



August 30, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Administrators, Licensed Facilities and Activities

FROM: Gwen C. Thompson, Director
Division of Health Licensing

SUBJECT: Reporting Issues Caused by Extreme Weather

Extreme weather conditions may severely impact the safety of residents, patients or clients in facilities and activities that are licensed by the Division of Health Licensing (DHL). Temperature extremes place a heavy burden on air conditioning and heating equipment. Associated increased electrical needs may overwhelm the power supply resulting in brown outs or complete loss of power. Facilities and activities must plan ahead to address these issues and are expected to have emergency plans to accommodate disruptions in power.

Should a facility or activity licensed by the Department experience a loss of cooling or heating, interruption of potable water supply, loss of electrical power, or other conditions caused by extreme weather events, the facility or activity must notify the Department immediately after ensuring the safety of the residents, patients, or clients. During regular business hours, you may contact the Department at 803-545-4370 or by fax to 803-545-4212. After regular business hours, please contact the Department as soon as possible the next business day.

Failure to notify the DHL promptly may result in sanctions from the Department. If there are any questions regarding the above, please call Chris Stephens at (803) 545-4228.

GCT/ejc

cc: Pamela M. Dukes, Deputy Director, DHEC
Dennis L. Gibbs, DHEC
Chris Stephens, DHEC
Terry English, DHEC
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