

Amethyst ARES District Callout Procedure

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Introduction

Many local emergencies that would result in ARES being called-out by our municipal CEMCs are likely to become regional in nature. Further, many local emergencies require communication with neighbouring communities for information and resource sharing, and to plan for evacuations. For this reason, a local ARES activation should generally initiate a regional coordination net.

The challenge of initiating a regional net from a local “grid down” situation is that the initiating station will not know the communications capabilities of the other Amethyst District EOC stations. For this reason, this Callout Procedure combines speed (using conventional comms) with reliability (using Winlink).

Procedure

1. Winlink shall be used to initiate a regional emergency HF net.
2. The initiating EOC station shall compose an e-mail message outlining the nature of the emergency, and that a regional emergency HF net is being established.
 - a. The message should include which assignment, ALPHA or BRAVO will be used, based on conditions.
3. This Winlink e-mail message shall be sent via an HF RMS Gateway connected to the Internet (where possible) to the EC and a designated second operator in each active Amethyst community.
4. The initiating EOC station shall compose a shorter text message, sent from Winlink, to the operators identified in #3.
5. Upon receiving the notification, ECs and local operators should use locally available resources to alert regional ECs of the emergency net.
6. Upon receiving the notification, ECs shall follow their local callout procedure as required.

Preparation

1. The District Emergency Coordinator shall maintain an up-to-date Winlink Email and text message list for the Amethyst Emergency Coordinators, and a second contact person from each community, as designated by the local Emergency Coordinator.
2. Paper copies of this list shall be kept at each EOC station.
3. Local ECs shall program these addresses into Winlink for ease of use.

Related Reading

1. SOP-Local-Callout-*your-community* (under development)

2. SOP-Traffic-Handling