

NC4 Incident Monitoring Center



ALERT SUMMARY: PACIFIC NORTHWEST SEVERE STORM

DATE
December 14, 2006

LOCATION
Pacific Northwest

INCIDENT SITUATION

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A severe storm on the 14th of December killed four people and knocked out power to over a million people in the Pacific Northwest. Wind speeds of up to 90 mph knocked down trees and power lines. The high winds also temporarily closed the Tacoma Narrows Bridge and many floating bridges like the Evergreen Point Bridge. Amtrak canceled the Cascades Service between Seattle and Portland and 100 flights were canceled or delayed at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. Residents of Mercer Island in Washington were told to remain at home due to hazardous traveling conditions. A state of emergency was declared in 17 counties by Washington Governor Gregorie. 700,000 Puget Sound Energy customers, 175,000 Seattle City Light customers, 120,000 Snohomish County PUD customers and 100,000 Tacoma Public Utility customers were without power at the peak of the outage. Some customers were without power for longer than a week following the storm.

NC4 COVERAGE

NC4 provides ongoing updates to members as the incident unfolds through the National Incident Monitoring Center (NIMC). NIMC analysts follow the incident using official government sources as well as national and international media sources. In following the story, we used media coverage such as the KGW breaking news article "Windstorm slams Oregon, Washington, closing roads, knocking out power."

Selected NIMC Updates:

Portland General Electric reporting over 50,000 without power due to severe weather.
2006-12-14 20:03 PST

A powerful storm killed 2 people and cut power to 150,000 residents in the Pacific Northwest.
2006-12-15 00:58 PST

Up to 1.5 million people are without power and many roads and bridges are closed, such as the Tacoma Narrows Bridge.
2006-12-15 08:05 PST

Tacoma-Narrows bridge reopened, power outages may take days to restore.
2006-12-15 10:44 PST

Governor Gregoire declares state of emergency in 17 counties in WA.
2006-12-15 18:40 PST

Utilities crews say full restoration may take up to a week.
2006-12-17 02:49 PST

Seattle City Light estimates that full power will be restored by Tuesday.
2006-12-18 23:47 PST

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The screenshot shows the NIMC Analyst Access interface. The main content area displays the following incident details:

- Incident Detail:** Meteorological (Severe Storm)
- When:** 2006-12-11 21:00 PST
- Where:** Pacific Northwest, Portland, OR, United States
- Synopsis:** More than a million homes and businesses are without power in the Pacific Northwest. Severe weather conditions that included winds speeds of up to 90 mph caused over a million customers to be without power in the Pacific Northwest. Now that the weather has subsided, utility crews from various companies are beginning to make progress on restoring power to the area. As of late Friday evening Seattle City Light estimated that 33,000 customers were without power. Puget Sound Energy reported 600,000 customers in Western Washington were without power including 372,000 in suburban [\[more...\]](#)
- What:** N/A
- Special Program/Event:** N/A
- Last Updated:** 2006-12-16 09:05 PST by NC4 Analyst 52
- Notification Rule:** Use Perimeter

At the bottom of the incident detail section, there are three icons: a red triangle for 'Severe', a green leaf for 'Media', and a yellow lightning bolt for 'Attachment(s)'. Below these icons are buttons for 'Forward', 'Comment', and 'Cancel'.