

## ESF 12: Energy

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### PRIMARY AGENCIES:

Public and Private Energy and Utility Providers  
Walla Walla County Emergency Management

### SUPPORT AGENCIES:

Public Works Departments  
Walla Walla County Emergency Public Information Officer

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. Purpose

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

### B. Scope

This Emergency Support Function (ESF) outlines the procedures Walla Walla County local government and the emergency management organization will take to assist energy and utility providers in providing essential services to local government and the public during and recovering from emergencies and disasters.

## II. POLICIES

### A. Local energy and utility providers' policies

### B. Applicable state and federal laws and regulations

### C. Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), ESF 12 – Energy

## III. SITUATION

### A. Emergency/Disaster Conditions and Hazards

Emergencies and disasters could damage the facilities and infrastructure, and disrupt the ability to distribute essential energy and utility supplies and services. These include electric power, natural gas, water, sewer, telecommunications and petroleum products. Impacts from local as well as regional and out of area incidents may have adverse effects on the local capabilities.

### B. Planning Assumptions

1. Energy and utility providers have existing plans and procedures for dealing with energy and utility emergencies.

2. Occurrences and activities out of the local area may have an adverse effect on local operations, capabilities and activities.

3. Priorities will need to be established and coordinated between the energy providers, Walla Walla County Emergency Management Department (WWEM), local governments and other appropriate authorities outside the

local area to provide the most efficient utilization of available services and supplies.

**IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

A. General

Responding to energy or petroleum shortages or disruptions and their affects are necessary for preservation of the public health, safety, and general welfare of our citizens.

**V. ORGANIZATION**

A. The electric power industry within Washington is organized into a network of public and private generation and distribution facilities, which forms the Northwest Power Pool. Through such networks, the electric power industry has developed a capability to provide power under even the most extreme circumstances.

B. Water supply systems within the county are either publicly or privately owned. Since these systems are not normally interconnected, like the electric power systems, emergency planning for water utilities is concerned with restoration efforts.

C. Natural gas within Washington is distributed by major natural gas companies through common pipelines originating in other states.

D. Each local energy and utility provider will maintain and operate their respective systems.

E. Each energy, utility and petroleum provider will provide services through their normal means based on established procedures to the maximum extent possible.

**VI. PROCEDURES**

A. Mitigation Activities

Energy and utility providers should attempt to design, locate and install systems and facilities so that they are the least vulnerable to known hazards. When repairing damages, every attempt should be made to reduce the likelihood and severity of future damages. Providers are encouraged to take preventive actions to reduce or eliminate the effects of natural hazards.

B. Preparedness Activities

1. Energy and Utility Companies

a. Manage and operate their respective systems through their normal means.

b. Obtain current information regarding damage to energy supply and distribution systems.

c. Assess energy supply and demand.

d. Coordinate with electric utilities and the petroleum and natural gas industries to identify requirements to repair energy systems.

e. Establish procedures to identify and prioritize essential and necessary actions and operations.

- f. Coordinate temporary, alternate or interim sources of emergency fuel and power
      - g. Coordinate closely with Walla Walla County, city, federal, and state officials to establish priorities to repair damaged energy systems.
    - 2. Walla Walla County Emergency Management
      - a. Maintain contact information for emergency resources including names, addresses and telephone numbers of key contact personnel for public and private utilities.
      - b. Develop and maintain operating procedures for actions to take during an emergency or disaster.
      - c. Ensure personnel are aware of emergency responsibilities and trained in emergency operations.
- C. Response Activities
  - 1. Energy and Utility Providers
    - a. Energy, utility and petroleum companies will compile damage assessment and situation reports and transmit them to WWEM/Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
    - b. If local control measures are necessary local providers will work with WWEM/EOC and the legislative authorities in the establishment and activation of those measures.
    - c. Each provider will compile damage assessment reports and transmit them to WWEM/EOC
    - d. If a provider needs additional resources, outside of established mutual aid or other agreements, requests for assistance will be coordinated with WWEM/EOC.
    - e. Provide WWEM with information on the public's use of services.
    - f. Determine the status of energy sources available to Walla Walla County.
    - g. Assess energy and utility service system capabilities.
    - h. Coordinate, as appropriate, with federal, state and local officials to identify and establish priorities to repair and restore damaged systems.
    - i. Coordinate sources of emergency fuel supplies for essential operations.
    - j. Coordinate public information dissemination relative to emergency energy and utility capabilities and usage.
    - k. Maintain liaison with WWEM/EOC to keep them informed on the situation.
  - 2. Walla Walla County Emergency Management Department/Emergency Operations Center
    - a. Coordinate emergency activities.

- b. Coordinate assistance for providers needing additional resources, outside of established mutual aid or other agreements.
- c. Provide energy, utility and petroleum information to county, city, state and federal officials, including information to the Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division (WAEMD)/ State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) as needed or requested
- d. Inform the public on the proper use of services and current situation status.
- e. Assist with determination of the requirements for restoration. These assessments will be relayed to the WAEMD/SEOC for evaluation, as appropriate.
- f. Coordinate with public and private energy and utility providers to facilitate the repair of damaged energy systems.
- g. Work with the Emergency Public Information Officer (EPIO) to prepare media releases and participate in media interviews.

3. Washington State

The control of any energy source is only possible at the state level and only after the Governor has signed a Disaster Proclamation. State authorities can access local petroleum suppliers and major oil companies to facilitate the delivery of adequate amounts of emergency fuel supplies.

D. Recovery Activities

1. Energy and Utility Providers

- a. Coordinate with WWEM/EOC to determine priorities among users if adequate utility supply is not available to meet all essential needs.
- b. If needed, request additional assistance from WAEMD/SEOC through Walla Walla County EMD/EOC.
- c. Assist in the administration of energy allocation programs in accordance with the Governor's emergency powers.
- d. Compile damage and operational capability reports and provide them to WWEM/EOC.
- e. Provide liaison between the utilities and WWEM/EOC.
- f. Provide coordinated emergency public information to WWEM/EOC.

2. Walla Walla County Emergency Management

- a. Provide coordinated emergency public information from utility and energy providers.
- b. Provide damage and operational capability reports to county, city and state government officials.

**VII. RESPONSIBILITIES**

A. Energy and Utility Providers

1. Establish and maintain emergency procedures.
  2. Coordinate emergency actions and activities with WWEM/EOC and will be prepared to provide a liaison to the EOC when requested.
  3. Assist with development, coordination and support of energy and utility conservation policies and programs; and establishing priority systems for the curtailment or reduction of services, restoration of services, and provisions for emergency services.
  4. Cooperate with voluntary requests for conservation and control measures.
  5. Work and coordinate with WWEM/EOC and Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division (WAEMD/State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) to establish necessary priorities and control measures, as required.
- B. Walla Walla County Emergency Management/Emergency Operations Center
1. Maintain inventories of energy and utility providers and emergency resources.
  2. Coordinate information between agencies and utilities, both private and public.
  3. Coordinate activities and requests for outside resources with Washington State EMD/EOC.
  4. In conjunction with EOC operations, advise Walla Walla County and city legislative authorities on potential emergency actions.
  5. Keep Washington State EMD/EOC advised of energy status and any need for outside assistance until energy sources are back to normal operations.
  6. Keep the public informed.

## **VIII. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Outside resource requirements will be determined by the Washington State EOC.
- B. The Washington State Department of Community Trade and Economic Development (CTED) is expected to provide the materials and equipment in an energy emergency.

## **IX. REFERENCES**

- A. Walla Walla County Emergency Management ESF 7 – Resource Support.
- B. Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, ESF-12 – Energy

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