

# 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

31 August 2010 1100 Hours

*Regions I and V (30 minutes)*

**The phone in number for conference calls is the number listed on the email notification, not the number from the WebEx screens.**

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

Earl is a strong Category 4 hurricane with 135mph winds, may fluctuate in intensity within the next 12-24 hours and may become a Category 5, then decrease in intensity. New forecast of storm is a little bit the west of the previous one, the timing of when storm turns to the north and northeast is the biggest key. The storm is forecast to turn north on Wednesday, 1 September, and the forecast turn to northeast doesn't take place until Thursday, 2 September; this is key to determining when it turns out to sea. Currently all tracks are keeping it off shore. Storm could potentially nick the outer banks and the Virginia coastline Friday morning, but this is a low probability. The storm will be moving by the coast quickly as a Category 3. Not expecting major storm surge, more in the neighborhood of 1-2 ft, 3 ft in some locations along the immediate coast, main impacts will be Friday morning. Strong winds will occur along immediate coastline, wind gusts close to tropical storm force. Sustained winds not expected to be above 25-30 mph. Precipitation will be around ½ inch along immediate coast, close to none 20-30 mph inland. Waves will be very significant – 15 – 20 feet during Friday morning and early afternoon and decreasing. Immediate coastline should expect 8-12 feet waves. There will be a high risk for rip currents. Threat for tornados will be on the eastern side of the storm over water.

## **VEOC Operations**

Commonwealth of Virginia is at Hurricane Readiness Condition 3. At this time the VERT is staffing up, section chiefs, JIC, plans section developing situation reports and maintaining situational awareness. VECTOR call will take place tomorrow, 1 September, at 0900; state agency call tomorrow at 1000, VDEM regions 1 and 5 call tomorrow at 1100. Request that you submit situation reports in WebEOC.

## **VDEM Hurricane Planner Tricia Chappell**

**Q:** How confident are you with the current forecast? **A:** No model shows landfall, still some possibility that it could continue moving further west than we think, the later the turn occurs then the closer it will get to the coast. Confident main impacts will be out over the water. **Q:** How will high tides compare to the nor'easter in November? **A:** Nor'easters significantly higher than these tides, expecting minor to moderate tidal departures from normal. **Q:** Winds? **A:** Immediate coastline would feel the wind gusts, 20 miles inland gusts up to 25-30mph with sustained winds of 15-20mph.

**Locality Roll Call:**

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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> – No Questions
X	<b>City of Colonial Heights</b> – No Questions
	<b>Dinwiddie County</b> –
	<b>City of Emporia</b> –
X	<b>Essex County</b> – No Questions
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
	<b>New Kent County</b> –
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
	<b>Sussex County</b> –
Present	Region V
X	<b>Accomack County</b> –
	<b>City of Chesapeake</b> – <b>Q?</b> Has state been in contact with NC with possible evacuation of outer banks? <b>A:</b> North Carolina not planning on evacuating at this time. <b>Q?</b> We tried to submit a sitrep earlier, problem with sitrep board. <b>A:</b> We have received some from other localities, but we will check into that (It has been corrected after the call)
X	<b>City of Chincoteague</b> – No Questions
X	<b>City of Franklin</b> – No Questions
X	<b>Gloucester County</b> – <b>Q:</b> Has the state had a declaration yet? <b>A:</b> No
X	<b>City of Hampton</b> – <b>Q:</b> Relative to the rain, that should end mid-morning on Friday? <b>A:</b> Yes, looking at one tenth of an inch or less. <b>Q:</b> Tidal event may occur at low tide? <b>A:</b> Definitely a possibility for Hampton. <b>Q:</b> VDEM Operations, are you even considering lane reversal in a worst case scenario of this thing comes on shore? <b>A:</b> In a worst case scenario it might be under consideration, but due to the timing it may be too difficult to do. We should have a better feel for that in the coming hours, all the forecasts indicate a turn. The fact that we do not have a declaration indicates where we are going at this point.
X	<b>Isle of Wight County</b> – No Questions
X	<b>James City County</b> – No Questions
X	<b>Lancaster County</b> – No Questions

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X	<b>Mathews County</b> – No Questions
X	<b>Middlesex County</b> – No Questions
	<b>City of Newport News</b> –
X	<b>City of Norfolk</b> – No Questions
	<b>Northampton County</b> –
X	<b>Northumberland County</b> – No Questions
X	<b>City of Poquoson</b> – No Questions
X	<b>City of Portsmouth</b> – <b>Q:</b> What are the likely impact for the tidal departure for the southern and western branch of the Elizabeth river? <b>A:</b> 1-2 ft
X	<b>Richmond County</b> – No Questions
X	<b>Southampton County</b> – No Questions
X	<b>City of Suffolk</b> – No Questions
X	<b>Surry County</b> – No Questions
X	<b>City of Virginia Beach</b> – <b>Q:</b> Any status on military response at this time? <b>A:</b> Langley Air Force Base – Tracking, sandbagging of low lying areas and building, no plans for evacuation. <b>Q:</b> If there is no turn, what contingency are we looking at? <b>A:</b> It Depends on how close it gets to the coast, will be a category 3 hurricane.
	<b>Westmoreland County</b> –
X	<b>City of Williamsburg</b> – No Questions
X	<b>York County</b> – No Questions
<b>Present</b>	<b>State</b>
X	<b>Langley Air Force Base</b> – Tracking, sandbagging of low lying areas and building, no plans for evacuation. <b>Q:</b> Expected Storm Surge? <b>A:</b> 1ft – 1 and ½ ft.
X	<b>Ft Eustis</b> – <b>Q:</b> What kind of surge can we expect on the James, coastal winds? <b>A:</b> ½ foot – 1 ft on the James, 15-20 mph winds with gusts up to 30. <b>Q:</b> Rain? <b>A:</b> Under one tenth of an inch. <b>Q:</b> Are bridges and tunnels, expected to close? <b>A:</b> Not at this time.
X	<b>Norfolk Naval Base</b> -
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> – Monitoring media and social media, located in JIC if you need any additional information.