



STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Michael T. Hinman
Administrator

Scott Walker
Governor

DATE: February 1, 2011, 10 p.m.

TO: Governor Scott Walker

FROM: Mike Hinman, WEM Administrator

SUBJECT: Situation Report #4 on Severe Weather

Weather conditions continue to deteriorate across the southern third of Wisconsin.

Roads: All roads are snow covered and slippery with poor to zero visibility. Many state, county and town roads are expected to become impassable during the overnight hours as county snow plows concentrate on the Interstate system and select state roads. No highways are closed at this time. Grant, Iowa, Racine and Walworth Counties have requested National Guard resources to help patrol state and county roadways to make sure there are no stranded motorists. Stranded motorists are strongly urged to stay in their vehicles until help arrives. Motorists can dial 511 or go to www.511wi.gov for the latest road conditions.

Airports: Mitchell Field in Milwaukee is now closed and will remain closed until Wednesday morning.

Power Outages: Scattered outages are reported across the southern third of the state.

Weather: The blizzard continues to move across southern Wisconsin. Heavy snow, significant blowing and drifting snow from wind gusts to 40 to 50 mph will create dangerous conditions. Wind chill temperatures throughout the blizzard will range from 5 to 5 below. The southeastern corner of the state is getting the brunt of the snow with accumulations of 2 to 3 inches an hour possible between midnight and 3am.

Governor Scott Walker has declared a State of Emergency for 29 counties as a major winter storm continues to impact Wisconsin. The State of Emergency is a precautionary measure for counties that are currently under a winter storm or blizzard warning. The counties named in the State of Emergency are Adams, Calumet, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Grant, Green, Green Lake, Iowa, Jefferson, Juneau, Kenosha, Kewaunee, Lafayette, Manitowoc, Marquette, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Richland, Rock, Sauk, Sheboygan, Walworth, Washington, Waukesha, and Winnebago Counties.

The Governor's State of Emergency calls to active duty elements of the Wisconsin National Guard as deemed necessary by Brigadier General Don Dunbar to assist local authorities if needed. Approximately 75 Wisconsin National Guard Soldiers are deploying to armories across the state to assist local and state authorities with weather emergencies. The Soldiers, with tactical vehicles, will report to armories in Plymouth, Milwaukee, Oak Creek, Kenosha, Sussex, Elkhorn, Watertown, Janesville and Platteville tonight (Feb. 1). They will remain on site through the state of emergency or until released. The nine manned armories will be available for use as back-up emergency shelters and the Soldiers will be standing by to support local authorities with emergency operations such as door-to-door safety visits, generator assistance or stranded-motorist support.

The declaration also directs all state agencies to assist in any response or recovery efforts. Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) has been monitoring this storm system. The State of Wisconsin Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was elevated to Level 3 at noon. Staff from WEM, Wisconsin National Guard, State Patrol, and Department of Transportation are in the EOC monitoring the storm.

As a measure to help keep people off the roads during this storm, Governor Walker is closing state office buildings in the impacted areas to the public. State employees that do not work in public safety may use leave to stay home tomorrow. Department of Administration has issued guidance to state agencies. Employees should work with supervisors or human resources staff.

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