

# Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT)

Virginia Emergency Operations Center

Hurricane Earl

Conference Call Minutes

1 September 2010 1100 Hours

*Regions I and V*

## National Weather Service (NWS) Wakefield: [Wakefield, VA](#)

Hurricane Earl is currently a Category 3 storm with maximum sustained winds near 125 mph and forecast to pass the Virginia coast early Friday morning, 3 September. Earl is moving northwest at 16 mph. This motion is expected to continue today with an eventual turn to the north-northwest. Conditions are not currently favorable for strengthening over the next 24 hours. A Hurricane Watch is in effect for the cities of Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Virginia Beach, as well as the counties of Accomack and Northampton. On the current track, there is a low chance, 30 percent, of tropical storm force winds impacting Hampton Roads and the Eastern Shore of VA, peaking around 0800 Friday morning. Heavy surf (8-10ft breaking waves and 15-20 waves off shore), tides 1-2 ft above normal, and an increased risk of rip currents are also forecast during this time. Little, if any, rainfall from Earl is currently forecast to impact Virginia. The storm will move into the area by midnight on Thursday and move out of the area by late morning or early afternoon on Friday.

## VEOC Operations – Michael Nelson

As of 1000 hours this morning (September 1<sup>st</sup>), the Governor declared a State of Emergency. The Commonwealth of Virginia is at Hurricane Readiness Condition 2. We have a WEB EOC event entered for the storm and have received several situation reports from localities. Please keep entering situation reports from into WEB EOC. The VEOC is going to 24-hour operations beginning tomorrow morning. The next conference call will be held at 1100 hours on 2 September.

## VDEM Hurricane Program Manager – Stewart Baker

There is still a slight chance of the hurricane drifting to the west. The jurisdictions that are subject to tropical force winds include Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Hampton, North Hampton, Newport News, Accomack, Isle of Wight, York, Poquoson, Mathews, Gloucester, and Middlesex. There is a strong confidence in the forecast models, but localities along the coastline and inland still need to be prepared.

## Locality Roll Call:

| Present | Region I   |
|---------|--|
| X       | <b>Amelia County</b> – No Questions  |
|         | <b>Brunswick County</b>  |
| X       | <b>Charles City County</b> – No Questions  |
| X       | <b>Chesterfield County</b> – Q – Is there any additional information regarding state managed shelters? A- We are making the necessary preparations and are ready to open state managed shelters if needed. Q – They previously hosted FEMA resources |

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|                | (supply trailers). Will they need to do this again? A – There is no plan for localities to host FEMA resources at the present time. FEMA will be at the VEOC this afternoon and we will have more information at that time. Q – What actions are North Carolina taking? A – Visitors are being evacuated from Ocracoke and Hatteras islands (mandatory) and evacuation is recommended for residents. |
| X              | <b>City of Colonial Heights</b> – No Questions   |
|                | <b>Dinwiddie County</b>  |
| X              | <b>City of Emporia</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>Essex County</b> – Q – What type of flooding can be expected on the rivers? A- River flooding inland is anticipated to be approximately 1 foot.   |
| X              | <b>Goochland County</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>Greensville County</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>Hanover County</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>Henrico County</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>City of Hopewell</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>King &amp; Queen County</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>King William County</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>New Kent County</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>Nottoway County</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>City of Petersburg</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>Powhatan County</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>Prince George County</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>City of Richmond</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>Sussex County</b> – No Questions  |
| <b>Present</b> | <b>Region V</b>  |
| X              | <b>Accomack County</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>City of Chesapeake</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>City of Chincoteague</b> – No Questions   |
|                | <b>City of Franklin</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>Gloucester County</b> – Q – Is the storm surge still anticipated to be 1 foot? A – Yes. Q – What type of waves are anticipated up the bay and how far will they get up the bay? A – Waves will not come up the bay to their area..  |
| X              | <b>City of Hampton</b> – Q – Are we still looking at 1-2 foot above normal tide and will the storm surge occur at high tide? A – The storm surge will likely occur during the morning hours.   |
| X              | <b>Isle of Wight County</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>James City County</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>Lancaster County</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>Mathews County</b> – Q – When will the highest tide occur A – Late Friday afternoon   |
| X              | <b>Middlesex County</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>City of Newport News</b>  |
| X              | <b>City of Norfolk</b> – Q – What are the timing of the tides in the Norfolk area? A – Tides will be coming up on Thursday night and Friday morning and will likely be 2-3 foot (possibly 4) above normal – moderate flooding range for this area. Q- When will  |

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|                | we hear about or get confirmation of the northeast turn. A – When it occurs.  |
| X              | <b>Northampton County</b> – Q – What are the expected tidal impacts on ocean and bay side? A – 2-3 feet above normal on the ocean side (moderate). Possibly 1-2 feet above normal (minor) on the bay side. Tidal impacts are likely to occur Friday morning.  |
| X              | <b>Northumberland County</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>City of Poquoson</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>City of Portsmouth</b> – Q – What tidal flooding is anticipated for the Elizabeth River. A – 2-4 feet above normal and 1–2 feet below the November nor’easter  |
| X              | <b>Richmond County</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>Southampton County</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>City of Suffolk</b> –Q – What type of flooding do you anticipate in the Nansemond river? A – 1-2 foot potential tides are expected on the river.   |
| X              | <b>Surry County</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>City of Virginia Beach</b> –Q – Is it possible that the city could come under a tropical storm warning or stay under a hurricane watch? A – At this time it is anticipated that they will stay under a hurricane watch for now. The NWS will be having conversations with the hurricane prediction center today. Q – Can you comment on the anticipated wave action and the surge? A – 8-12 foot waves on the coast are very possible Friday through Saturday. Sustained winds and gusts up to 50-60 mph are expected. Keep in mind that Hurrivac gives you the worst case scenario. |
| X              | <b>Westmoreland County</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>City of Williamsburg</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>York County</b> –Q – Are anticipated tides in York County similar Hamptons? A – Further up the York river the tide will be less. Tides are anticipated to be 1-2 feet as it borders the bay.   |
| <b>Present</b> | <b>State</b>  |
| X              | <b>Langley Air Force Base</b> – No Questions  |
|                | <b>Ft Eustis</b>  |
| X              | <b>Norfolk Naval Base</b> - No Questions  |
| X              | <b>US Coast Guard</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>NE Installation Mgmt Agency</b> – No Questions   |
| <b>Present</b> | <b>VDEM</b>   |
| X              | <b>Local Support Services Director</b> – No Questions   |
| X              | <b>Region I Coordinator</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>Region V Coordinator</b> – No Questions  |
| X              | <b>VDEM PAO</b> – No Questions  |