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Homeland Security and Emergency Management Jennifer L. Harper, Director

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** Tuesday, August 04, 2020 Paul D. Raymond, Jr. Strategic Communications Administrator C: (603) 892-5804

## PRESS RELEASE

## STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER WILL REMAIN OPEN OVERNIGHT TO SUPPORT STATE'S RESPONSE TO TROPICAL STORM ISAIAS

CONCORD, N.H. – The State Emergency Operations Center will remain open overnight at a Partial Activation to support the State's response to Tropical Storm Isaias.

According to the National Weather Service, Tropical Storm Isaias' track mostly shifted west and increased in speed, however the entire state remains under a Tropical Storm Warning until 6:00 A.M. Wednesday morning. A Tropical Storm Warning means storm-force sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph are <u>expected</u>.

NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management encourages residents and visitors to remain sheltered for the duration of the storm.

"Although the threats from Tropical Storm Isaias have decreased, the winds and heavy rains will continue to make for unsafe conditions overnight. Residents and visitors should avoid unnecessary travel," said NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director Jennifer Harper. "Stay informed and have a way to receive emergency warnings so you know if you need to take action."

Strong wind gusts are increasing and utility providers are reporting more than 56,000 power outages statewide as of 7:00 P.M.

Report power outages to your electric utility:

- Eversource ......1-800-662-7764
- Liberty Utilities.....1-855-349-9455
- NH Electric Co-Op ......1-800-343-6432
- Unitil......1-888-301-7700

Stay clear of downed power lines and assume they are live. Report downed power lines to 9-1-1.

Marine conditions on coastal Rockingham County will be dangerous through Wednesday afternoon. Some minor splash-over and beach erosion associated with the storm are possible. The core steps to preparedness are simple:

- 1) Stay informed Sign up for NH Alerts to receive location-specific weather information from the National Weather Service.
- 2) Have a family emergency plan so your family knows where to go and who to call in an emergency.
- 3) Build an Emergency Kit that includes supplies for your entire family. Don't forget supplies for your pets and hand sanitizer and masks.

Know what to do, and have the things you need to stay safe. Learn about preparedness, including signing up for NH Alerts, making a plan and building a kit at <u>ReadyNH.gov</u>.

Harper also offered the following recommendations:

- Monitor local conditions, particularly in areas that have flooded before.
- Turn around, don't drown. Do not drive through floodwaters on roadways.
- Adjusts speeds for road conditions even ponding on roadways can be hazardous.
- Use extra caution when driving, especially if operating a high profile vehicle.
- Slow down and move over for crews removing debris from roadways.
- Secure outdoor objects or take them indoors.
- Check on the welfare of elderly or handicapped relatives or neighbors.

The National Weather Service cancelled the Tornado Watch at 6:37 P.M. and cancelled the Flash Flood Watch at 7:05 P.M.

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