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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 21-18  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
657 AM EST Wed Feb 10 2021

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
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              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:        Ben Kyger, Director  
              NCEP Central Operations

Subject: NCWCP Electrical Preventative Maintenance: February 13 and  
February 20, 2021

On consecutive Saturdays, February 13, 2021, and February 20, 2021, Acquest, Mona Electric and Pepco will work with the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Central Operations (NCO) to perform electrical preventative maintenance on the electrical equipment at the NOAA Center for Weather and Climate Prediction (NCWCP) in College Park, MD. The maintenance will be for 12 hours each day, 1100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) to 2300 UTC. NWS conducts this maintenance every five years to keep critical electrical equipment healthy.

During the maintenance window, the following impacts are expected:

- Each Saturday, one of NCWCP's two Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) systems will be taken offline for maintenance. Operational systems powered by the offline UPS will be moved to commercial power before the outage to keep them powered up during the maintenance. This shift will mitigate impacts to operational product delivery of the Local NCEP Centers: Ocean Prediction Center (OPC), Weather Prediction Center (WPC) and Climate Prediction Center (CPC).
- Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) equipment in the NCWCP data center will lose power for up to two hours each Saturday, causing an outage for the Local NCEP Centers OPC, WPC and CPC. NWS expects the impact to be minimal for OPC and CPC because NCO has coordinated with the local NCEP Centers, who are arranging backup of AWIPS capability during each maintenance window.

NWS expects to maintain a majority of WPC services during the maintenance windows; however, NWS expects updates to the Day 1-7 deterministic Quantitative Precipitation Forecasts to be substantially delayed in the 1200 UTC to 20000 UTC window on these days.

After the maintenance window, systems moved to commercial power will be moved back to protected UPS power, and AWIPS equipment will be powered back up and coordinated with the local NCEP Centers.

For questions regarding this maintenance and the detailed impacts above,  
please contact:

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