

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 7, 2013

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### Storm Preparedness

The National Weather Service has issued for Southern New Hampshire a Winter Storm Warning in effect from Friday afternoon, February 8<sup>th</sup> to Saturday late afternoon February 9<sup>th</sup>. To prepare for a possible power outage, review the following:

- If you use a generator, please follow ALL of the manufacturer's instructions to ensure safe operation. Please contact your electrician or your electric utility to discuss how to safely use your generator. Improper use of generators may create significant health and safety risks to you, your family and others, including utility line workers and emergency responders.
- If you have life sustaining equipment that needs power to operate please have a plan in place for a power outage. Notify your electric utility of your circumstances. If you have medication that needs refrigeration, make a plan to keep refrigerated medication cold.
- You may wish to protect sensitive electric equipment by unplugging it to prevent damage from any power surges.

To find local emergency shelters in your area, New Hampshire residents can dial toll free 2-1-1 in state or 1-866-444-4211 from out of state.

The State of New Hampshire website, <http://www.nh.gov/readynh/>, is dedicated to providing information about preparing for emergencies, as well as information about volunteering during and after those emergencies.

New Hampshire's electric utilities provide emergency information on their websites, including how the utilities restore power and how to communicate effectively with your utility during the restoration process. Please see below to find the link to each utility's power outage page as well as the utility's contact information.

#### Electric Utility Outage Information

PSNH – Phone: (603) 669-4000, 1-800-662-PSNH (7764)

<http://www.psnh.com/PowerOutagesStorms/Home/Power-Outages.aspx>.

Unitil – Phone: Capital Region 800-852-3339, Seacoast Region 800-582-7276.

<http://www.unitil.com/outage-center>

Liberty – Phone: 1-800-375-7413. [http://libertyutilities.com/east/electricity/outage\\_central/index.html](http://libertyutilities.com/east/electricity/outage_central/index.html)

NHEC – Phone: Phone: 1-800-343-6432. [http://www.nhec.com/memberservices\\_generatorservices.php](http://www.nhec.com/memberservices_generatorservices.php)

**The OCA is an independent state agency representing the interests of New Hampshire's residential regulated utility ratepayers. To contact the OCA call 603-271-1172, email us [oca@oca.nh.gov](mailto:oca@oca.nh.gov), or check our website at [www.oca.nh.gov](http://www.oca.nh.gov).**