
7. Code Black: Utility Outage/Technological Emergencies

Technological emergencies include any interruption or loss of a utility service, power source, information system, or equipment needed to keep the residents and employees safe, as well as maintaining _____ (facility name) operations.

Planning Considerations for Utility Outages

- Identify all critical operations, including:
 - Security and alarm systems, elevators, lighting, life support systems, heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, electrical distribution system
 - Emergency generators, medical gas delivery systems, and other critical systems
 - Communication systems, both data and voice computer networks
- Ensure that key safety and maintenance personnel are thoroughly familiar with all building systems
- Establish procedures for restoring systems
- Determine need for backup systems
- Establish preventive maintenance schedules for all systems and equipment

(facility name)
Emergency Procedure
UTILITY OUTAGE

The following procedure shall be utilized in the event of a utility outage at _____ (facility name).

- A. "CODE BLACK" shall be announced overhead, unless electrical power source is out.
- B. Administrator and Director of Nursing _____ (facility to fill in appropriate titles/positions) will be notified if not on the premises. The Recall Roster shall be activated if warranted.
- C. Immediately determine if the loss of a utility (electric, gas, propane, water, etc.) is due to an incident occurring at the facility like a rupture, leak, fire, collision (vehicle striking meter, etc.).
- D. Determine the impact of service disruption and projected duration.
- E. Notify appropriate utility company(s) of the outage and contact 911 if there is an emergency situation.
- F. Facility management staff should report to the Incident Command Post for a briefing and instruction.
- G. Activate the Incident Command System (ICS) to manage the incident. The most qualified staff member (in regard to the Incident Command System) on duty at the time will assume the Incident Commander position. If severity of incident warrants, then appoint other positions of ICS structure.
- H. Ensure back-up systems (emergency generators, emergency lighting, additional blankets, flashlights, emergency water, emergency food supply, etc.) are available and operating as designed in accordance with requirements.
- I. Monitor residents to ensure they are safe. See **attached SEVERE COLD And HOT WEATHER PROCEDURES to prevent hypopyrexia during loss of heating functions and procedures to prevent hyperpyrexia during loss of cooling functions.**