FEMA TTX video scripts

Version Aug 18, 2010

SCENARIO: Major Hurricane

HURRICANE VIDEO #1

On-screen title: Exercise Exercise Exercise

VNN ANCHOR

Good morning, welcome to VNN. The National Hurricane Center is warning this morning that Hurricane Hanna has strengthened into a dangerous Category 4 storm and it’s tracking toward the greater metropolitan area. Models indicate possible landfall over the region as early as Thursday morning. But forecasters are not sure if the storm will strengthen or weaken over the next couple of days. The Governor is not taking chances, she has ordered the evacuation of all citizens and tourists within 10 miles of the coast, that means over a million people are evacuating from the metro area and coastal regions. Local highways are already jammed with traffic, and some gas stations have already run out of gas.

The Hurricane Center is warning that if Hanna strengthens to Category 5, many homes and buildings will be damaged or destroyed. Mobile homes are especially vulnerable, they could be completely destroyed. Any building that is unsound could collapse. With the storm surge and rains, there could be major damage to lower floors of all buildings located up to 15 feet above sea level and within 500 yards of the shoreline. Again the Governor has ordered a mandatory evacuation for everyone within 10 miles of the coast.

HURRICANE VIDEO #2

On-screen title: Exercise Exercise Exercise

VNN ANCHOR

Good evening, welcome back to VNN -- Hurricane Hanna made landfall this morning as a Category 5 storm, making a direct hit on the metropolitan area. The city has been hit hard by sustained 160 mph winds and over 20 inches of rain have fallen in the past 24 hours. Hanna’s storm surge was over 18 feet and it broke through seawalls and flooded neighborhoods. The storm has moved North of us now, and search and rescue operations are underway. We’ve heard reports of victims trapped in collapsed buildings, and others stranded by floodwaters. Utility companies meanwhile are reporting that over a million customers are without power, and utility crews are fighting to restore at least temporary power to critical facilities. The state is also working with federal officials and private companies on restoring communications, transportation, water, and other critical infrastructure.

The Governor reported from the emergency operations center a few minutes ago that the state is struggling to clear roads and bypasses so residents can get to shelters and safe areas. The region’s mass transit system is calling on private transportation companies for backup. Police departments throughout the region are working to maintain order and protect property. Meanwhile with so many homes and buildings damaged, the Governor is identifying additional temporary shelter and housing, the state is working with FEMA, the Red Cross and other federal agencies to create temporary shelters. Since the evacuation was ordered three days ago, many residents have been staying in hotels and motels. The area’s hospitals are overwhelmed, they’re taking in large numbers of victims, but they’re also trying to shore up their own facilities which in many cases have been damaged and flooded. The hospitals say they need more critical medical supplies, they need help evacuating patients from damaged facilities, and, as a grim sign of the scope of this disaster, they even need help with mortuary services and victim identification.

HURRICANE VIDEO #3

On-screen title: Exercise Exercise Exercise

ANCHOR

Good evening, welcome to VNN. Since Hurricane Hanna made landfall last week, communities all across the region, from the coast to hundreds of miles inland, are struggling to recover. The slow-moving storm brought severe winds and rains and tornadoes, causing catastrophic flooding throughout the region. At least four states reported record rainfall, and most of the fatalities have been due to flooding. Survivors throughout the region still need emergency food and water, as well as ice to preserve food until power is restored. Utility companies are saying they need another week or more to restore power in some neighborhoods. Responders are also working hard to provide temporary roofing to homes and businesses that have damaged roofs, and to provide temporary housing to the thousands who have lost their homes.

The states and FEMA have established locations where residents can get emergency supplies and water, there are points of distribution in many communities where supermarkets and other food stores are still closed or damaged.

The state is warning citizens that the public water supply has been breached by toxic chemicals and sewage from treatment plants. Residents should not use public water for drinking, washing hands or bathing. But some neighborhoods are still flooded and unreachable, so residents are fending for themselves. Some have resorted to looting local businesses for groceries, electronics and more. State and federal environmental cleanup teams are trying to contain the breach to the public water supply.

Local emergency managers are taking a number of steps to inform and protect residents, including reverse 911 calls and even sending officers into the streets with bullhorns.

Hurricane Hanna has devastated communities across the region. We have reports of more than 1,000 fatalities, and 5,000 critical or serious injuries.