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Sent: Fri, 08 Feb 2013 19:22:06 -0500
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Subject: UPDATE 1: Winter Storm

Sir – for your awareness. Travel bans have been implemented in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. National Guard has been activated in multiple states with shelters and warming centers open. Airports in Boston, NYC, Rhode Island, VT and CT are all closed. 4,000 flights today in and out of NYC were canceled. Utilities have pre-positioned supplies and workers into the region. The next update will come at 900AM.

BLUF: On Friday, February 8, 2013, a winter storm began impacting the Northeast U.S., bringing snow and possible coastal flooding to the region. Initial snow accumulations of 1-4 inches have been reported, but the National Weather Service predicts the strongest winds and heaviest snow will fall tonight into Saturday. Blizzard Warnings are in effect for Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, northern New Jersey, and New York. Winds are forecast to be from the northeast between 30-60 mph with gusts up to 75 mph. Snowfall is anticipated to be between 1-2 feet (12-24 inches) from the eastern Great Lakes into the northeast with higher amounts projected for southeastern New England. Conditions will lead to blizzard and white-out conditions, creating dangerous travel conditions. Damage to trees and structures and power outages are anticipated. As of 3:30pm EST, the Department of Energy reports 15,209 customers without power in Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey.

TIMING:

Overnight:

- Blizzard conditions from Connecticut through Boston into eastern Maine.
- Accumulations of 18-30 inches and localized accumulations of 36 inches are expected across eastern Massachusetts, northern Connecticut, and Rhode Island
- Accumulations of 12-24 inches are expected in eastern New York and northern New Jersey, including New York City and Long Island.

Saturday, February 9:

- * Blizzard conditions are expected to persist in upper New England.
- * Moderate to major coastal flooding during high tides expected in upper New England.
- Very low temperatures with an expected low of 8 degrees in Boston and 12 degrees in New York

Sunday, February 10:

- * Blizzard expected to end in New England; breezy conditions remain.
- Milder temperatures expected in New England with highs in the mid-30s.

FEMA PREPARATIONS:

- There are currently no unmet needs; no requests for assistance reported.
- FEMA reports the Region I Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) is activated at level II (Partial Activation with select Emergency Support Functions). The Region II RRCC is activated at level III (Partial Activation).
- National IMAT-White is deploying to the Connecticut Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
- Region II IMAT remains deployed to New York for Hurricane Sandy Recovery and will support Winter Storm activities, as needed.
- JFOs operational in Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey are prepared to provide initial response if needed.
- FEMA State Liaisons are in place in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New York, and New Jersey.
- The National Disaster Medical System has prepositioned five strike teams in the area.
- FEMA Logistics has identified 10 sites of pre-positioned commodities across Region I consisting of 50,000 meals and 50,000 liters of water; generators are at 97% availability.
- A mission assignment was issued to the US Army Corps of Engineers to provide support for temporary emergency power and technical assistance.