

## Hazard Resilience Strategies

**Power and Water Outages** 

Power Outages Water Outages

## Power Outages 1 2 3

- Ensure all critical facilities (e.g., Emergency Operations Centre) have back-up generators in place.
- Ensure all dairy farmers who have essential power needs (e.g., automatic milking machines) have back-up power supplies or plans to milk cows over an extended power outage
- Ensure all farmers who have essential power needs (e.g., greenhouses) have back-up power supplies.
- Ensure all residents who have essential power needs (e.g., on a respirator) have back-up power supplies.
- Ensure bushes, trees and branches that are growing too close to power lines have been pruned.
- Ensure community-based power outage exercises have taken place in schools and the community-at-large (e.g., table-top or full-scale exercises)
- Ensure construction and excavation workers know to check for overhead and underground wires.
- Ensure critical power lines are located underground
- Ensure most businesses have back-up generators in place and ready to be used
- · Ensure most residents have back-up generators in place and ready to be used
- Ensure there is a warning system in place to notify community residents of a potential power outage and how to reduce non-essential power usage (e.g., turn-off unnecessary appliances, limit heavy usage to non-peak hours)
- Ensure there is a warning system in place to notify police, fire and ambulance personnel of a potential power outages











## Water Outages 4 5

- Ensure back-up generators are in place at pump stations to ensure equipment continues to operate in an extended power outage.
- Ensure community-based water outage exercises have taken place in schools and the community-at-large (e.g., table-top or full-scale exercises)
- Ensure inspectors perform regular safety checks of farm and residential wells
- Ensure inspectors perform regular safety checks of water reservoirs or silos
- Ensure inspectors perform regular safety checks of water treatment and distribution systems
- Ensure the community has replaced all gray cast iron pipes.
- Ensure the community has plans in place for water distribution should the community experience a loss of potable water
- Ensure the community has policies in place to limit non-essential water usage during times of drought
- Ensure the community has updated old and worn out pipes, or pipes made from gray cast iron to prevent pipeline failure in the future

## References

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> BC Hydro. (2010, 26, March). Pruning Near Power Lines. Retrieved May 16, 2011, from http://www.bchydro.com/safety/vegetation\_and\_powerlines/pruning\_near\_powerlines.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Mao, D. Marti, J.R., & Srivastava, K.D. (2009). Mitigating blackout along the cascading pathways. 2009 IEEE Conference on Technologies for Homeland Security, 151-156.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> BC Hydro. (2010, 25 March). Home Outage Preparation. Retrieved May 16, 2011, from http://www.bchydro.com/news/power\_outages/home\_outages.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Makar, J.M. & Kleiner, Y. (2010). Maintaining water pipeline integrity. Natural Resource Council Canada. Retrieved February 16 2011 from http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/obj/irc/doc/pubs/nrcc43986/nrcc43986.pdf

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