DATE:
July 18, 2017

TO:
The Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

FROM:
Richard D. Flinn, Jr.
Director, PA Emergency Management Agency

TIME PERIOD:
This report covers the period 0600 hours, July 17, 2017 through 0600 hours, July 18, 2017.

STATUS REPORT: (as of 0600 hours)

THREAT STATUS:

National Terrorism Advisory System:
There are no current alerts.

Commonwealth Response Coordination Center (CRCC) Status: None

County EOC Activations: York County EOC enhanced activation 1612 to 1925 hours

Municipal EOC Activations: None

CAPABILITIES STATUS:

PA All-Hazards Type-3 Incident Management Team – Mission Capable
PA-Task Force 1 (PA-TF1) – Urban Search & Rescue – Mission Capable
PA-Task Force 2 (PA-TF2) - Search & Rescue - Mission Capable

INFRASTRUCTURE STATUS:

Major Road Closures: None
Power Outage Reports: As of 0600 hours, 608 customers
Telephone Outage Reports: 150 Frontier Customers (Susquehanna, Bridgewater Twp)
216 Frontier Customers (Luzerne, Slocum Twp)

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:
OPEN:

COMPOST FIRE – Allegheny County, 7/14/17 – Units responded to a compost fire in the area of 700 Worthington Avenue in the City of Clairton. The fire is down over a hillside and produced a large volume of smoke in the city. There are no evacuations or HAZMAT involved in the fire. There are no reported injuries. As of Saturday evening, the fire is still smoldering but under control. Monday they have Worthington Avenue closed between St. Clair Avenue and 8th Street while the fire department are on scene trying to extinguish the fire. The Mayor of Clairton City declared a disaster declaration.

ADVERSE WEATHER – Clearfield County, 7/14/17 - Clearfield County experienced heavy rain Thursday night and again early Friday morning which resulted in multiple reports of damage throughout the county. Declarations of disaster have been issued for Westover Borough, Coalport Borough, and Beccaria Township. The majority of the damage reported is basement flooding with at least 35 structures reported to be affected by minor damage and two structures with major damage. A mudslide along Main Street in Coalport forced several residents to the second floor of their homes. Westover Borough reported several roads were washed out and US 219 was closed in Burnside Township due to damage from the flooding. American Red Cross provided cleanup kits and box fans for residents. PA DEP sent emergency responders to assist with hazardous materials spills that were reported. PEMA Western Area office is working with the county to conduct damage assessments. St. Basil’s was also placed on stand-by as a shelter; however, the shelter was eventually closed as no residents had arrived. The PEMA Director has been in communication with the County Emergency Management Coordinator and there are no unmet needs at this time.

ADVERSE WEATHER – Indiana County, 7/14/17 - Multiple flooded basements, due to the heavy rains that struck the area overnight on 7/14, were reported in Indiana Borough and White Township. Several water rescue teams rescued a male from his vehicle on Old Route 119; one of many flooded roadways. A rock slide was reported on PA 403 in Cherryhill Township. The county’s damage assessment was mostly flooded basements and roadway debris and one house with first floor flooding in Indiana Borough. The Red Cross and Salvation Army are providing assistance from the Indian Fire Station. The county has no unmet needs.

BUILDING COLLAPSE – Washington County, 7/12/17 – A commercial building (Pawn Boys) collapsed in Washington City, Washington County. This is a three story brick building in a business district. One patient was extricated and flown to a hospital. PA Strike Team 1, PA Company 4 and PA Company 5 assisted at the scene. A female was heavily entrapped in a void area under a refrigerator. A secondary partial collapse occurred. All emergency personnel were pulled back; reassessment was completed and rescue operations resumed. Two cranes assisted with the extrication of the female from the building. After eight hours she was removed from the building and transported to UPMC Presbyterian for evaluation and treatment. During the rescue operation, two Washington firefighters were transported to Washington Hospital for heat exhaustion. The Salvation Army also assisted at the scene and local restaurants provided food and water to the first responders. The American Red Cross is assisting 10 adults and two children with individual Direct Client Assistance and a place to stay. The George Washington Hotel is providing lunch and free rooms for those displaced until 7/20/17. The investigation is in progress.

FLASH FLOOD/WATER RESCUES – Butler County, 7/5/17 - Flash flooding occurred in Butler City, Butler Township, and Center Township in Butler County. Over 100 homes and multiple area businesses were impacted by flooding. The City of Butler issued a Disaster Declaration on 7/6/17. The city has placed dumpsters to help residents with debris removal. An unknown number of electric meters that were inundated by flood waters were pulled. The
Red Cross relief shelter for flood victims moved to the Broad Street Elementary School on 7/9/2017. A meeting was held on 7/10/17, during which it was identified that Hepatitis C vaccinations for public safety entities and the affected residents was needed. Butler County Department of Emergency Services initiated a resource request which was issued to the Pennsylvania Department of Health to be filled. Health accepted the mission and will provide the vaccinations to eligible individuals at their local health center.

**GAS EXPLOSION** - Lancaster County, 7/2/17 – A natural gas explosion occurred at a residence in Manor Township. The only occupants in the house were four utility workers. There was one fatality, one is in critical condition, and two are in stable condition. The house was destroyed in the blast. Four other homes in the vicinity were damaged and currently the residents are not allowed into their homes. UGI has rerouted gas so that service is not interrupted to other customers in the area. Pennsylvania Labor and Industry (Labor Law Compliance) sent a team to the incident site on 7/3/2017 to begin an investigation. DEP sent Waste Inspectors to the site to advise and assist the cleanup contractors. On 7/8/17 NTSB found three suspicious gas line elements. These elements will be sent to their Washington, D.C. offices for further analysis. The management and cleanup of the site has been turned over to local authorities. Structural engineers and insurance companies are being allowed into the blast site to inspect the four other condemned homes.

**ADVERSE WEATHER** - Indiana County, 6/22/17 – As a result of heavy rain moving through Indiana County, calls were received for cars trapped on flooded roadways in Armstrong Township. PSP reported that US 422 was closed in Armstrong Township, due to flooding of the bridge where it crosses Curry Run. A Declaration of Disaster was issued by Brush Valley Township and Armstrong Township on 6/27/17. White Township was clearing cross pipes and culverts, along with reestablishing ditches and swales. They also reported minor damages at Eisenhower and Ben Franklin schools. All major infrastructure has opened since the storm and cleanup operations and damage assessments continue.

**CLOSED:**

**ADVERSE WEATHER** – York County, 7/17/17 – York County EOC was activated to Level 3 enhanced due to the impact of a major storm that went through the area. The storm caused a transformer explosion in Springettsbury Township leaving 3,500 customers without power and traffic lights out along Route 30. There were five water rescues, numerous flooded roadways and six structure issues. Along with several utility poles and lines on fire. The York County EOC was activated for approximately 3 ½ hours.

**WATER RESCUE** – Monroe County, 7/16/17 - A canoe flipped over in the Delaware River at the Delaware Water Gap National Park Service Recreation Area in Middle Smithfield Township. Multiple units searched for the two missing occupants until calling off the search for the night. A dive team was called in the next day to assist the National Park Service. The subjects were located and the coroner’s office was notified.

**DISASTER DECLARATIONS:**

7/14/17 - Clairton City, Allegheny County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to a compost fire in the area of 700 Worthington Avenue that started on 7/14/17.

7/14/17 - Westover Borough, Clearfield County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due heavy rains and flooding that started on 7/14/17.
7/14/17 - Coalport Borough, Clearfield County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due heavy rains and flooding that started on 7/14/17.

7/14/17 - Beccaria Township, Clearfield County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due heavy rains and flooding that started on 7/14/17.

7/5/17 - Armstrong Township, Indiana County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due heavy rains and flooding that started on 6/22/17.

7/5/17 – City of Butler, Butler County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to heavy rains and flooding that occurred on 7/5/2017.

6/7/2017 - The U.S. Small Business Administration issued SBA disaster declarations (#15157 and #15158) for Allegheny County for damages during a seventeen story apartment building fire on 5/15/17. In addition, contiguous counties of Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Washington and Westmoreland are also eligible. The effective date is 6/07/17 and termination date for applications is 8/07/17. Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) application termination date is 3/07/18.

12/2/16 – A Major Disaster Declaration for Public Assistance (Cat A-G) was declared on December 2, 2016 for Bradford, Centre, Lycoming and Sullivan counties. In addition, all areas in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are eligible for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The designation is FEMA-4292-DR.

11/21/16 - The U.S. Small Business Administration issued SBA disaster declarations (#14987 and #14988) for Centre and Lycoming counties for damages during the severe flooding event on 10/21/16. In addition, contiguous counties of Blair, Bradford, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Potter, Sullivan, Tioga, and Union counties are also eligible. The effective date is 11/18/16 and termination date for applications is 01/17/17. Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) application termination date is 8/18/17.

CONTIGUOUS STATE EVENTS OF POTENTIAL INTEREST TO PENNSYLVANIA:

- **Delaware**: No significant events at this time.
- **Maryland**: No significant events at this time.
- **New Jersey**: No significant events at this time.
- **New York**: No significant events at this time.
- **Ohio**: No significant events at this time.
- **West Virginia**: No significant events at this time.

**24-hour Projected Weather Statewide:**

**National Weather Service, 0605 hours, 07/18/17**

Patchy morning low clouds and fog will give way to a partly to a mostly sunny and warm Tuesday. A stalled frontal boundary will remain across the northwest part of the state. Warm and humid air to the southeast of this front will give rise to scattered afternoon thunderstorms over most of the state, while lower humidity on the other side of the front will result in a dry forecast for the northwest counties. Highs today will be in the 80s.

Scattered evening thunderstorms across the southeast half of the state will diminish overnight, then patchy valley fog will form late. Lows tonight will range from the low 50s in the coolest valleys of northwest Pennsylvania, to the low 70s across the southeast Piedmont.
A large area of high pressure, centered over the plains states, will expand eastward into Pennsylvania Wednesday. This will bring fair and very warm weather to the state, with just a slight chance of an afternoon thunderstorm. Highs will range from the mid-80s over the Allegheny Mountains, to the low 90s across the southeast Piedmont.

WATCHES AND WARNINGS:

None

TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK: