

RESOLUTION NO. 367

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON POWER
EMERGENCY ALERT PLAN ON A PERMANENT BASIS

WHEREAS, the Washington, D. C. Metropolitan area may be faced with curtailments in the supply of electric power; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (hereinafter called "the Council") on July 10, 1974, adopted the Metropolitan Washington Power Emergency Alert Plan for a ninety-day interim period; and

WHEREAS, the Council extended the Power Emergency Alert Plan for an additional sixty-day period; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revisions to the plan have been received and reviewed by the Council's Energy Policy Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Council on December 12, 1974, adopted the revised Metropolitan Washington Power Emergency Alert Plan on a permanent basis; and

WHEREAS, the Plan provides a common base for actions which local governments can take to complement and reinforce existing plans developed by the Virginia Electric and Power Company; and

WHEREAS, action by local governments is essential to ensure a coordinated response by both Virginia Electric and Power Company and local jurisdictions to natural power supply emergencies; and

WHEREAS, this Plan was forwarded to all COG member jurisdictions for their consideration and adoption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, hereby adopts the revised Metropolitan Washington Power Emergency Alert Plan on a permanent basis.

FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and its member jurisdictions.

Adopted February 11, 1975

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON POWER EMERGENCY ALERT PLAN

Summary of Changes Adopted by the Power
Emergency Alert Plan Task Force and Re-
commended for Adoption by the Energy Po-
licy Advisory Committee.

Page 4 - Situation A, Capacity Deficiency Actions

A. Utility Company

1. Add additional STAGE, between old STAGE I and old STAGE II. New STAGE II to read: Voltage Reduction Warning Alert.
2. NOTE #1 - Change to read: The utility companies will notify DC/OCD at or prior to STAGES II through VI of the nature of the problem, severity, expected duration and areas affected.

Page 4 - Situation A, Capacity Deficiency Actions

B. Local Government

3. Change old STAGE I to read: STAGE I - no action required.
4. Add additional STAGE between old STAGE I and old STAGE II. New STAGE II to read: Information only to local jurisdictions.
5. Change STAGE IV to include: ... turn off nonessential air conditioning; and curtail nonessential use of water.

Page 7 - Situation B, Fuel Supply Deficiency Actions

B. Local Government Actions

6. Change old STAGE II to include: ...turn off nonessential air conditioning; and curtail nonessential use of water.
7. Change old STAGE III to include: ... curtailment of power, including an advisory to curtail nonessential use of water.
8. Add additional action to STAGE IV: (12) Curtail nonessential use of water.

METROPOLITAN
WASHINGTON

POWER EMERGENCY
ALERT PLAN



PREPARED BY
THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
IN COORDINATION WITH

°DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF CIVIL DEFENSE
°POTOMAC ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY
°VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY
°BALTIMORE GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY
°POTOMAC EDISON COMPANY

REVISED
DECEMBER 12, 1974

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PREFACE

The potential for fuel shortages and/or equipment failure may result in an electrical energy deficiency. This plan is offered to facilitate coordinated action between the Washington Metropolitan Area utility companies and the local governments of the area.

This plan was prepared pursuant to COG Board Resolution R-45-74, "Resolution Directing Development of Contingency Plan for Possible Summer Power Shortages and Authorizing Creation of an Energy Technical Advisory Committee," dated June 12, 1974. This Resolution directed: (1) the preparation of a metropolitan power emergency alert plan within fifteen days; (2) the use of the District of Columbia Office of Civil Defense (DC/OCD) as the plan's communications focus; and recommended that (3) local governments prepare and/or update their operations plans for managing conditions associated with electrical supply emergencies and be prepared to take appropriate actions based upon notification received from the District of Columbia Office of Civil Defense.

Electric utilities generating power and having service areas in metropolitan Washington have contingency plans designed for emergencies occasioned by capacity shortages, fuel shortages, and power outages. These plans will be invoked at the utilities' initiative and are coordinated among utility companies through pooling arrangements. This Metropolitan Washington Power Emergency Alert Plan provides a common basis within which local government actions can complement and reinforce the utilities' contingency plans.

This plan was prepared by a special subcommittee of the Council of Governments' Energy Policy Advisory Committee in coordination with the District of Columbia Office of Civil Defense, COG staff, and the following electric companies: Potomac Electric Power Company, Virginia Electric and Power Company, Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, and the Potomac Edison Company. The success of this plan is dependent upon close cooperation among the utilities and member jurisdictions of the Council of Governments.

B. FUEL SUPPLY EMERGENCY

1. A fuel supply emergency exists when the fuel supplies of the utility and/or its associated power pool are decreasing below a level adequate to provide continuation of unrestricted use.

2. This emergency differs from a CAPACITY DEFICIENCY EMERGENCY in that fuel requirements cannot be met over an extended period. The period of advance warning and duration is expected to be measured in terms of weeks, or months, as opposed to minutes or hours for a CAPACITY DEFICIENCY.

3. Response to this emergency includes many of the same actions as are used in a CAPACITY DEFICIENCY EMERGENCY, however, the time sequence of initiation of those stages and the emphasis on extended conservation measures is different.

C. POWER OUTAGE EMERGENCY

1. This situation exists when equipment failure or some other abnormal occurrence causes loss of generating capacity or disruption of transmission capability. It can also result from failure to contain a power deficiency.

2. This situation generally involves portions of the system but conceivably can involve an entire utility system. The extent of the emergency is not predictable, since the cause is not known in advance. Duration of the emergency is expected to be measured in hours in all but the more extreme conditions.

3. Technical response to this emergency is generally a function which only can be performed by the utility company, coupled with measures which should be taken by local government to protect the public health, safety and welfare.

DEFINITIONS

OPERATING CAPACITY - Total power producing capability of the electric utility.

POWER POOL - Arrangements among participating utilities for contracted or emergency transfer of power between systems.

RESERVE CAPACITY - That margin of power required for continuous system reliability.

AREA COMMUNICATIONS CIRCUITS (ACC) - That component of the Civil Defense Washington Area Warning System (WAWAS), consisting of leased telephone lines, used for voice warning communications.

TERMINAL POINT - The official local government ACC station where information is received for transmittal to the chief executive.

REDUCE VOLTAGE - Utility contingency plans call for varying degrees of reduction (i.e., PEPCO reduces in two stages - 3% and 5%, VEPCO and BG&E has only 5% and Potomac Edison only 3%).

UTILITY COMPANY - For purposes of this plan: a company which generates electric power and has all or a portion of its service area within the Washington Metropolitan Area.

COMMUNICATIONS

UTILITIES - The utility companies will use normal commercial telephone systems to notify the District of Columbia Office of Civil Defense of power emergencies.

In the event of a capacity deficiency emergency or power outage emergency, appeals through the media will be taken only at the initiative of the utility companies.

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS - In the case of a FUEL SUPPLY DEFICIENCY EMERGENCY the Executive Director of the Council of Governments, at the request of the utility companies, will issue an advisory to the public urging support of power conservation appeals.

DC/OCD - Will notify local governments using the Area Communications Circuits of the Defense Civil Preparedness Agency.

Upon receipt of a warning message from the utilities, DC/OCD will relay information to all ACC terminal points. COG member jurisdictions which have one or more terminal points are:

1. Montgomery County
2. Prince George's County
3. City of Alexandria
4. Arlington County
5. Fairfax County
6. Fairfax City
7. City of Falls Church
8. Prince William County
9. Loudoun County

COC member jurisdictions without an ACC terminal point are encouraged to establish coordination procedures with another jurisdiction.

SITUATION A

CAPACITY DEFICIENCY EMERGENCY

CAPACITY DEFICIENCY ACTIONS

A. UTILITY COMPANY - Utility company plans include the following actions depending on the severity of the emergency.

STAGE I - Maximize emergency generation by utilizing all available units.

STAGE II - Voltage reduction warning alert.

STAGE III - Reduce voltage by 3 to 5%.

STAGE IV - Request voluntary load curtailment by governments and large customers.

STAGE V - Appeal to general public for load curtailment.

STAGE VI - Manually interrupt load, with all possible consideration of hospitals, water supply, sewage treatment, transportation, municipal and other critical services.

NOTE #1 - The utility companies will notify DC/OCD at or prior to STAGES II through VI of the nature of the problem, severity, expected duration and areas affected.

NOTE #2 - In addition to notifying DC/OCD, utility company plans include notification of certain federal agencies, large private customers and the general public.

NOTE #3 - The STAGES do not necessarily follow a set sequence.

NOTE #4 - DC/OCD will relay CAPACITY DEFICIENCY information (NOTE #1), over the Civil Defense Area Communications Circuit (ACC) to local jurisdictions. Those jurisdictions which do not have ACC should make arrangements for notification with another jurisdiction.

B. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

STAGE I - No action required.

STAGE II - Information only to local jurisdictions.

STAGE III - Information only to local jurisdictions.

STAGE IV - Implement procedures to reduce all nonessential municipal power consumption by reducing lighting to absolute minimum necessary for safety and to conduct business; turn off nonessential air conditioning; and curtail nonessential use of water. Continue to operate equipment necessary for public health and welfare.

STAGE V - Same as STAGE IV

STAGE VI - Same as STAGE IV, and review actions to be taken in the event of a total power outage.

NOTE #1 - Local government plans for community assistance action during STAGE VI outages should include short term (1-2 hours) and extended term (up to 12 hours) emergency operations.

SITUATION B

FUEL SUPPLY DEFICIENCY EMERGENCY

FUEL SUPPLY DEFICIENCY ACTIONS

A. UTILITY COMPANY - Utility company plans include the following actions depending upon the degree of conservation necessary.

STAGE I - Reduce voltage.

STAGE II - Request voluntary curtailment of power by large customers.

STAGE III - Appeal to the public for load curtailment (see NOTE # 3).

STAGE IV - Request local governments to encourage conservation measures.

STAGE V - Expand conservation actions.

STAGE VI - Request maximum conservation actions.

STAGE VII - Manually interrupt load on a rotational basis.

STAGE VIII - Expand manual interruption process.

NOTE #1 - The utility company will notify DC/OCD, at each STAGE of the nature of the problem, severity, expected duration of each action and areas affected.

NOTE #2 - DC/OCD will, in turn, relay the information (NOTE #1) over the Civil Defense ACC, to local area jurisdictions. Those jurisdictions which do not have ACC should make arrangements for notification with another jurisdiction.

NOTE #3 - In addition to the utility announcement and in coordination with the utility company, the Executive Director of the Council of Governments will issue an advisory to the public concerning the power emergency and request that conservation efforts be undertaken..

NOTE #4 - The STAGES do not necessarily follow a set sequence.

B. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

STAGE I - Receive information only.

STAGE II - Implement procedures to reduce all nonessential municipal power consumption by reducing lighting to absolute minimum necessary for safety and to conduct business; turn off nonessential air conditioning; and curtail nonessential use of water. Continue to operate equipment necessary for public health and welfare.

STAGE III - The Executive Director of the Council of Governments will issue an advisory to the public urging voluntary curtailment of power, including an advisory to curtail nonessential use of water.

STAGE IV - Stipulate for municipal facilities and encourage for commercial and industrial facilities comprehensive conservation efforts:

(1) Eliminate all outdoor flood and advertising lighting except for minimum level to protect life and property. A single illuminated sign identifying commercial facilities open after dark is acceptable.

(2) Reduce lighting in stores and offices to minimum levels.

(3) Eliminate show window and display lighting.

(4) Reduce by 50% number of elevators operating in office buildings during non-peak hours.

(5) Reduce by 50% parking lot lighting.

(6) Set thermostat at 80° summer, 60° winter.

(7) Minimize work schedules for building maintenance beyond normal working hours.

(8) Curtail nighttime sports, entertainment and recreational activities.

(9) Close all public museums, art galleries and historic buildings.

(10) Limit Sunday retail hours to essential service establishments.

(11) Limit daily retail establishments operating hours from 9:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. except for essential services.

(12) Curtail nonessential use of water.

STAGE V - Public appeal to all consumers to further reduce use of electric power.

NOTE #2 - Additional groups of customers excluded,
or exempt by the utility company under
STAGES V AND VI are:

- 20 - Food and kindred products industries
(with certain few exceptions which
are not exempt).

SITUATION C

POWER OUTAGE EMERGENCY

POWER OUTAGE ACTIONS - This situation involves the progressive deterioration of the final STAGES of Situations A and B, and accidents to or malfunctions of generating transmission system equipment. It does not include power outages resulting from accidents to or malfunctions of distribution lines and equipment unless such failures affect significant geographic areas of utility systems, in which case utilities will make every reasonable effort to notify DC/OCD.

A. UTILITY COMPANY ACTIONS - Take all actions to restore normal conditions.

B. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS - Initiate all actions consistent within their responsibility for community assistance and protection of life and property.

NOTE #1 - Utility companies will notify DC/OCD of the nature of the problem, severity and expected duration and area affected.

NOTE #2 - DC/OCD will relay outage information over the Civil Defense ACC to local jurisdictions. Those jurisdictions which do not have ACC should make arrangements for notification with another jurisdiction.

NOTE #3 - In event of an area-wide power outage, a Utility Liaison Officer will be provided by PEPCO to DC/OCD. The DC/OCD will assist in establishing such emergency communication system as would be required under these conditions.

City of Greenbelt

City of Rockville

City of Takoma Park

The undersigned acknowledge the roles outlined in the
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA POWER EMERGENCY ALERT PLAN
for electric utility companies.

Potomac Electric Power Company

Virginia Electric and Power Company

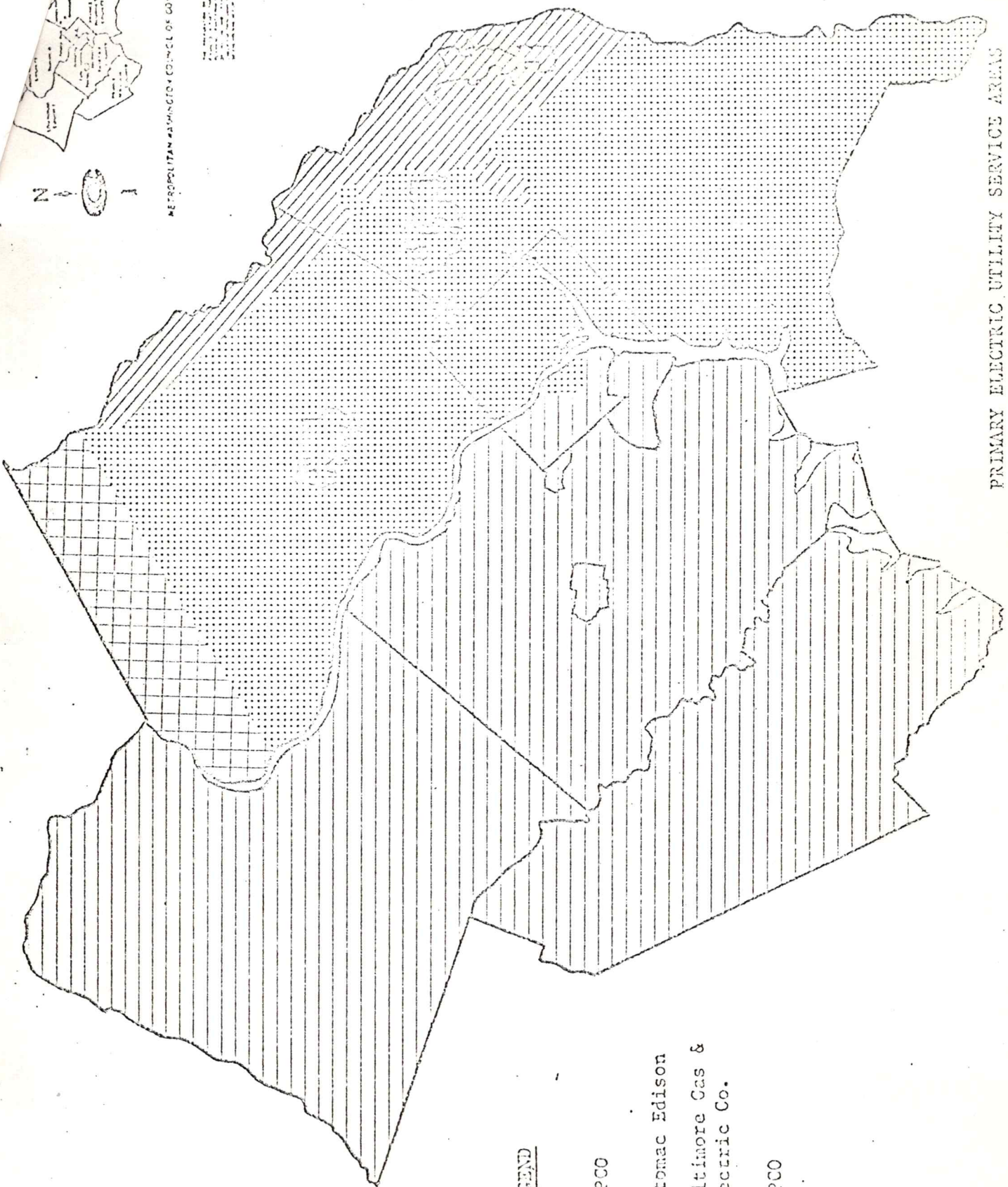
Baltimore Gas and Electric Company

Potomac Edison Company







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LEGEND

-  PEPCO
-  Potomac Edison
-  Baltimore Gas & Electric Co.
-  VEPCO

PRIMARY ELECTRIC UTILITY SERVICE AREAS