

Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT)

TROPICAL STORM HANNA SITUATION REPORT # 2 1500 Hours 4 September 2008

New information in bold-italic font

SUMMARY

At 1100 hours the center of Tropical Storm Hanna was located 245 miles East of Nassau and about 720 miles South-Southeast of Wilmington, North Carolina. Hanna is moving toward the Northwest near 12 mph. This motion is expected to continue during the next day, with a turn to the North and a gradual increase in forward speed by late Friday. Maximum sustained winds are near 65 mph with little change in strength forecasted today. There is potential for Hanna to become a hurricane on Friday prior to making landfall. Tropical Storm force winds extend outward up to 315 miles mainly to the North of the center. Coastal storm surge flooding of 1 to 3 feet above normal tide levels can be expected in areas of onshore winds within the tropical storm warning area. The exact track and possible location of landfall is still uncertain as Hanna approaches the Southeastern coast of the US.

EXECUTIVE ACTION

EOC Activation

The VEOC is at Response Operations with augmented staff and has set Hurricane Readiness Condition 2 (under 48 hours before the onset of Tropical Storm Force Winds).

Protective Action

Governor Timothy M. Kaine declared a state of emergency today, directing state agencies to take all reasonable actions necessary to protect the health and safety of Virginians from the potentially damaging effects of Tropical Storm Hanna. The VEOC will augment selected Emergency Support Functions (ESF) effective 0700 Friday 5 September and begin 24 hour Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT) operations. Preparing for the arrival of Federal agency staff on 5 September.

ESF 15 – External Affairs

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

VDEM Public Affairs staff continuing to maintain situational awareness and to field media inquiries reference Virginia's response to the impending impact of Tropical Storm Hanna. Staff is also coordinating press releases with the Governor's Office and other State Agencies. ***Coordinating information dissemination with North Carolina Public Affairs Office, Dominion Virginia Power, and FEMA Public Affairs Offices. VDEM Public Affairs has had over twenty five media inquiries referencing Virginia's response to Hanna and hosted numerous media visits to the State Emergency Operations Center.***

WEATHER

Forecast

Thursday, 4 September: Mostly clear; high temps from to mid 80's to lower 90's; winds light and variable. Thursday night: Mostly clear; low temps in the mid 60's; east winds 6-9 MPH. Friday, 5 September: Mostly cloudy; with a chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon; winds between 6 to 15 mph; chance of precipitation 50% mostly in Central and Southeastern Virginia. Friday Night: Rain likely with thunderstorms, some producing heavy rains mostly in the Central and Southeastern Regions of the State; winds between 15 and 25 MPH; chance of precipitation 70%, 2-3 inches possible.

The Virginia Emergency Operations Center is monitoring Hurricane Ike which is located 525 miles Northeast of the Leeward Islands moving West-Northwest near

16 MPH with maximum sustained winds near 140 MPH, and Tropical Storm Josephine, located 520 miles West of the Southernmost Cape Verde Islands moving toward the West-Northwest near 10 MPH with maximum sustained winds near 50 MPH.

OPERATIONS SECTION

- ESF 1 – Transportation** Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Maintaining situational awareness and assessing current resource availabilities. Coordinating with North Carolina on potential evacuation activities. **Currently identifying additional staffing needs and will be augmenting their Transportation Emergency Operations Center (TEOC) at 1800 hours 5 September. VDOT will follow their Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) regarding tunnel and bridge closures in the impacted areas.**
- ESF 5 – Emergency Management** Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)
The Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC) is at Response Operations Hurricane Readiness Condition 3 with augmented staff monitoring National Hurricane Center Advisories on Tropical Storm Hanna, Hurricane Ike, and Tropical Storm Josephine and maintaining situational awareness. The VEOC is monitoring Department of Homeland Security and Federal Emergency Management Agency conference calls regarding Tropical Storm Hanna. An event has been created in WebEOC titled 2008-09 Hurricane Hanna. State agencies and localities should make entries and monitor for information related to Tropical Storm Hanna. The VEOC initiated weather conference calls on 3 September with state agencies, all localities, Virginia Dominion Power, military units, and the National Weather Service Forecast Offices covering Virginia. **FEMA Emergency Response Team (ERT-A) will be responding to the VEOC to coordinate Federal response efforts.**
- ESF8 – Public Health** Virginia Department of Health (VDH)
Maintaining situational awareness and coordinating with hospitals and local health districts on possible impacts and resource requirements. Alternate Emergency Coordination Center (AECC) established at Central State Hospital in Petersburg.
- ESF 16 – Military Affairs** Virginia Army National Guard (VANG)
Monitoring situational awareness, obtaining equipment status and anticipating staffing requirements. **VANG has been authorized to activate Virginia Guardsmen for response activities related to Hanna if requested. No activations have been initiated to date.**

LOGISTICS SECTION

- ESF 7 – Resource Support** Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)
Identifying locations for possible pre-positioning of resources, staging areas, and Point of Distribution (POD) locations. The State Emergency Services Contract will be available to localities effective 4 September 2008. Providing deployment location for FEMA Mobile Emergency Response System (MERS) equipment. **Establishing staging areas at the Chesterfield County Airport, and Fort A.P. Hill for Federal resources to support response to Tropical Storm Hanna. Private resources are also being coordinated to support response activities.**

PLANNING SECTION

- ESF 5 – Situation Unit:** Preparing Situation Reports, monitoring WebEOC entries, maintaining situational awareness, preparing daily shift-change briefings, facilitating daily operational planning meeting, preparing and distributing daily operation plans. Prepared draft of an Executive Order for a Declaration of a State of Emergency.

Next Situation Report will be issued 5 September around 1500 hours.

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Central Virginia jurisdictions, including Chesterfield, Hanover, Powhatan, Petersburg, Dinwiddie, Henrico, Colonial Heights, Hopewell, and New Kent Counties and VDEM Region I Coordinator held a conference call to discuss response plans for the pending impact of Hanna. Chesterfield County and the City of Chesapeake will open their EOC's with limited staffing at 1800 hours 5 September; Henrico, Richmond, Hanover, and New Kent will open their EOC's with limited staffing at 0600 hours 6 September. Isle of Wight County plans to partially activate their EOC Friday, with full activation Saturday. James City County plans to activate their EOC Friday.

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