

# Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT)

2011-08-23 Earthquake  
Situation Report #2  
August 24, 2011 1600 Hours

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## SUMMARY

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) reported and confirmed a 5.8 magnitude earthquake impacted Virginia at 1351 hours on 23 August 2011. The epicenter was located approximately 5 miles south-southwest of Mineral, VA; 41 miles northwest of Richmond, VA; and 83 miles southwest of Washington, DC. The depth of the earthquake is reported at approximately 3.7 miles. USGS reports four aftershocks between magnitudes 2.2 and 4.2 occurred on 23 and 24 August. Reports indicate the earthquake was felt as far south as Georgia, as far north as Canada, and as far west as Chicago.

As a result of the earthquake the North Anna Nuclear Power Station declared an Alert at 1403 hours on 23 August; there was no release of radiation. Physical inspections of the plant and dam were completed and revealed no structural damage. **The event was terminated at 1116 hours 24 August.** Surry Nuclear Power Station declared a Notification of Unusual Event at 1404 hours on 23 August, but remained online. The Notification of Unusual Event was terminated at 1800 hours 23 August.

## EXECUTIVE ACTION

### Protective Actions

Local Emergencies Declared (3):

- Caroline County
- Culpeper County
- Louisa County

Local Emergency Operation Centers Open (0)

Local Shelters Open (0):

- Louisa County with approximately 20 occupants (**closed**)

### Local Damage Reports

- City of Alexandria:
  - One fire station, several schools, and many private buildings damaged
- Culpeper County:
  - Culpeper Adult Detention Center was evacuated and relocated to Piedmont Regional Jail
  - Four buildings condemned
  - Courts, Town and County offices closed today, 24 August
- Louisa County:
  - Louisa Town Hall
  - Mineral Town Hall
  - Louisa Middle School
  - Louisa High School (significant damage)
  - One residence collapsed and another partially collapsed
  - Louisa County Airport terminal/hanger building (significant damage)

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- Hanover County:
  - Mechanicsville post office closed due to structural damage

## **ESF 5 – Emergency Management**

- VEOC at Response Operations as of 1600 hours 23 August
- VEOC augmented with additional staff including select ESFs
- Event created in WebEOC titled “2011-08-23 Earthquake”

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