants)
 Region 7: Stafford County: Stafford HS (0), North Stafford HS (0)
Prince William County: Battlefield HS (0)

VERT OPERATIONS

Priority is life safety and maintaining critical infrastructure throughout the Commonwealth.

Requests for Assistance Received (90)

Assigned (5), Accepted (11), Cancelled (12), Completed (17), Declined (3), In Review (3), In Transport (7), In Use (31)

ESF 1 (Transportation): 9
ESF 4 (Firefighting): 7
ESF 7 (Logistics): 25
ESF 8 (Health & Human Services): 2
ESF 12 (Energy): 1
ESF 16 (Military Affairs): 45
ESF 17 (Volunteers & Donations): 1

Local Support Services:

VA Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Regional Coordinators are staged and available in their region and monitoring situation

ESF 1 – Transportation

VA Department of Transportation (VDOT)

VDOT forces are fully mobilized and responding to the roadway impacts in areas affected by the storm. Winter road conditions are being reported through the 511 traveler information system. Roadway conditions are changing as the storm progresses across the Commonwealth. Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel had wind speeds between 60-70 mph, with gust reaching 75 mph.

I-81 NB between mile markers 232 and 235 (Augusta County) closed due to several disabled tractor trailers.

CSX reports freight trains stopped north of Richmond. Amtrak also reports stoppages.

ESF 2 – Communications

Virginia Information Technology Agency (VITA)

Cell phone providers are reporting significant outages state-wide. This negatively impacts interoperability.

ESF 4 – Firefighting

VA Department of Forestry (VDOF)

DOF is standing up 3 Regional Chainsaw Strike Teams and 3 Regional Bulldozer Strike Teams in anticipation of a need to help with the restoration of critical infrastructure. There are several crews on standby throughout the state. DOF is filling requests for Bulldozer crews. No chain saw operations will be conducted during hours of limited visibility unless it is an essential operation.

ESF 7 – Resource Management

VA Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

In order to provide the quickest and most efficient resources during this winter weather event, localities should look to their local resource providers and mutual aid partners for resource support

ESF 8 – Public Health

VA Department of Health (VDH)

VDH Emergency Preparedness and Response will continue to monitor WebEOC and VA Hospital and Healthcare Association for Resource Requests and Incident Log

updates. OCME has reported 2 possibly storm related fatalities pending confirmation.

ESF 12 – Energy

State Corporation Commission (SCC)

Total Statewide Power Outages as of 1600: 219,000

Dominion VA Power – 90,000

Alleghany Power – 12,670

Shenandoah – 6,700

Southside – 4,700

Mecklenburg – 1,000

A&N – 325

Rappahannock – 40,000

Appalachian Power – 36,300

Central Virginia – 10,100

Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative – 17,200

(Project restoration times will not generally be available until Sunday.)

ESF 13 – Public Safety

VA Department of State Police (VSP)

Dispatched to date (2,758), Disabled to date (1,013), Accidents to date (1,217)

State Police Fairfax is on generator power

ESF 16 – Military Support

VA Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

DMA continues to Winter Storm operations under a force cap of 750 personnel. 530 personnel are currently on duty staged from 15 armory locations from NOVA to the I-81 corridor. Mission sets are focused assisting fire, LE, EMS assets. Anticipated missions may shift to shelter assistance.

ESF 15 – External Affairs

VA Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Created Google map of local shelters

Posted VEOC video to YouTube

Coordinated Governor’s teleconference

Developed and distributed talking points for local governments, state agencies, governor’s office, local and regional emergency coordinators, and legislative liaison.

Updated Web site, disaster blog and Twitter

Responded to multiple media calls from outlets throughout the state

Coordinating messaging among VERT agencies; VDOT and DSS represented in the Joint Information Center

Monitoring broadcast and online media reports

ESF 17 – Volunteers

VA Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Preparatory actions are underway to support feeding or sheltering needs.

VERT PLANNING SECTION

Conducting conference calls with National Weather Service Offices, State, Federal, Private, Volunteer, and Local partners; maintaining situational awareness; producing State Situation Reports

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Region IV:

Tazewell County reported the collapse of one structure, no injuries reported.

Pulaski County reported a two building collapses. One was at the Conny Oil Company resulting in a haz mat incident; the other vacant commercial building collapse.

Pulaski County reported the collapse of one structure, no injuries reported.

Region VI:

City of Martinsville reporting 30% of the City is without power. 70% of the Appalachian Power Customers in Henry County are without power.

Pittsylvania 911 Center and jail are on generator power.

Covington 911 Center and jail are on generator power.

Region VII:

City of Alexandria has two nursing homes on generator power

Fort Belvoir is completely without power.
Falls Church water pumping station supplying Tyson's Corner is out. Water is being relayed from other stations.
Manassas Regional Airport has reported the total collapse of an aircraft hanger.
Fairfax City Water Treatment plant is without power.

Metro DC:

The DC Circulator (bus system) has suspended service for Friday and Saturday. The Metrorail will run underground service only on 6 February. Metrobus will suspend bus service on all lines until further notice.

Weather Forecast

Northern/Northwest VA: Winter Storm Warning in effect until 10 pm. **Tonight:** A chance of snow before 9 pm, low temperatures in the single digits with wind chill values as low as zero, winds north between 8 and 14 mph, with gusts as high as 24 mph. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible. **Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with high temperatures in the upper 20's, winds north between 7 and 9 mph. **Sunday Night:** Partly cloudy, with low temperatures in the low teens with wind chill values as low as zero, winds west around 7 mph.

Southwest/West Central VA: Winter Storm Warning in effect until 10 pm. **Tonight:** A slight chance of snow showers before 1 am, with low temperatures in the mid teens, winds northwest between 6 and 8 mph. **Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with high temperatures in the mid 30's, winds between 5 and 8 mph. **Sunday Night:** Partly cloudy, with low temperatures in the low teens, winds north 5 to 10 mph.

Central/Eastern VA: Winter Weather Advisory in effect until 7 pm. High Wind Warning in effect until 12 am. A Flood Warning for the Nottoway and Blackwater Rivers is in effect with minor flooding forecasted. **Tonight:** Along the coast new snow accumulation of less than one inch, winds north between 26 and 29 mph with gusts as high as 44 mph, low temperatures in the mid 20's. Further inland a chance of snow before 7 pm, low temperatures in the mid teens, winds north between 9 and 16 mph. **Sunday:** Sunny with high temperatures in the mid 30's, winds along the coast 14-16 mph, and between 6 and 8 mph further inland. **Sunday Night:** Partly cloudy, with low temperatures in the mid teens.

Prepared by: Chappell, Dunn, Howard, Wall
Authority of Michael Cline, State Coordinator
/s/ Harry Colestock, VERT Coordinator