

## Situation Report

### Weather [Update-07] Severe Weather – Nationwide | 02-14-21 | INC10326702

**Critical Infrastructure Involved:** Communications, Energy (Electricity; Natural Gas; Oil), Healthcare and Public Health, Transportation Systems (Highway and Motor Carrier), Water and Wastewater Systems.

**Summary:** Winter storms are moving across the country causing impacts to critical infrastructure.

As of 1600 ET, The National Weather Service (NWS) reports gradual thawing and moderating temperatures for the middle third of the U.S. from the Upper Midwest to Texas and the Lower Mississippi Valley. By 21 Feb and into early next week, temperatures will almost be near normal if not slightly above average after the recent arctic blast. However, a low pressure system is forecast to develop late into the weekend bringing some rain and snow in the Mississippi Valley.

### KEY POINTS:

- On 20 Feb, the President approved Major Disaster Declaration for Texas
- Approximately 281,256 customers are without power nationwide, including 64,166 customers in Texas and 57,322 customers in Mississippi.
- Gas production is starting to come back online after being shut in due to wellhead freeze offs and natural gas processing plant outages caused by extreme cold.
- Approximately four million barrels per day of U.S. oil production has been shut-in due to freeze-ups, icy roads, and power losses. This is equal to 35% of total U.S. crude oil production.
- Water outages and boil water advisories are being reported in storm affected areas of Texas and Louisiana.
- Continued severe winter weather impacts COVID-19 vaccination efforts, affecting 3,077 (-3,964) sites that collectively contain approximately 3.1 million doses, with 1,585 vaccine sites located in Region VI power outage areas.

### CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVOLVED

## COMMUNICATIONS

Texas representatives state no major communication issues presently, although some issues in some areas. There are no 911 / PSAP issues remaining.

Officials in Louisiana reported five (5) Louisiana Wireless Information Network LWIN / public safety (T1 class) sites are out of service. Crews are working on the restoration of dedicated circuits supporting the northern portion of the state. There are currently no unmet needs.

Region VI reports power restoration continues to improve. Most of the telecoms are at or near pre-storm services. Most of the remaining communication outages are due to infrastructure damage vice power outages and are primarily focused in central Texas. There are no unmet needs.

Industry / telecom representatives report communications continue to improve following power restoration. No unmet needs.

Weather impacted cell towers are running on generators, no reported 911 service impacts.

AT&T, T-Mobile, and Verizon are deploying mobile cellular assets to augment local cell networks. Coordination is underway to ensure the generators at cell towers are being refueled.

Region VI is not requesting Disaster Information Reporting System (DIRS) at this time. If conditions worsen and they feel it is needed, the FCC and ERO will approve and start reporting.

ERO personnel (Army Reservists) are virtually staffing the FEMA Emergency Communications Unit Lead (ECUL) desk under a different ESF-2 activation.

Personnel have been participating in calls and have assisted FEMA Region VI and the communications critical infrastructure owners/operators with refueling their generators.

Region X reports the out of service tower number is trending downward, with 47 sites down for various reasons from the originally reported 185.

## ENERGY

(Electricity)

As of 1600 ET, data from the Department of Energy Environment for Analysis of Geo-Located Energy Information (EAGLE-I) indicated the following power outage numbers:

- Texas – 64,166

- Mississippi – 57,322
- West Virginia – 43,071
- Oregon – 42,975
- Louisiana – 36,963
- Kentucky – 36,759

Region VI reports power restoration continues to improve and there are no requests for federal support.

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) operations have returned to normal, and we are no longer asking for energy conservation.

ERCOT reported normal grid conditions, as operating reserve margins are within acceptable range.

In Texas, most remaining outages are due to damaged infrastructure and are focused in a swath in central Texas just west of Austin eastward to Nacogdoches. Current estimated time for repair and return to service for most customers remaining without power is 22 Feb. (1517 R6 SR)

In LA Entergy has stabilized power in the southern portion of the state. Most of the remaining power outages are focused in the north/central part of the state. Repairs are ongoing with an estimated time of restoration of 22 Feb.

DOE reported Unit 1 of the South TX Nuclear Power Plant has returned to full capacity.

Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) in Louisiana has implemented rolling power outages. Estimates power will be restored for 95% of customers by the late evening of Feb 22.

Southwest Power Pool reports they are not under an Energy Emergency Alert (EEA) but will remain in a period of conservative operations until 2300 ET on 20 Feb.

Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) has terminated all EEA alerts, but has issued a maximum generation alert for MISO's south region and remains under conservative operations until 20 Feb, 1600 ET.

As of 20 Feb The MISO system is steady and stable with sufficient generation and transmission resources online.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention facilities are experiencing intermittent power outages as well as interruptions in water service as a result of the winter storm.

In Oregon, Pacific Gas & Electric has 11 feeders out, 226 have been restored; and nine transmission lines out, 32 have been restored.

## (Natural Gas)

Gas production is starting to come back online after being shut in due to wellhead freeze offs and natural gas processing plant outages caused by extreme cold.

FEMA Region VI reported Enterprise Neptune Plant in St. Mary, Louisiana is unable to receive and process gas; this processing plant has a capacity of 650 MMcf/d and receives gas from offshore production in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico.

## (Oil)

In Texas, the state is taking steps to open new fuel supply lines to ensure truckers, agriculture producers, emergency responders, and anyone else that runs on diesel will be able to get food to stores and supplies to required destinations throughout the state.

The state is requesting fuel waivers from the EPA and the IRS to allow for the use of all forms of diesel on Texas roads to keep truckers moving.

ESF12 reports some refineries may be offline for several weeks to repair issues related to the cold weather. Full or near-full refinery shutdowns have been reported at eleven refineries, accounting for approximately 3.7 million barrels per day (b/d) of capacity, equal to about 20% of total U.S. refinery capacity.

Approximately four million barrels per day of U.S. oil production has been shut-in due to freeze-ups, icy roads, and power losses. This is equal to 35% of total U.S. crude oil production; most of the affected production is in the Permian Basin in TX and OK.

North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) reported current shutdowns to several oil and natural gas facilities in Texas has the potential to impact North Carolina if not back online within a week.

The NCEM team is implementing a daily touchpoint with American Petroleum Institute and Colonial Pipeline. Currently, Colonial Pipeline is not experiencing interruptions or disruptions to their operations.

## **HEALTHCARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

Continued severe winter weather impacts COVID-19 vaccination efforts, site impacts have greatly reduced in the past 24 hours, now affecting 3,077 (-3,964) sites that collectively contain approximately 3.1 million doses, with 1,585 vaccine sites located in Region VI power outage areas.

Numerous states are reporting COVID-19 vaccination and testing site closures or limited schedules for the next several days. COVID-19 vaccination distribution operations are also being inhibited by transportation issues.

In Louisiana, 30 hospitals are reporting water issues, with 7 hospitals and 2 nursing homes on generator power.

As of 20 Feb multiple health care facilities remain closed or partially closed across Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.

## **TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS**

(Highway and Motor Carrier)

State-wide vehicle restrictions and hazardous road conditions across Texas and the Southeast have restricted and closed roads in multiple states which is impacting logistics and deliveries of goods and services including fuel and healthcare related items.

Road conditions in Texas are improving with 3,700 (-1,600) roads impacted by 13 (- 24) total road closures.

AMTRAK reported Palmetto 90 (Savannah – New York) is now operating.

(Maritime Transportation System)

Ports of Houston, Corpus Christi and Victoria facilities have begun reopening as power and water pressure have been restored. In Louisiana all major waterways (Mississippi River, Calcasieu Ship Channel, GIWW) are open/operational.

## **WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS:**

FEMA Region VI reported 24 wastewater systems in Texas are non-operational with 566 (-196) systems under boil water advisory, affecting 14 million people.

Region VI reports 262 drinking water systems are not operational and 179 are partially operational. There are 1,191 boil water notices affecting 14.5 million people.

In Louisiana, there are 98 (+62) water system outages affecting 235,000 (-11,000) customers throughout 18 parishes with 235 (-27) boil water advisories affecting 1,100,000 (-1,000,000) residents throughout 39 parishes.

Current water outages and boil water notices in LA remain in effect due to damaged pipes. Additionally, after new repairs are made, the increasing water pressure is causing additional outages. It is expected, until all pipe repairs are made, and inspections/testing are completed, these outages/advisories will remain in effect.

All of Austin, TX is under a water boil notice due to Austin's largest water treatment facility, the Ullrich Water Treatment Plant, losing power. Water pressure in the city has dropped below minimum standards.

The Central Arkansas Water (services Little Rock) is in water conservation mode.

In Oklahoma 118 drinking water systems and 22 wastewater systems are impacted.

#### **WATCHES AND WARNINGS:**

Flood Warning until further notice for multiple rivers in southeastern Virginia.

#### **ACTIVATIONS AND DECLARATIONS:**

FEMA NWC is at Normal Operations (Steady State) and FEMA Regional Watch Center VI is at Monitoring; Regional Response Coordination Center is at level III.

The Oregon, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia EOCs are at full activation. The Mississippi, Arkansas, Kentucky, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas EOCs are at Partial Activation (Winter Weather and COVID). The Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia, Ohio, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia EOCs are at Partial Activation (COVID).

The Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Kentucky National Guard have been activated.

Governors have declared States of Emergency in Oregon, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, West Virginia, and Virginia.

On 18 Feb, the President approved a federal emergency declaration request for Oklahoma and Louisiana.

#### **CISA Actions:**

- Coordinating with NCC/ERO on communications impacts and stability.
- Continuing to monitor weather conditions in coordination with affected Regions. for potential impacts to critical infrastructure.
- ERO will be conducting Daily ESF-2 calls at 1300 ET.
- This is the final SITREP, all other reporting will be by exception.

Respectfully,

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