



Hurricane Idalia | Update #2

REPORT TIME & DATE: 10:00 AM EDT | Wednesday, August 30, 2023

REPORT DISTRIBUTION: Public

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At approximately 7:45 AM EDT, the eye of Hurricane Idalia made landfall along the coast of the Florida Big Bend, near Keaton Beach, as a Category 3 storm. As of 8:00 AM EDT, Idalia was moving north-northeast at 18 MPH with maximum sustained winds of 125 MPH. Water levels along the coast of the Florida Big Bend have risen rapidly. Following landfall, the hurricane is anticipated to change course toward the northeast and east-northeast, tracking close to or along the coastlines of Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina from late today through Thursday.

Electricity Sector Summary

- There are approximately 126,000 customer outages in Florida as of 7:30 AM EDT on August 30.
- As Idalia passes, utilities will begin damage assessments and restoration efforts, as conditions permit. Utilities in the impacted area pre-staged crews, equipment, and materials in the days leading up to the storm.

Oil & Natural Gas Sector Summary

- As of August 30, the ports of Jacksonville, Canaveral, Tampa, Manatee, Panama City, and Savannah were closed. The ports of Pensacola and Charleston have implemented pre-storm restrictions.

EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS & WAIVERS

EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

To provide vital supplies and transportation services to a disaster area in the United States, emergency declarations may be issued by the President, Governors of States, or Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). These declarations trigger the temporary suspension of certain federal safety regulations, including hours of service, for motor carriers and drivers engaged in specific aspects of the emergency relief effort. See 49 CFR 390.23 for the actual emergency regulation.

| Emergency Declarations and HOS Waivers as of 8:00 AM EDT 08/30/2023 | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|
| State/Territory | Details | Effective Dates | | Status |
| | | Start | End | |
| Florida | <u>Presidential Declaration of Emergency</u> | 8/28 | Until Rescinded | Active |
| Florida | <u>State of Emergency</u> | 8/26 | 10/27 | Active |
| Georgia | <u>State of Emergency</u> | 8/29 | 9/8 | Active |
| North Carolina | <u>State of Emergency</u> | 8/28 | 9/27 | Active |
| South Carolina | <u>State of Emergency</u> | 8/28 | 9/13 | Active |

Sources: State government websites

- The Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles issued an [emergency order](#) in response to Governor Ron DeSantis' Executive Order 23-171 suspending certain regulations and requirements for commercial motor vehicles and drivers in various Florida counties due to the risk of dangerous weather conditions. The hours-of-service requirements for motor carriers providing emergency relief are exempt until September 25.
- Kentucky's Transportation Secretary, Jim Gray, has issued an [emergency order](#) that temporarily lifts certain regulations for commercial vehicles involved in power restoration and debris clearing after Tropical Storm Idalia. This suspension is meant to support utility and emergency crews in aiding storm victims. The order remains in effect until September 30, 2023, allowing commercial drivers to bypass driving time and weigh station restrictions during emergency response.

WAIVERS

- **EPA Gasoline RVP Requirements:** On August 30, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a waiver of Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) requirements in Florida to help reduce fuel supply shortages as part of EPA's response to Hurricane Idalia. Under this temporary waiver, regulated entities may produce, sell, and distribute higher-volatility winter gasoline in Florida with an RVP of no more than 11.5 pounds per square inch (psi), or 12.5 pounds per square inch if the gasoline contains between 9% and 15% ethanol. The waiver is effective immediately and will continue through September 15.
- The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration issued notices of intent to Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina not to object to waivers of certain pipeline operator qualifications and pre-employment and random drug and alcohol testing requirements in support of hurricane response and/or recovery.

