

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 # 2

1730 5 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 24 inches and ice accumulation up to ½ inch. The heaviest snowfall amounts, 16 to 30 inches, will occur overnight Friday through Saturday morning across the Northeast 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. Along the coast expect wind gusts in excess of 50mph with sustained wind speeds of 30-40mph. Some coastal and localized flooding can be expected in the southeastern parts of the Commonwealth.

EXECUTIVE ACTION

- EOC Activation:** VEOC at Response Operations with limited augmentation, increased augmentation of the VERT will begin at 0700 5 February 2010. 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 (28)**
[CLICK FOR VDEM REGIONS](#)
 - Region 1: Essex County
 - Region 2: Frederick County, Fredericksburg City, Greene County, Madison County, Caroline County, Shenandoah County, Page County, Winchester City, Orange County, Culpeper 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
 - Region 7: Manassas City, Manassas Park City, Fairfax City, Alexandria City, Stafford County, Arlington County
 - Local Emergency Operation Centers Opened (12)**
 - Region 2: Shenandoah County, Page County, King George County
 - Region 3: Charlottesville City, Albemarle County
 - Region 4: Russell County
 - Region 6: Rockbridge County, Danville City
 - Region 7: Manassas City, Manassas Park City, Alexandria City, Stafford County
 - Local Shelters Open (2)**
 - Region 3: Augusta County @ Riverheads High School (HS)
Albemarle @ Monticello HS
 - Region 7: Stafford County @ Stafford HS (2 Occupants)
North Stafford HS (3 Occupants)

VERT OPERATIONS

Priority is life safety and maintaining transportation flow across the Commonwealth

Requests for Assistance Received (47)

Accepted (19), Cancelled (1), Complete (7), Declined (1), In Review (2), In Use (7)

ESF 1 (Transportation): 3
ESF 4 (Firefighting): 1
ESF 7 (Logistics): 11
ESF 8 (Health & Human Services): 1
ESF 16 (Military Affairs): 30
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.
- ESF 4 – Firefighting** **VA Department of Forestry (VDOF)**
DOF is standing up 3 regional chainsaw strike teams and three regional dozer strike teams in anticipation of a need to help with the restoration of critical infrastructure. Three local incident management teams are on notice that there could be a need to assist at the local level in some capacity
- ESF 7 – Resource Management** **VA Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)**
In order to provide the quickest and most efficient resources to communities for the incoming winter weather, localities should look now 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. The OCME has reported 2 possibly storm related fatalities that are pending confirmation.
- ESF 17 – Energy** **State Corporation Commission (SCC)**
Total Statewide Power Outages as of 1600: 26750
Dominion VA Power – Approximately 800
Appalachian Power – System wide: 18,750 plus
Tazewell – 7,500
Russell County – 2,750
Henry County – 3,000
Dickenson County – 950
Smyth County – 1600
Washington – 800
Patrick - 675
- ESF 13 – Public Safety** **VA Department of State Police (VSP)**
Friday Dispatched (691), Friday Disabled (240), Friday Accidents (261)
At this time 46 crashes are considered weather related, and VSP has assisted 22 disabled vehicles. Interstate traffic is light at this time, primarily tractor trailers, but they are causing considerable problems.
- ESF 16 – Military Support** **VA Department of Military Affairs (DMA)**
500 National Guard Troops have been authorized to assist in response efforts.
- ESF 15 – External Affairs** **VA Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)**
Developed and distributed talking points for local governments
Updated Web site, disaster blog and Twitter
Responded to multiple media calls from outlets throughout the state
Reached out to Spanish language media
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)

A state-wide call was held at 1500 hours. 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

Weather Forecast

- **Southwest Virginia** – High Wind Warning until midnight for Tazwell County, sustained winds from 20-30 mph with gusts to 65 mph can be expected. Winter Weather Advisory from midnight until 4 pm tomorrow. **Tonight:** Freezing rain and sleet before 9pm, then snow and sleet between 9pm and 10pm, then snow likely after 10pm. New snow and sleet accumulation of 1 to 3 inches as well as 0.1 inch of ice possible. Low temperatures in the mid 20's, winds east between 10 and 18 mph. **Tomorrow:** Snow, mainly before 1pm, high temperatures in the upper 20's, winds north between 6 and 10 mph. New snow accumulation of 1 to 2 inches possible.
- **West Central Virginia** – Winter Storm Warning remains in effect until 4pm tomorrow, up to one tenth of an inch of ice expected tonight, with 2 to 4 inches of snow later tonight into tomorrow morning. **Tonight:** Snow, freezing rain, and sleet, becoming all snow after midnight. Low temperatures in the low 30's. Winds east between 14 and 18 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. New snow and sleet accumulation of 1 to 3 inches with the possibility of 0.1 inch of ice. **Tomorrow:** Snow, mainly before 1pm, high temperatures in the low 30's, winds north between 7 and 11 mph. New snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.
- **Northwest** – Winter Storm Warning remains in effect until 10pm tomorrow, heavy widespread snow accumulations expected between 20 and 30 inches, with some locations in excess of 30 inches. Conditions will deteriorate rapidly this afternoon, heaviest snow amounts will occur from sunset through tomorrow morning. Overnight wind gusts of 20-30 mph expected. **Tonight:** Heavy snow with temperatures in the mid 20's, winds northeast between 7 and 13 mph. New snow accumulation of 13 to 19 inches possible. **Tomorrow:** Snow with high temperatures in the mid 20's, winds north between 11 and 14 mph. New snow accumulation of 3 to 7 inches possible.
- **Northern Virginia** - Winter Storm Warning remains in effect until 10pm tomorrow, heavy widespread snow accumulations expected between 20 and 30 inches, with some locations in excess of 30 inches. Conditions will deteriorate rapidly this afternoon, heaviest snow amounts will occur from sunset through tomorrow morning. Overnight wind gusts of 20-30 mph expected. **Tonight:** Heavy snow with low temperatures in the upper 20's, winds northeast between 11 and 18 mph. New snow accumulation of 16 to 22 inches possible. **Tomorrow:** Snow with high temperatures in the upper 20's, winds north between 16 and 18 mph. New snow accumulation of 5 to 9 inches possible.
- **Central Virginia** – Winter Storm Warning remains in effect until 6pm tomorrow, snow mixed with sleet will continue through the afternoon, accumulations expected to be between 6 and 12 inches, accumulations of 12 to 18 inches is possible for portions of Fluvanna, Louisa, and Caroline counties. **Tonight:** Rain and sleet, becoming all rain after 7pm, low temperatures near freezing, winds northeast between 14 and 17 mph, with gusts as high as 28 mph. New sleet accumulation of less than one inch possible. **Tomorrow:** Snow with high temperatures falling to the mid 20's by 4pm, winds north between 15 and 17 mph, with gusts as high as 28 mph. New snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible
- **Eastern Virginia** – Winter Weather Advisory will be in effect from 6am Saturday through 7pm tomorrow evening. Flood watch and coastal flood advisory in effect until 7 February at 4am. Tides are expected to be 2-3 feet above normal causing minor flooding. **Tonight:** A high wind warning is in effect for Norfolk, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach from 7pm tonight through midnight Saturday. A high wind advisory is in affect for Northampton, and Accomack from midnight tonight through midnight Saturday. Rain which could be heavy at times. Low temperatures in the mid 30's, winds east between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 32 mph. New rainfall amounts between 1 and 2 inches possible. **Tomorrow:** Rain and snow likely, becoming all snow after 10am, temperature falling to the mid 20's by 4pm, winds north between 14 and 18 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. New snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.

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