



COUNTY OF HYDE

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## Hyde County, NC

PRESS RELEASE: July 30, 2017 2:30pm  
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### Update on Repair Efforts and Mandatory Visitor Evacuation

The latest information we have on the repair efforts are that crews from PCL Construction, Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative (CHEC) and New River Construction have exposed one of the transmission lines and discovered that it is completely severed and missing a two foot section. Crews tested integrity of the remaining two lines overnight, which remain buried underground, and results from those tests showed they are compromised as well. CHEC has called in additional resources to further assess the situation. There are currently multiple options being utilized for both temporary and permanent repair solutions. The time table for these options vary but depend on the availability of resources. The crews on site will continue to work around the clock until repairs have been completed.

Tideland EMC has procured three emergency mobile generators that arrived on the island between Thursday, July 27 and Friday, July 28. As of 4:00pm Saturday all three of these generators were operational and providing power for the residents. The island is still running on generator power today with no issues. The occasional maintenance outage is to be expected from time to time but their goal is to keep them brief. At this time they are not operating on a rotating service schedule and all circuits are energized. The success of operating the island on generator power relies on citizens using strict conservation habits. We would like to thank Tideland EMC and their employees for their continued support during this crisis.

The mandatory evacuation of visitors from Ocracoke Island has been completed but will remain in effect until an adequate power supply can be provided to support them. Only individuals who are Ocracoke residents, seasonal residents, non-resident property owners, vendors, and emergency personnel who display a valid re-entry pass, or who possess some form of documentation proving residency and/or employment, will be allowed access to the island. Any seasonally employed residents that are having issues producing documentation to

gain access to the island should call 252-926-4374 for assistance. All renters should be aware that, pursuant to Article 6 of Chapter 42A-36 of the North Carolina General Statutes, travel insurance claims may be made when a claimant is complying with a mandatory evacuation. Please contact your travel insurance policy provider after evacuating from the island.

As of 4:00 pm yesterday, the NC DOT Ferry Division reported that they had evacuated 3,783 people and 1,485 vehicles. The Ocracoke to Hatteras ferry route is operating on their winter schedule. They will resume operating on the normal summer schedule once the evacuation order has been lifted. All tolls have been waived for routes between Ocracoke, Swan Quarter and Cedar Island. Schedules for these routes may be altered in the next couple of days due to the evacuation order. Please check the Ferry Division's social media outlets for any changes before you plan your trips. If you have any questions about ferry reservations, cancellations, or refunds, please contact the NC DOT Ferry Division at 252-928-5311. We would also like to thank the NC DOT Ferry Division and their employees for their assistance in the evacuation of the island and their continued support in getting much needed supplies to the citizens of Ocracoke.

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