STATE OF CONNECTICUT

GOVERNOR DANNEL P. MALLOY

November 1, 2011

Ms. Deborah Ingram
Assistant Administrator for Recovery
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
4th Floor
500 C Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20472

Through: Mr. Don R. Boyce, Regional Administrator
FEMA Region 1
99 High Street, 6th Floor
Boston, MA

Through: Mr. Stephen DeBlasio, Federal Coordinating Officer, DR 4023; EM-3342

Dear Ms. Ingram:

Thank you for the Emergency Declaration for Connecticut that you issued yesterday, EM-3342, in response to the historic severe storm that hit Connecticut on October 29-30, 2011. Unfortunately, the Emergency Declaration approved only Category B emergency protective measures limited to direct federal assistance. I am now requesting that you amend the original emergency declaration to provide Public Assistance Category A and full Category B assistance for all eight counties of Connecticut. As is detailed below, the situation in the state is unprecedented, state and local resources are overwhelmed, and federal fiscal assistance is critical. This is the third disaster in 19 months for Connecticut, and less than 60 days since Tropical Storm Irene devastated the State.

The circumstances of this storm are extraordinary. Assets that were expended in response to Tropical Storm Irene have not been fully replenished. In fact, FEMA is still conducting kick-off meetings for DR 4023. The registration period for Irene is still open. The situation is escalating. When I asked for the Emergency Declaration on October 30th, 37 municipalities reported that their Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) were open: now, 57 local EOCs are open, which is clearly indicative of deteriorating conditions. Since the storm hit, we have continually run generators at over 1000 critical infrastructure facilities, at an estimated conservative cost of $1,224,000 to state and local agencies.

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) estimates that it has moved 4000 trees off of state roads alone. The estimate for total number of trees downed on roads is 24,000. Over 1,000 roads were blocked by trees. The current estimate of debris is in excess of 4,000,000 cubic yards. To date, the DOT has expended $2.13 million in response to the storm, not including fringe benefits. The agency anticipates that it will be working for another two to three months to clear debris from this storm.

With regard to the costs to local public works departments for initial emergency road clearance operations, we estimate a very conservative number of over $1.6 million. This number is based on the FEMA schedule of equipment rates for one pay loader, five small dump trucks, and two chain saw crews per town, working the three days since the storm began.

A survey of 105 municipal fire departments showed that, since the onset of the storm, those departments alone responded to over 3900 storm-related incidents. At a minimal rate of $85 per call (one hour and one truck), the cost to these fire departments alone is over $332,000. There are over 300 fire departments in the state.

The FEMA statewide threshold for Public Assistance for Connecticut is currently at $4,825,030.95. The conservative costs outlined above total $5,286,000, demonstrating the overwhelming need for financial assistance.

At the peak of this disaster, over 850,000 customers were without electrical power. As of 5 pm on November 1st, that number has only dropped to approximately 650,000. Complete restoration is anticipated to take a week or more. Overnight temperatures each night since the storm have ranged from near freezing to the low 20s. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Energy Bill Bryan toured Connecticut today, and stated that the damage to the electrical grid in Connecticut is the same as would be seen in a major hurricane. The major electric utility in the state, Connecticut Light & Power, has estimated 16,000 trouble spots across the state, including the failure of 29 transmission lines, of which 16 are still down. Approximately 600 utility poles were broken. I have included a map of outages as of 1 pm today to show you the scope of the outages. I have also included a chart comparing outages in Tropical Irene with the outages for this storm.

The number of shelters has sky-rocketed-- 118 shelters are now open, which is an increase of 91 shelters since my October 30th request. Approximately 4000 residents were sheltered last night. Across the state, at least 53 warming centers are also opened. These numbers continue to increase as the extended power outage continues.

This storm is unprecedented in the history of modern record- keeping for the month of October. Snowfall rates of 1 – 3 inches per hour occurred over a very large area of the Northeastern United States, with temperatures within a few degrees of freezing over the entire area. But the reason for this disaster is not the snowfall alone. Wind gusts as high as 38 mph contributed to the damages as well. This combination of heavy wet snow and near freezing air caused adherence of the snow to all objects including trees that had not yet lost their seasonal foliage. The weight of the snow on trees and power lines combined with very wet soils as a result of Tropical Storm Irene and the remnants of Tropical Storm Lee to quickly overwhelm the ability of trees to remain upright under the added weight. This added weight de-limbed hundreds of thousands of trees and uprooted tens of thousands of additional trees in just 12 hours. The State Director of Forestry, Christopher Martin, states that the damage was "as extensive but more intensive than Irene," and that "the storm was unique and catastrophic." According to Mr. Martin, damage to trees along open venues (e.g., roadways) was more extensive and widespread than in the forest canopy. This unprecedented storm dumped up to 20 inches of snow on leaf-filled trees, resulting in historic power outages, tree damages and debris. The previous record snowfall for October was 1.7 inches.

The State of Emergency which I declared remains in place. The State Emergency Operations Center has been in full 24/7 activation since 2 pm on Saturday, October 29th. There have been at least five fatalities as a result of the storm, including two from carbon monoxide poisoning. Hundreds of communications sites (35% of cell sites) are non-operational. Twenty-nine state facilities, including courthouses, are closed. The Connecticut Department of Transportation headquarters is running on limited (25%) generator power. Four hospitals or cancer centers remain on generator power. Seventy-five nursing homes and twenty-three residential care homes are running on generator.

At least twenty towns have declared emergencies. Twenty-six CERT teams have been activated, as well as two Civil Air Patrol missions, to assist municipalities and the Red Cross with sheltering needs, because the Red Cross and communities are overwhelmed. As the disaster continues, 11 state Behavioral Crisis Teams have been deployed to shelters. In one small town alone, New Fairfield, between 2500 and 3000 meals are being served each day, without federal commodities. Four Medical Reserve Corps Teams have been activated. The state Urban Search and Rescue Team has been activated twice. Towns across the state have used intrastate mutual aid in unprecedented levels across many different disciplines. The Connecticut National Guard has activated 350 Guardsmen, performing multiple missions including MP security patrols, joint task force command and control, operation of the state point of distribution for commodities, delivering commodities, and conducting a heavy engineer task force in direct support of state

utilities to assist with debris clearance. There is also an Air National Guard power generation task force that has deployed generators in support of more than 16 state and municipal organizations, including fire departments, shelters, sewage treatment plants, pump stations, emergency operations centers, and the state's Veterans' Home. Again, it is anticipated that this number will continue to rise.

Over 480 schools in 95 districts have been closed, representing half the schools in the state. Many school systems will be closed for at least a week. Several state colleges are closed. Milk is not available for school systems that are open, because a main milk supplier has been without power for four days. Over 100 residential settings for clients of the state Department of Developmental Disabilities have had to evacuate because of loss of power. The United Way 2-1-1 Infoline has been fielding all-time large volumes of calls. Seventy-four towns have less than 75% of their gas stations in operation. Seventy-seven towns have requested food and water. Orders have been placed with FEMA for 56 tractor trailer loads of commodities, at an estimated value of over $2 million.

We still have not been able to reach some areas of impact due to the dire conditions of the roads. Hundreds if not thousands of local roads have been closed because of downed trees and wires. The State Department of Transportation (CT DOT) is still performing recovery work as a result of Tropical Storm Irene, and estimates that the tree damage affecting roads is five times that of Irene. One hundred seventy four state roads were closed: at the start of today, 100 state roads remain closed or partially closed because of road debris—tonight, the number of state road closures is at 31.

Although I understand that it may be your usual practice to require full Preliminary Damage Assessments before granting Category A and full Category B benefits in an emergency declaration, it is clear that the cost of clean-up from this storm is going to be significantly higher than the cost of Irene, for which the State of Connecticut reached all Public Assistance thresholds, both statewide and for each county. We have polled municipalities across the state, and they are in agreement that their storm costs will exceed Irene costs. Again, there is no county government in Connecticut, so the total burden for the costs of response and recovery fall on the state or municipalities. Here is the example from just one small town, Stafford, similar to over 60 other communities with total power outages: "We have been staffing shelter 24 hrs per day since Sunday. Public Works Department at around 100 hours so maybe $35,000 and shelter pay at $5000. We have eight large generators operating 24 hrs since Saturday. Food for shelter for three days. Maybe $200K so far? Very rough have no hard numbers. Town still 100% out. Don't have Internet either, so no access to FEMA cost tables." Two other examples are Glastonbury and Enfield, small towns with significant issues: "EOC/Town have been on full activation since 11am on Saturday. 94% of the towns 15,403 households are still without power as of noon today. Police/Fire and Public Works crews have been working round the clock since Saturday and should continue on this pace at least through this weekend and beyond. Shelter is overflowed and has no more room for cots. Debris Depositories have been established town

wide for residents to drop off. Category A & B costs for Glastonbury were $150,000 for Hurricane Irene. Glastonbury anticipates those costs to at least triple or more for this storm, at approximately $400,000-$500,000." And, from Enfield: "Based on what we spent on Hurricane Irene, approximately $250,000 for that incident; a conservative estimate for Enfield's expenditure for Winter Storm Alfred to date is in excess of $400,000 for OT, sheltering operations, DPW, fuel, etc. Based on how we are going, when it is all completed, to include debris removal, we will be close to $1,000,000." There appears to be no doubt that we will hit the statewide PA threshold as well as each county threshold. It simply does not make sense to require state and local agencies to conduct a preliminary damage assessment when the thresholds have clearly been met and the State is still responding to the disaster. This request is akin to an expedited major disaster declaration request under 44 CFR Section 206.36(d), "for those catastrophes of unusual severity and magnitude when field damage assessments are not necessary to determine the requirement for supplemental Federal assistance."

Again, I certify that for this emergency, the State and local governments will assume all applicable non-Federal share of costs required by the Stafford Act.

We are continuing to evaluate the damage from this storm, and may request a major declaration for the remaining Public Assistance categories as well as Individual Assistance if indicated.

Thank you for your prompt consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

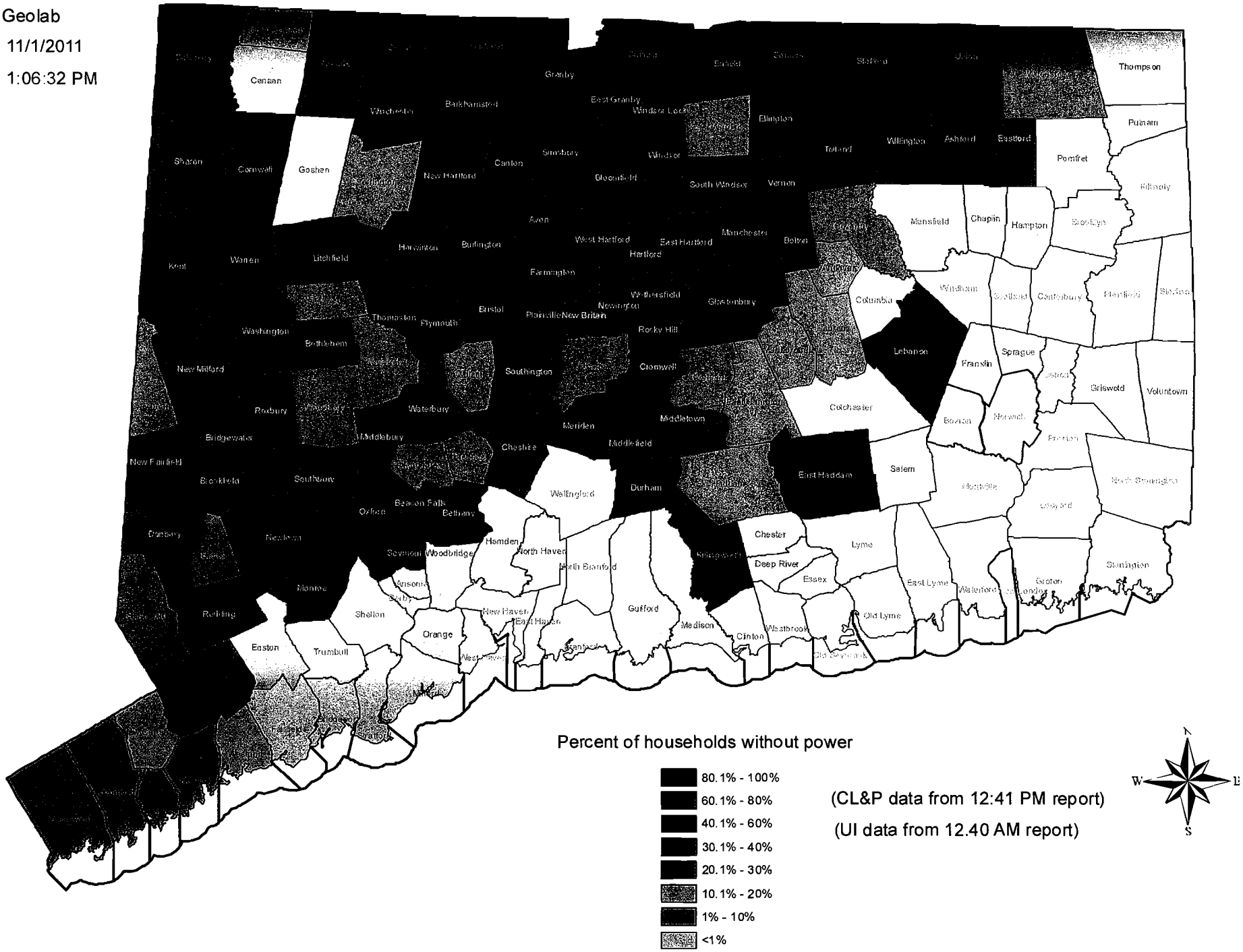
Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

SNOWSTORM POWER OUTAGES (1 November 1:00 p.m.)

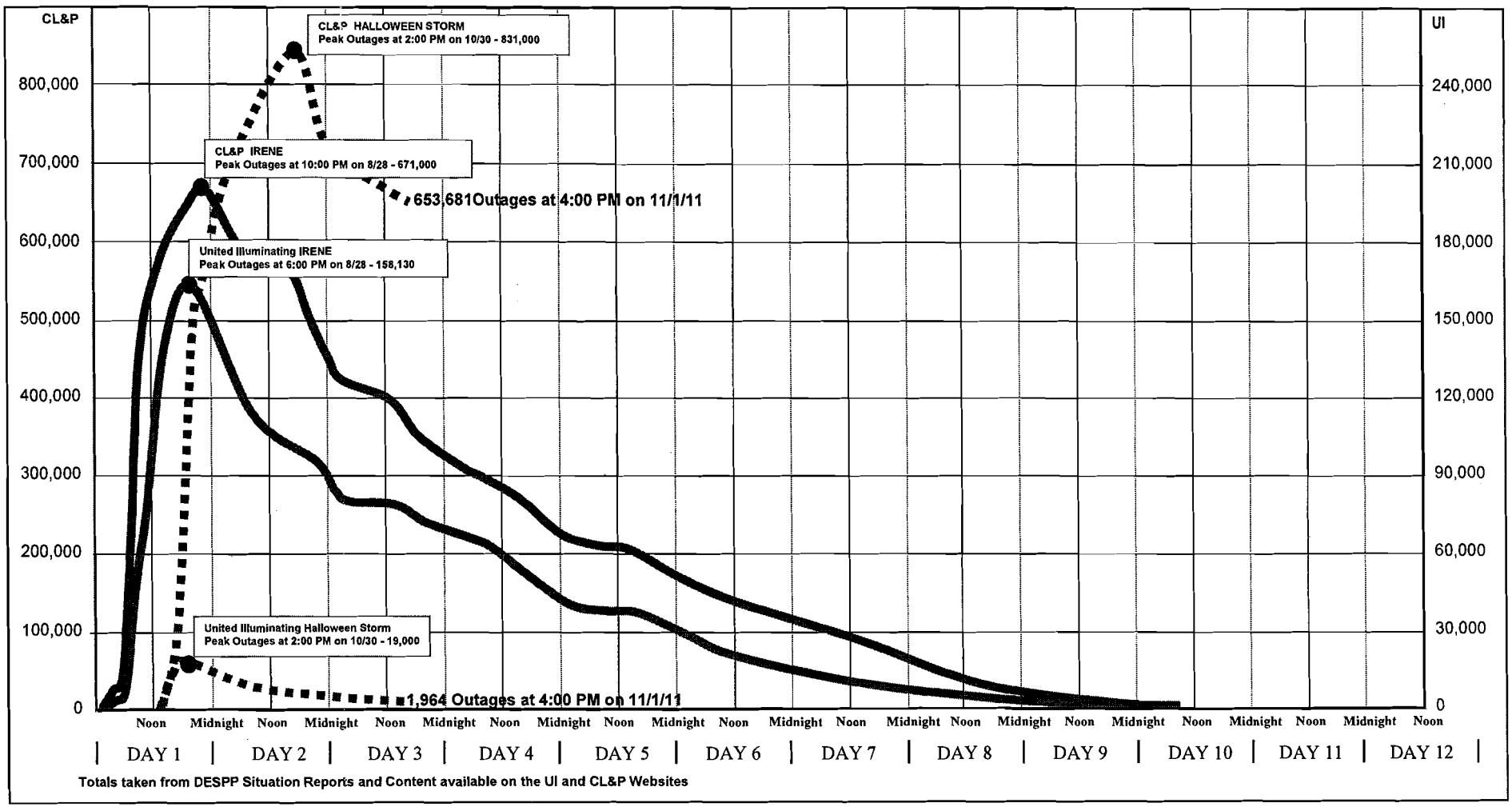
EOC Geolab

Date: 11/1/2011

Time: 1:06:32 PM



UTILITY OUTAGE TRACKING (T.S. IRENE VERSES HALLOWEEN STORM)



Totals taken from DESPP Situation Reports and Content available on the UI and CL&P Websites