

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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Situation Report Winter Storm Event January 29, 2009 6:00 P.M.

UPDATED INFORMATION IN BOLD

SUMMARY

A Canadian cold front pushed into Missouri Monday, mixing with Gulf moisture and creating hazardous weather conditions. There have been six fatalities reported in weather-related accidents throughout the state. Officials report power is out on more than 112,600 meters across Missouri. National Weather Service indicated that areas in South Missouri had received from ½ to 1” of freezing rain. Other areas had up to 4” of sleet and other areas had up to 7” of snow the further north in Missouri. Governor Nixon directed SEMA to activate the State EOC and signed an Executive Order activating the Missouri National Guard for State Emergency Duty. Governor Nixon has also requested an expedited Declaration of this disaster from the President.

SEMA has activated the State EOC to a level two activation. Appropriate State agencies have reported to the State EOC and are responding to requests from County and City officials.

Power outages - Utilities:

Ameren UE – 34,600 meters are without power, primarily in southeast Missouri. 1,300 linemen are working to restore power with more coming into the area. An estimated 1,000 poles or more are down due to the storm.

Missouri Electric Cooperatives – Several cooperatives are reporting 53,000 meters without power. Affected electric Cooperatives and their Outage reports include:

Ozark Border, Poplar Bluff	25,000
SEMO, Sikeston	10,000
Pemiscot-Dunklin, Hayti	7,000
Howell-Oregon	6,500
White River Valley, Branson	4,400

Over a thousand poles are down, in addition to transmission lines.

Missouri Public Utilities Association - An estimated 25,000 meters remain without power.

Counties/Cities Reports:

Barry County – Central Dispatch reports all roads are dangerous and traffic that is moving is doing so very slowly. Two shelters are open and others are on stand-by. Some power outages still in the Shell Knob area. County EOC remains on stand-by.

Butler County – Reporting about 80% of population without power. Animal sheltering assistance being requested.

Cape Girardeau County – One shelter had 20 people in it overnight but was to be closed. Power is almost 100% restored. Still some sporadic outages in rural areas. Water service is up for all residents.

Carter County – Some power is being restored in City of Grandin. Some restoration to city water and sewer systems being reported. Officials delivered water to elderly and shut-ins in Grandin. Increasing reports of collapsed roofs of sawmills and other businesses. The workforce is affected by this damage to business. Most secondary roads are still rough and impassable. No shelters open at this time. EMD has begun surveying damage.

Christian County – Some ‘slide offs’ Monday night. One fatality accident occurred that was weather related. No power outages and no shelters anticipated. No requests for assistance at this time.

Douglas County – Still a few power outages. No requests for assistance at this time. EOC is on standby.

Dunklin County – 450 people were served at five shelters that were open overnight. Shelters are opening tonight in Senath and Cardwell. 100% power outage reported in county, outside of Kennett which has some limited power. City of Cardwell continues to need a generator. Entergy line is down around Holcomb. City of Kennett – Water plant is up and running and they are assisting Pemiscot County. City of Kennett has requested cots to turn two warming centers into overnight shelters. City of Malden needs manpower assistance to do wellness checks.

Howell County – Most county roads are impassable. Assistance requested for debris clearance. One shelter was open with 14 people. 75 fire calls in the last two days, two structural fires. Several commercial buildings have had roofs collapse and inventory damaged

Madison County – No power outages and crews are working to clear roads. Primary roads are passable, secondary roads are covered with freezing rain/sleet.

Mississippi County – Two shelters are open in East Prairie, which also has outages. City of Charleston is without power – need shelter assistance for nursing home. Need National Guard assets for debris removal and welfare checks. 85% power outage in Charleston. Sewage lift stations continue to need generators. East Prairie is without water and City of Charleston is assisting them with water from their plant. Debris clearance is becoming a number one priority. East Prairie is requesting generators and National Guard assistance.

New Madrid County – About 95% of county is without power. Incident Support Team and MONG liaison is in place. They have eight warming shelters in the County. Three of those shelters had approximately 300 people in them overnight. They continue to need generators and cots. City of Portageville continues to need food and water for the shelters. An Entergy line is blocking the water plant and needs to be repaired.

Oregon County – City of Alton has 30% power out. Power is still out in City of Thayer with numerous outages in rural areas. More trees and poles have broken due to ice. Hwy 19 is 75% clear from Thayer to Shannon County line. Almost all county roads are impassable. Debris handling is a concern. Water for Thayer and Alton is enroute. Possible shelter/warming station opening in Alton.

Ozark County – Several undetermined outages reported in rural parts of county. About 3,000 residents are without power. One shelter is open.

Pemiscot County – County has 100% power loss. **Four shelters are open; one in Hayti had population of 30 Wednesday night.** City of Caruthersville is operating out of their EOC and continues to need generators and water. MONG is doing wellness checks.

Ripley County – **The power is out throughout the county. Two shelters are open in Doniphan and Naylor. County continues to need additional cots, blankets, water and MREs. MONG assisting with health and wellness checks and Conservation is assisting with road clearance.**

Pulaski County – Snow removal is highest priority. No ice on trees and no outages reported.

St. Francois County - No reports of power outages. One fatality accident occurred Monday night. Warming shelter and special-needs shelters are on stand-by. EOC is partially activated.

Scott County – **About 80% of county is without power.** Need water supplies and generator for the water system. **County continues to need some bottled water, cots and generators.** MONG is on site. There is a continuing need of staff assistance for the local hospital. **City of Sikeston has about 30% of power up. Ambulance service radio communications has been re-rerouted due to downed tower.**

Stoddard County – **About 60% of county is without power. Requested additional cots for shelters.** Still looking for generators, MREs and bottled water. Cell phone service is sporadic.

Stone County – **Some ice is melting from roadways and vegetation. Still some homes without power. Generator at MOARK water is functioning well. One shelter remains open in Kimberling City. Starting to receive calls regarding boat docks damaged by weight of ice and snow on them.**

Wright County –Some parts of the county had 6” of sleet accumulation. Roads are still being cleared. No power outages and no shelters anticipated. No requests for assistance at this time.

State Agencies:

ESF-1 Transportation - Missouri Department of Transportation shows **92** road closures in Southeast Missouri, mostly power line issues. **The situation has improved along major routes, with all of them reported to be open.** Crews continue to work on affected roads and assess damage along secondary roads. Fuel and materials are in good shape.

ESF-2 Communications – MSHP Communications reports one repeater in Doniphan is back working. Working to get generators to tower sites, which have been operating on battery power.

ESF-3 Public Works – DNR/Water is working to assist PSC in getting water utilities to 30 systems. Reminded to issue boiling water orders. They are issuing information on disinfecting water. **Conservation has three chainsaw crews moving debris from roads in Ripley, Ozark and Taney Counties, They are also transporting six trailers of cots to Scott, Stoddard and New Madrid Counties.**

ESF-4/9 Fire/Search and Rescue - Missouri State Fire Marshal indicates **14** firefighters have been sent to affected areas under mutual aid in Kennett. Also providing assistance with Incident Support Team in New Madrid County and wellness checks in Ozark County. Tanker support for Portageville is still there.

ESF-5 Emergency Management - SEMA is at level two activation and the State EOC is on a 24-hour staffing pattern. SEMA officials would like to encourage local jurisdiction to document their storm-related expenses for potential reimbursement, if a Federal Disaster Declaration is received.

ESF-6 Human Services - Missouri Department of Social Services is working with local jurisdictions to accurately track shelters being opened and possible needs resulting from that. **A distribution point was established in Poplar Bluff, with 28,000 bottles of water distributed out to local jurisdictions. They are working to get additional needed items into the area.**

ESF-7 Logistics – SEMA Logistics is providing generator support - 106 generators have been mobilized. Department of Corrections (DOC) community supervision center in Kennett is on generator power; the community supervision center in Poplar Bluff is operating on normal power. DOC Southeast Correctional Center in Charleston is on generator power. DOC community supervision center in Kennett will be used as a shelter for linemen. There are 30 beds available as they're no offenders in residence at this time. In addition, DOC has staff and equipment throughout SEMO delivering generators.

ESF- 8 Public Health – Department of Health and Senior Services has the Disaster Situation Room is activated. They are monitoring hospitals, long-term care facilities, local public health agencies, and senior and disabled clients. Put out news releases on chainsaw safety and generator safety. Dept. of Mental Health assisting issues with local healthcare providers as needed. **DHSS Environmental Health Response team being mobilized to assist with potential food-related issues.**

ESF-10 Hazardous Materials – DNR –EER is monitoring the situation and will respond if needed. Looking into debris management issues.

ESF-11 Agriculture – Dept. of Agriculture is monitoring the situation and will respond if needed.

ESF-12 Energy – DNR Energy reports that both fuel terminals in the area have been cleared and are running. They are working to make sure fuel will be available for distribution in the affected area. **Monitoring situations regarding phone tower outages.**

ESF-13 Public Safety – Missouri State Highway Patrol has troopers assisting local jurisdictions as requested, working accidents and keeping highways cleared of accidents. MSHP sent 30 officers and a helicopter, while Missouri State Water Patrol sent 14 officers, to assist in Mississippi, Pemiscot and Scott counties.

ESF-14 Long Term Recovery – No report as this time.

ESF-15 Public Affairs - Fielding calls from National networks and issuing press releases.

ESF-16 Missouri National Guard – Liaison officers are being dispatched and more soldiers are being called up and ready for assist local jurisdictions. MONG has 90 citizen-soldiers assisting the local jurisdictions in many different locations throughout Southeast Missouri.

ESF – 17 Animal Welfare – A Humane Society of Missouri survey team in enroute to Southeast Missouri to assist local jurisdictions.

Volunteer Agencies:

United Way – 211 – Up and running and taking calls. They have received about **200** calls to date.

American Red Cross – Assisting with Shelter requests. Need specifics for opening shelter...cots, meals and water numbers would assist in getting them up and running. Working on a long-term feeding plan for the next week.

AmeriCorps Volunteers – Two people dispatched to SEOC to support ESF-6. About 40 others were deployed to Butler County to provide assistance at the Black River Coliseum at the distribution center.

Civil Air Patrol -- Ground, air, and communication assets remain on alert to assist if requested.

Convoy of Hope – Sent a truck to Poplar Bluff distribution site Wednesday with water and MREs.

Salvation Army – Assisting in feeding operations at Joplin shelter and at other sites, as needed. Working with American Red Cross on the feeding situation.

County Shelter Summary (As of 1/29/09 @ 1500 hrs.)

County	# of Shelters	Current Population
Barry	2	12
Butler	2	520
Cape Girardeau	1	7
Dunklin	5	20
Howell	1	14
New Madrid	8	750
Oregon	1	45
Ozark	1	4
Pemiscot	4	75
Ripley	2	111
Scott	2	493
Stoddard	3	193
Stone	1	0
Total	33	2244

Weather:

National Weather Service (St. Louis) indicates weak cold front moved through the region this afternoon but otherwise skies were clear and conditions dry. High temperatures on Friday will warm a bit more into the mid 30s over southeast Missouri and into the mid 40s in the southwest. Highs are forecast to move up into the mid to upper 50s over much of the southern half of the state on Saturday before dropping back to slightly cooler highs from 45 to 55 on Sunday. The next chance of precipitation remains Sunday night into Monday,; likely in the form of rain which may change into snow. No significant accumulation is expected.

Point of Contact:

The State Emergency Management Agency can be contacted at 573-526-9100. This number will be staffed until further notice on a 24-hour basis.