

# 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 #3

0700 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 30 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 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 (33)**  
**[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**
    - 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, Alexandria City, Stafford County, Arlington County, **Fairfax County, Loudoun County, Prince William County**
  - Local Emergency Operation Centers Opened (18)**
    - 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, **Martinsville City, Henry County**
    - Region 7: Manassas City, **Fairfax County, Loudoun County, Fairfax City, Prince William County**, Manassas Park City, Alexandria City, Stafford County,
  - Local Shelters Open (6)**
    - Region 2: Culpeper County (9 occupants): Salem Volunteer Fire and St. Stephens Church**
    - Region 3: Augusta County: Riverheads High School (HS)  
Charlottesville/Albemarle: Monticello HS
    - Region 7: Stafford County: Stafford HS (2 Occupants), North Stafford HS (3 Occupants)  
Fairfax County: 2 Private Shelters

## VERT OPERATIONS

Priority is life safety and maintaining transportation flow across the Commonwealth

**Requests for Assistance Received (62)**

**Assigned (5), Accepted (11), Cancelled (3), Completed (8), Declined (3), In Review (3), In Transport (2), In Use (25)**

**ESF 1 (Transportation): 13**

**ESF 4 (Firefighting): 3**

**ESF 7 (Logistics): 12**

**ESF 8 (Health & Human Services): 1**

**ESF 12 (Energy): 1**

**ESF 16 (Military Affairs): 31**

**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.**

***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. 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. The OCME has reported 2 possibly storm related fatalities that are pending confirmation.

***ESF 12 – Energy***

**State Corporation Commission (SCC)**

**Total Statewide Power Outages as of 0500: 129,909**

**Dominion VA Power – 73,232**

**Alleghany Power – 4,136**

**Shenandoah – 2,467**

**Appalachian Power – 41,873**

**Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative – 8,201**

***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)**

***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)**

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)**

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 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.**

**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**

**Southwest Virginia** – Sustained winds from 20-30 mph with gusts to 65 mph can be expected. Winter Weather Advisory from midnight until 4 pm Saturday. **Saturday:** Snow, mainly before 1 pm. High near 32. East wind 6 to 15 mph becoming north. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible. **Saturday Night:** A chance of snow showers before 1 am. Cloudy, with a low around 15. North/Northwest wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

**West Central Virginia** – Winter Storm Warning remains in effect until 4 pm Saturday. **Saturday:** Snow ending by late afternoon. High near 31. North wind between 7 and 14 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New snow accumulation of 1 to 4 inches possible. **Saturday Night:** A slight chance of snow showers before 1 am. Cloudy, then gradually becoming partly cloudy, with a low around 12. North/Northwest wind between 5 and 9 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

**Northwest** – Winter Storm Warning remains in effect until 10 pm Saturday, heavy widespread snow accumulations expected between 20 and 30 inches, with some locations in excess of 30 inches. **Saturday:** Snow and areas of blowing snow. High near 30 North wind between 11-15 mph, with gusts as high as 29 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. New snow accumulation of 3 to 7 inches possible. **Saturday Night:** A chance of snow, mainly before 9 pm. Cloudy, then gradually becoming partly cloudy, with a low around 10. Wind chill values as low as zero in some areas. North wind between 7 and 10 mph, with gusts as high as 29 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%. Little or no snow accumulation expected.

**Northern Virginia** - Winter Storm Warning remains in effect until 10 pm Saturday, heavy widespread snow accumulations expected between 20 and 30 inches, with some locations in excess of 30 inches. **Saturday:** Snow and areas of blowing snow. High in the upper 20s. North wind between 14 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 29 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. New snow accumulation of 3 to 10 inches possible. **Saturday Night:** A chance of snow, mainly before 9 pm. Cloudy, then gradually becoming partly cloudy, with a low in the mid teens. North wind between 9 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 29 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%. Little or no snow accumulation expected.

**Central Virginia** – Winter Storm Warning remains in effect until 6 pm Saturday, 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. **Saturday:** Snow. High near 34. North wind between 15 and 17 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible. **Saturday**

**Night:** A slight chance of snow showers before 11pm. Mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly clear, with a low around 9. Wind chill values as low as zero. North wind between 7 and 14 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Eastern Virginia** – Winter Weather Advisory will be in effect from 6 am Saturday through 7 pm Saturday evening. Flood watch and coastal flood advisory in effect until 7 February at 4 am. Tides are expected to be 2-3 feet above normal causing minor flooding. **Saturday:** Rain and snow, becoming all snow after 1pm. High in the mid 30s to mid 40s. Breezy, with a north wind between 17 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New snow accumulation of 3 to 7 inches possible in the Northern Neck area and new snow accumulation of less than one inch possible in the Hampton Roads area. **Saturday Night:** A chance of snow, mainly before 11pm. Mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly clear, with a low in the mid to upper teens. North wind between 11 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%. New snow accumulation of less than one inch possible.

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