

North Shore ARES Situation Report #3

Nor'easter / Ice Storm 12/11-12/14/08

Overview

North Shore ARES leadership has been actively monitoring the situation presented by the Nor'easter/Ice Storm that has been affecting Massachusetts since Thursday. The Danvers 145.470 repeater was monitored regularly throughout the actual storm taking reports from Skywarn spotters and from stations in the affected area. Following the conclusion of the storm, a resource net began on the repeater, with hourly call ups to gather the availability of ARES members. On Friday December 12th at 12:30 pm, KA1NCF and KB1KQW officially put North Shore ARES into a standby mode. A notification was sent out to the North Shore ARES email list, and an announcement was also made on the Danvers repeater. North Shore ARES moved to full activation mode as of 18:30 on Saturday, December 13, 2008. North Shore ARES continues to be in full activation mode at this time, and is expected to continue to be until 16:00 hours on December 16, 2008. North Shore ARES will remain in Stand By mode until Friday December 19, 2008.

Once NSARES returns to Standby mode, resource call ups will be performed 4 times a day, at times to be determined. As the week continues, there remains a possibility that additional support may be needed, therefore the decision has been made to keep the NSARES teams in standby.

The situation continues to evolve, and ARES Leadership is continuing to monitor as events unfold. The need for assistance appears to be extending into Monday, and possibly into Tuesday. All stations are encouraged to keep ARES updated with your availability during the hourly call up on the Danvers repeater or by sending an email to ares@nsradio.org. Stations are also reminded to check your equipment, and make sure everything is in proper working order, and to pass your capabilities onto the Net Control Station along with your availability.

Activations

North Shore ARES has been contacted to assist by assembling an ARES-MAT to help with the town of Gardner. The need also exists to have additional operators on Stand-By in the event

further support is requested. A total of 5 teams were sent to Gardner to support their operations. At 12:30 hours on December 16, 2008 all operations in Gardner were secured.

North Shore ARES has been providing support on a very limited basis to the State Emergency Operations Center to back up RACES staff. This support is expected to continue into the week, however has been completely handled.

Further Information

Further information about the storm; including upcoming forecasts and the local storm report please visit the National Weather Service website at www.weather.gov/boston.

Additional information can be found on the North Shore Radio Association website at www.nsradio.org and on the NSARES Yahoo! Group.

Members of North Shore ARES are asked to continue to monitor the Danvers repeater and keep the Net Control Station updated on your availability. As we continue to monitor the situation, further activations may be necessary. We currently expect to remain active through Monday night - with an extension of that time frame certainly possible.

The North Shore ARES leadership would like to thank all of the stations who have assisted so far, and who have offered their assistance. We would also like to thank the North Shore Radio Association for the use of their repeater system during this activation.

Prepared by Michael Griffin - KB1OHZ

North Shore ARES AEC - Administration

December 16, 2008 13:30 hrs