

## ESF-12 Energy/Utilities

<b>ESF Coordinator</b>	Snohomish County Public Utility District
<b>Primary Agencies</b>	Snohomish County Public Utility District Puget Sound Energy Olympic Pipeline Williams Pipeline
<b>Supporting Agencies</b>	Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management Snohomish County Public Works Departments Snohomish County Fire Departments / Districts Snohomish County Law Enforcement Agencies

Federal and State primary and supporting agency responsibilities for this ESF are outlined in the National Planning Frameworks (Federal) and Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

### I. INTRODUCTION

Electrical, natural gas, water/waste water, and communications services are primary utility functions and service is provided by various special purpose districts and/or companies within Snohomish County.

For purposes of management the following ESFs are the primary coordinators for listed services:

- ESF-2 (Communications) manages communication service coordination.
- ESF-3 (Public Works and Engineering) manages water/waste water coordination.
- ESF-12 (Energy/Utilities) manages electrical and natural gas service coordination.

#### Purpose

To provide for effective use of available electric power, natural gas and petroleum products to meet essential needs, and to facilitate restoration of energy systems affected by an emergency or disaster.

#### Scope

The scope of this plan is for Snohomish County even though the coverage area of the energy providers is small or larger than the County’s geographical boundaries.

The term ‘energy/utility’ includes energy production, refining, transportation, generation, transmission and distribution, as well as related infrastructure construction, maintenance, and repair.

Assessments of current energy/utility capabilities, capacities, and reserves within Snohomish County.

ESF 12 collects, evaluates, and shares information on energy/utility system damages and estimates on the impact of energy/utility system outages within the affected areas.

ESF 12 also provides information concerning the energy/utility restoration process such as projected schedules, percent of completion of restoration, geographic information on the restoration and other information as appropriate.

## II. POLICIES

Restoration of normal operations at energy facilities is the responsibility of the facility owners, managers and operators. Local government support while desired may be limited.

All energy/utility providers, whether publicly or privately owned, should be prepared to respond to energy related needs resulting from an emergency or disaster. Many utilities have Emergency Response and Preparedness Plans, which in some cases may be mandated.

ESF 12 addresses significant disruptions in energy/utility supplies for all hazards, whether caused by physical disruption of energy transmission and distribution systems, unexpected operational failure of such systems, planned interruptions, or unusual economic or international political events.

ESF 12 addresses the impact that damage to an energy system in Snohomish County may have on energy/utility supplies, systems, and components in other districts relying on the same system. Consequently, energy/utility supply and transportation problems may be limited to Snohomish County, or be intrastate, interstate, and international in scope.

Each individual, family, worker, visitor, business, organization and institution within Snohomish County should plan for emergencies and as part of that, maintain a minimum of seven (7) days of self-sufficiency of both food and water, along with general emergency preparedness items.

## III. SITUATION

### Emergency/Disaster Conditions and Hazards

Refer to the Snohomish County Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Analysis (HIVA) (published separately) for the natural and manmade events that may affect Snohomish County.

Emergencies, both natural and man made can have profound effects on the public and privately owned utilities in Snohomish County. The ability to quickly restore damaged water, power, natural gas, telephone and sewer systems is essential to maximizing the life safety, health, and minimizing the economic impact of a disaster.

### Planning Assumptions

The occurrence of a disaster could destroy or damage portions of the county's energy and utility systems and disrupt petroleum and natural gas supplies.

Widespread and possibly prolonged electric power failures could occur in an emergency or disaster.

The transportation, media, and telecommunications infrastructures could be affected.

Delays in the production, refining, and delivery of petroleum-based products could occur as a result of transportation infrastructure problems and loss of commercial electrical power.

Snohomish County's disaster response and recovery operations may be hindered due to inadequate energy and petroleum sources.

## IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

### General

Disruptions in energy supply are typically caused by physical disruption of energy transmission and distribution systems, unexpected operational failure of such systems, or unusual economic or political events that affect the availability of these resources.

Responding to energy and petroleum shortages or disruptions and their effects is necessary for preservation of the public health, safety and general welfare of the county's residents, workers and visitors. Activities during an energy emergency could include:

- Assess fuel and electric power damage.
- Assess energy supply and demand.
- Coordinate with electric utilities and the petroleum and natural gas industries to identify requirements to repair energy systems.
- Coordinate with SC-EOC in establishing priorities to repair damaged energy systems.
- Coordinate temporary, alternate or interim sources of emergency fuel and power; obtain current information regarding damages to energy supply and distribution systems.
- Assess the requirements for restoration.

### Organization

Snohomish County area is served by Snohomish County Public Utility District (PUD) who provides power to commercial and private customers in Snohomish County. PUD provides limited power production capability through the Jackson Hydro-Electric Project and receives the majority of their electricity from the Bonneville Power Administration. Natural gas retail service in Snohomish County is provided primarily by Puget Sound Energy and Cascade Natural Gas.

Williams Pipeline carries natural gas from Canada and runs through Snohomish County, along the I-5 corridor. Local distribution companies deliver natural gas to consumers with the exception of some large industrial and commercial users. These large customers may purchase gas directly from the supplier and pay pipeline companies only transmission and delivery fees.

Crude oil enters Washington State through an international pipeline from Canada, from ocean going tankers, and from unit trains to five refineries in Anacortes and Ferndale areas. Those five refineries along with two smaller refineries in Tacoma provide the majority of products consumed in the state and supply a significant amount to other northwest states

The Olympic Pipe Line carries refined petroleum products from these refineries through Snohomish County, along the I-5 corridor. Additionally a significant amount of petroleum products move through and are distributed to customers by trains and tanker trucks.

## Procedures

The energy, utility, and petroleum distribution systems will continue to provide services through their normal means during a disaster to the maximum extent possible.

Energy, utility, and petroleum information will be furnished to local emergency government officials to inform the public on the proper use of services.

Energy, utility, and petroleum companies will compile damage assessment reports and transmit them to SC-EOC, as needed or requested. The SC-EOC will collect, evaluate and report conditions to public safety and other impacted agencies and organizations.

Spill/Leak Response – See ESF-10, Snohomish County Hazardous Materials Response Plan.

Local fire departments/districts will likely be the first agency to arrive on-scene of an energy-related (natural gas leak and/or fire, downed electrical lines, and poles, etc.). Initial response includes but is not limited to:

- Establish incident/unified command
- Establish incident priorities:

Life Safety  
Property  
Economy  
Environment

## Mitigation Activities

- Snohomish County Emergency Management has identified local energy and utility sources within the County's HIVA (a supporting document to the CEMP) and continues to update these sources.

## Preparedness Activities

- All public utilities will maintain emergency call lists, operating procedures and emergency resources and update them as needed.
- Snohomish County Emergency Management in coordination with the utility council will develop guidelines for priority use of public utility resources where there may be insufficient supplies to meet essential needs, and coordinate with local Public Information Officers (PIOs) in the preparation of news releases to inform the public of conservation and safety measures.
- Conduct and participate in energy emergency exercises with the energy industry and local governments to test written plans and to prepare for energy emergencies.
- Participate in hazard mitigation studies to reduce the adverse effects of future disaster.

## Response Activities

- All energy utilities will be contacted by the EOC staff to collect current preliminary damage assessment information.
- Utilities will coordinate the mobilization of personnel and equipment required for emergency repair of facilities and assist with conducting damage assessment operations and reporting these assessments to the EOC.
- The Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management will activate the EOC, notify the Washington State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and identify energy/utility resources, which are in short supply and are necessary for the life safety and health of the population. DEM will coordinate information with local Point of Contacts from affected utilities and their PIO's to develop emergency public information.
- An Energy/Utility Liaison will be established to work in the EOC and will be responsible for the coordination of energy resources.
- Utilities will be requested to provide the EOC with a single point of contact for emergency operations and conducting operations in accordance with internal procedures for emergency operations and disaster response.

## Recovery Activities

- The EOC will coordinate with State and Federal agencies for supplemental energy resources, including electricity, natural gas, and petroleum products.
- The EOC will assist in compiling damage assessment reports and act upon request for State and Federal Assistance as needed.
- The Utility Liaison should coordinate with the EOC and local governments to determine priorities among users if adequate utility supply is not available to meet all essential needs, and coordinate supporting resources for utility restoration and repair to meet essential needs.
- The EOC will coordinate and conduct a post-disaster situation analysis to review and determine the effectiveness of the pre-established tasks, responsibilities, reporting procedures and formats to document any crucial lessons-learned and to make revisions to plans as needed for future events.

## V. RESPONSIBILITIES

### General

All primary and supporting ESF agencies must have established disaster related policies, systems, and procedures for:

- Personnel accountability, safety, lines of authority and succession
- Providing logistical support to their personnel and equipment
- Facility / infrastructure damage assessment and reporting
- Continuity of operations to maintain essential services
- Facility / infrastructure repair and restoration

### Primary

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Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) supplies wholesale power to Snohomish County PUD.

Snohomish County Public Utility District provides retail electrical service to commercial and residential customers in Snohomish County.

Puget Sound Energy provides retail natural gas service to commercial and residential customers in most of Snohomish County. Cascade Natural Gas provides retail natural gas service to customers in the Arlington and northwestern Snohomish County area.

Williams Northwest Pipeline supplies wholesale natural gas service.

Olympic Pipeline supplies various grades of unleaded gasoline, aviation fuel, and diesel fuel.

Various cooperate and private bulk haulers provide routine re-supply service to government and public fuel stations.

Emergency operations include, but are not limited to:

- Determine the extent of utility outages and provide restoration estimates.
- Identifying and coordinating restoration priorities with other impacted energy companies.
- Participate in field unified command.
- Liaison with SC-EOC when requested.
- Provide a public information officer to the SCJIC when requested.
- Provide timely and accurate information to end-users.
- Perform life safety and property preservation operations when indicated.
- Assess infrastructure damage, supply adequacy and market situation.
- Determine location, extent and restoration of electricity supply and outages or disruptions.
- Determine status of shortages or supply disruptions for natural gas.
- Report findings to SC-EOC.
- Comply with energy allocations and curtailment programs as determined by the governor.
- Coordinate out-of-area private and public energy assistance.

## Supporting

### **Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management**

- Develop working relationships with appropriate local energy companies.
- Ensure SC-EOC energy representation to coordinate energy related operations, when appropriate.

### **Snohomish County & Municipal Public Works Departments / Agencies**

- Clear debris from jurisdictional public right-of-ways to allow utility service providers access to restore service.
- Coordinate with utility service providers to ensure impacted utilities do not pose a life-safety threat to public works personnel.

### **Snohomish County Fire Departments / Districts**

- Conduct initial scene control and life safety operations.
- Establish incident / unified command.
- Dispatch fire-based hazardous material teams when required.

### **Snohomish County Law Enforcement Agencies**

- Provide traffic control for utility service providers as requested
- Assist in securing areas with downed power lines and/or gas leaks.
- Assist in scene control and life safety operations.

## **VI. REFERENCES**

Olympic Pipeline – Northwest Spill Response Plan  
Williams Pipeline – Northwest Pipeline Emergency Response Plan

## **VII. TABS**