

NEROCC

Northeast Regional Operational Coordination Collaborative

Regional Framework

Liquid Fuels Disruption Planning and Response

OCTOBER 2026

SUPPORTED BY



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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Purpose

The Northeast Regional Operational Coordination Collaborative (NEROCC) is a multi-state initiative supported by the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) and the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (DOE CESER). NEROCC enhances regional coordination and preparedness for energy system disruptions—including disruptions to liquid fuel, electricity, and natural gas systems—and their cascading impacts on liquid fuels supply across the Northeast.

The Northeast region is uniquely dependent on a complex, interconnected liquid fuels supply and distribution network. Energy disruptions can rapidly cascade across state lines, overwhelming the response capacity of any single state. NEROCC exists to address this challenge by building a trusted, pre-established regional coordination structure that can be activated quickly and efficiently.

The purpose of this Framework is to:

- Create formal and written guidance for coordinated response to regional liquid fuels disruptions;
- Establish a recognized, consistent activation process with defined triggers and thresholds;
- Standardize information flows, situational awareness tools, and communications protocols across member states;
- Identify and pre-position tools, templates, and response programs that may be necessary during a shortage event; and
- Provide a living reference document that evolves with lessons learned and member state feedback.

This Framework builds directly on the success of the Western, Southeast, and Midwest [Regional Petroleum Shortage Response Collaboratives](#) established by State Energy Offices and State Emergency Management Agencies with support from NASEO and the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), and is tailored to address the specific energy infrastructure, climate, and regulatory landscape of the Northeast.

1.2 Member States

NEROCC member states include representatives from State Energy Offices, Emergency Management Agencies (EMAs), and Public Utility Commissions (PUCs) across the following states:

State	Primary Participating Agencies
Connecticut	Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy, and Bureau of Air Management; Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS); Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA)
Maine	Maine Department of Energy Resources; Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)
Massachusetts	Department of Energy Resources (DOER); Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)
New Hampshire	New Hampshire Department of Energy; Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM)
New Jersey	New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPUB)
New York	New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA); Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES)
Pennsylvania	Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Energy Programs Office; Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)
Rhode Island	Office of Energy Resources (OER); Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA)
Vermont	Department of Public Service (DPS), Planning and Energy Resources Division

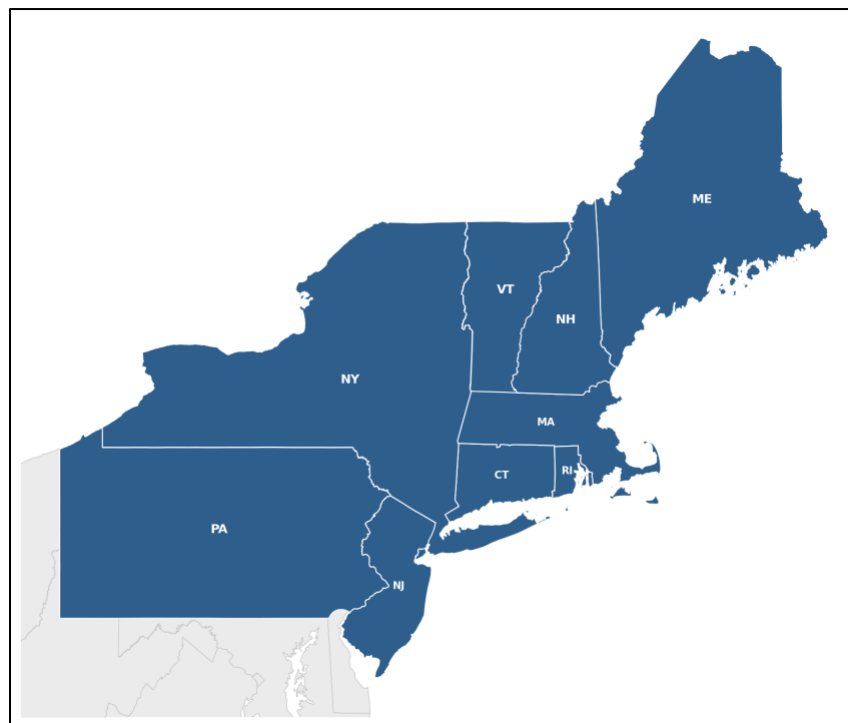


Figure 1: NEROCC member states

1.3 Guiding Principles

NEROCC operates on the following foundational principles, which differentiate it from mandatory or federally directed programs:

- **Voluntary Coordination** — Participation and any joint actions undertaken through NEROCC are entirely voluntary.
- **Respect for State Sovereignty** — NEROCC supplements, and does not supersede, each member state's internal energy emergency plans, authorities, or decision-making processes.
- **Acknowledgment of Industry Ownership** — Key infrastructure assets and supply systems are owned and operated by private industry. NEROCC recognizes and respects industry's primary operational role.
- **Cross-Sector Integration** — NEROCC is designed to bridge liquid fuels, natural gas, and electricity planning with emergency management functions.
- **Supplemental Role** — NEROCC is intended to complement and enhance existing structures such as the Northeast/New York Winter Fuels Coordination Calls, the Incident Command System (ICS), and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- **Data-Informed Decision-Making** — Regional situational awareness and response are guided by a shared Risk Rubric, common data calls, and collaborative Situation Reports (SitReps). The Risk Rubric is an assessment tool that scores fuel market and infrastructure conditions against five metrics (inventories, pricing, fuel availability, key infrastructure status, and weather forecast), giving member states a common basis for judging severity and for deciding when coordinated action is warranted; it is described in detail in Section 4.3.

1.4 Relationship to Existing Frameworks and Agreements

NEROCC is one of several Regional Petroleum Shortage Response Collaboratives established across the country with NASEO support and DOE CESER funding. The other established collaboratives are located in the West, Southeast, and Midwest. Each collaborative has developed a Regional Framework to guide coordinated petroleum response, and NEROCC is designed to be consistent with and complementary to those frameworks.

NEROCC also builds upon and operates within the context of:

- The [Energy Emergency Assurance Coordinator \(EEAC\) Agreement](#) — a national framework supporting state-to-state communication and information sharing, established by DOE, the National Governors Association (NGA), NASEO, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), and National Emergency Management Association (NEMA);
- State energy emergency response plans — each NEROCC member state maintains its own plan, and NEROCC does not alter or replace those plans;
- The Energy Policy and Conservation Act, Section 363 (42 U.S.C. 6322(e)) — which encourages regional coordination in energy emergency response; and

- Federal partner frameworks, including Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the National Response Framework (NRF).

1.5 Assumptions

The following assumptions inform NEROCC's operational design:

- Each member state maintains a state energy emergency response plan specific to that state's needs and authorities. NEROCC encourages regional collaboration and consistent joint action but does not direct changes to internal state decision-making.
- The geographic scope of a given response may vary. Not all member states may be impacted in any given event, and coordination may extend beyond NEROCC states if required.
- NASEO, DOE CESER, and other federal partners will support activations at a level commensurate with the scale and severity of the event.
- States are responsible for engaging their own public and private sector partners, including critical infrastructure owners and operators, in response efforts as necessary.
- Industry partners are key stakeholders. Their situational awareness, voluntary participation in NEROCC coordination calls, and willingness to share data and capacity information are integral to the collaborative's effectiveness.

SECTION 2: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, ROLES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Clearly defined roles reduce confusion and speed activation during a fast-moving event. This section establishes who does what, at both steady state and during an activation, and ensures continuity through structured leadership rotation.

2.1 NEROCC Member State Expectations

All NEROCC member states are expected to participate in the following ongoing activities, regardless of whether a disruption event is occurring:

- Monitor for disruptions to fuel supply and delivery within both the region and their respective states;
- Participate in NEROCC coordination calls and contribute to shared situational awareness;
- Respond to information requests, surveys, or data calls issued by the Lead or Co-Lead State;
- Maintain internal coordination among State Energy Offices, Emergency Management Agencies, Public Utility Commissions, and other relevant agencies—including sharing Risk Rubric updates and SitReps with respective EMAs and State Emergency Operations Centers (SEOCs);
- Maintain and periodically update contact information for critical infrastructure partners (without retaining personally sensitive contact details in shared repositories, due to data privacy considerations); and
- Participate in after-action reviews and offer feedback to improve NEROCC tools, processes, and frameworks.

2.2 Role Definitions

2.2.1 Lead State

The NEROCC's Lead State is a voluntary role and determined on an annual basis. The Lead State holds primary responsibility for NEROCC coordination, activation, and planning. NASEO may support the transition between leads at the request of states. Additional information on tenure can be found in Section 2.3. Lead State responsibilities include:

- Has discretion to schedule and host a NEROCC call in the event of an imminent or immediate regional disruption of product supply or delivery;
- Organize and facilitate NEROCC activation calls and related meetings;
- Delegate tasks and coordination responsibilities during and after calls to participating states;
- Maintain and update NEROCC-wide contact lists (State Energy Offices, EMA, PUC, and relevant federal partners);
- Serve as the primary spokesperson for NEROCC during external engagements;
- Lead development, maintenance, and updates of the NEROCC Strategic Plan and Framework;
- Solicit input from member states through surveys, polls, or questionnaires;
- Provide recommendations for updates to NEROCC resources based on real-world lessons learned; and

- Lead after-action reporting and continuous improvement efforts.

2.2.2 Co-Lead State

The Co-Lead State is a voluntary role and determined on an annual basis. The Co-Lead State supports the Lead State and prepares to assume the the Lead's duties in instances where the lead is unavailable to fulfill them. The Co-lead state is expected to assume Lead state responsibilities at the end of each tenure. Additional information on tenure can be found in Section 2.3. Co-Lead responsibilities include:

- Support the Lead State during calls and coordination activities;
- Take meeting notes and assist with dissemination of situation reports (SitReps);
- Maintain shared contact lists with the Lead State;
- Serve as backup spokesperson for NEROCC in the Lead State's absence;
- Shadow the Lead State for one year prior to assuming the lead role; and
- Support after-action reporting and continuous improvement.

2.2.3 Activating State

The Activating State is any NEROCC member that requests NEROCC be activated after determining that certain conditions have been met—including a sudden significant event, or an increasingly complex situation within a single state that may have the potential to cause a severe disruption to energy supply or movement of product in the region. The Activating State is responsible for:

- Verifying and confirming information that may trigger a NEROCC activation;
- Consulting with the Lead and Co-Lead State to determine the necessity of a coordination call;
- Soliciting participation from industry (infrastructure owners/operators) for situational briefings;
- Providing an initial situational briefing during the activation call; and
- Continuing to provide updates and clarification throughout the event lifecycle.

2.2.4 All Member States (During Activation)

During a NEROCC activation, all member states are expected to:

- Perform relevant data calls and collect relevant essential elements of information to assess the status of impacted infrastructure within their state, including data points relevant to the Risk Rubric (Section 4.3);
- Report on current in-state conditions, activation status, and key data points during coordination calls;
- Identify and communicate any cross-sector impacts (e.g., natural gas-electric interdependencies, impacts to public safety or healthcare facilities);
- Coordinate public messaging with state Emergency Management partners; and
- Identify and communicate outstanding resource or information needs.

2.2.5 NASEO

NASEO serves in a supporting and facilitation role, particularly during NEROCC's formative years. NASEO responsibilities include:

- Supporting the organization, activation, and structure of the NEROCC, and working with the Lead and Co-Lead States for the first year of NEROCC to assist with functionality;

- Aiding in documentation, best practice recording, and lessons learned; and
- Providing access to subject matter expertise, peer resources from other regional collaboratives, and technical assistance as needed.

2.2.6 DOE CESER

DOE CESER provides federal partnership, data resources, and technical support to NEROCC. CESER responsibilities include:

- Attending and supporting NEROCC activations;
- Providing biweekly updates to the NEROCC Liquid Fuels Risk Rubric and any incident-related updates via the ([Private Emergency Network for Government Understanding of Infrastructure and Notifications](#)). PENGUIN, DOE CESER's secure information-sharing platform for state energy officials, with automated email notification to impacted states;
- Maintaining PENGUIN as a repository for NEROCC SitReps and related documentation; and
- Providing other requested technical assistance at the request of NEROCC state members.

2.3 Tenure and Rotation of Lead and Co-Lead States

NEROCC leadership rotates on a biannual basis to distribute responsibility equitably and build capacity across member states. The rotation structure is as follows:

- Lead and Co-Lead States serve one-year terms, running from approximately April 1 through March 31.
- This schedule is designed to ensure new leadership is in place and prepared prior to the winter heating fuel season.
- The outgoing Co-Lead State typically assumes the Lead role, while a new Co-Lead is nominated from the broader membership.
- Co-Lead States are strongly encouraged to shadow the Lead State during their co-lead tenure to ensure a smooth leadership transition.
- Both roles are voluntary, and rotation is discussed and confirmed annually among participating states.
- NASEO supports the leadership transition and accession of the new co-lead. New Co-Leads are determined on a voluntary basis. States may nominate themselves or others to fulfill this position.

Leadership Term	Tenure Period
Inaugural Lead (NY)	2026-2027
Inaugural Co-Lead (ME)	2026-2027
Annual Rotation Begins	April 1, 2026
Annual Leadership Decision	March of each year

SECTION 3: PROGRAMS AND MEASURES FOR REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION

This section catalogs the coordinated response actions available to NEROCC member states during a disruption event. Drawing from the NASEO Petroleum Response Guidance and the Western, Midwest, and Southeast Collaborative Frameworks, these programs and measures are pre-positioned so that states can act quickly and consistently when coordination is needed. Not every program will be appropriate in every event; the Risk Rubric and joint action determination process guide selection.

The following programs and measures have been identified by NEROCC member states as actions that may be taken, individually or collectively, in response to a liquid fuels disruption. Coordinating state approaches creates consistency and streamlines the response process for suppliers and logistics operators working across multiple states simultaneously. Several of these measures — notably FMCSA hours-of-service relief and EPA fuel specification waivers — can be issued federally on a regional, multi-state basis rather than state by state; where that option exists it is identified in the relevant subsection below.

Programs are defined as response actions for which detailed implementation templates and procedures exist and can be rapidly deployed. Measures are response actions for which additional state-level customization may be required prior to implementation. States are encouraged to develop and share additional detail on all measures they might take in a petroleum shortage to provide a more consistent approach across the region.

3.1 Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Hours-of-Service Waiver

Implementation Level: State or Federal — governor's declaration (state) or FMCSA regional or presidential declaration (federal)

This program concerns safety rules that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) sets for commercial drivers, including limits on the number of hours a driver can operate. During a shortage, waiving those limits enables more fuel deliveries and allows product to be transported over longer distances.

Relief may be issued at three levels.

1. A governor's declaration covers an emergency within a single state and triggers hours-of-service relief under 49 CFR 395.3 and 395.5 — up to 30 days for transportation fuels (gasoline, diesel, jet fuel) and residential heating fuels (heating oil, propane, natural gas, kerosene). These durations were revised in 2026 and are under federal reconsideration; states should confirm the current framework with FMCSA at the time of a request.
2. An FMCSA regional declaration, issued by FMCSA under 49 CFR 390.23, can cover multiple states in a single action for up to 30 days and suspends all Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (49 CFR Parts 390–399).
3. A presidential declaration carries the same 30-day, all-FMCSR scope. FMCSA may modify or extend any declaration, with or without conditions, and states should request an extension before the initial window lapses rather than after.

For NEROCC purposes the mechanisms are complementary. A governor's declaration covers a member state's own emergency immediately and requires no FMCSA involvement; a regional declaration is the

mechanism for bringing multiple member states into a single multi-state relief effort, and is the only route to 30-day coverage for transportation or residential fuels. Where a disruption affects more than one member state, the Lead State should coordinate with FMCSA, the DOE CESER State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial (SLTT) Program Manager, and affected member states on whether to seek a regional declaration or to be added to one already in effect.

FMCSA can amend an active regional declaration to add states, commodities, or conditions, on its own initiative or on request. A member state left off a regional declaration need not wait to be added — it can issue its own state declaration and be covered immediately. FMCSA has used regional declarations for multi-state fuel events including Winter Storm Uri (2021, 33 states and the District of Columbia), the Colonial Pipeline cyberattack (2021, 19 states and the District of Columbia), and Winter Storm Kenan (2022, 41 states and the District of Columbia).

Once a declaration is in effect, drivers providing direct assistance to the relief effort are covered in every state along the route, including states not named in the declaration, so supply can originate outside the region. Coverage ends when the driver is no longer providing direct assistance to that emergency. A declaration does not waive commercial driver's license requirements, drug and alcohol testing, hazardous materials rules, or federal registration and tax requirements, and it does not waive state size, weight, or permit rules unless the declaration says so explicitly (see Section 3.4).

How to Use

This waiver is automatically triggered for most states under a declared state of emergency and typically does not require additional state action to implement. States should verify their specific legislative and regulatory requirements. In a multi-state event, check the FMCSA Emergency Declarations page for an active regional declaration before requesting new relief, and route requests to add a state, commodity, or condition through the Regional Emergency Transportation Representatives (RETREP) or DOE CESER SLTT Program Manager with supporting on-the-ground logistical detail. Template waivers are available through the NASEO Petroleum Shortage Response Templates library and through the DOE CESER Energy Waivers Library.

3.2 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Fuel Specification Waivers

Implementation Level: Federal — EPA, in coordination with DOE; state action needed only to waive state-specific fuel specifications

This program details the process to request temporary waiving of U.S. EPA regulations on diesel and fuel properties (including Gasoline Reid Vapor Pressure, conventional and reformulated gasoline blendstocks, and sulfur specifications). In the event of a fuel supply emergency, the EPA and DOE may waive requirements to increase fuel availability.

How to Use

Enacting this waiver requires close coordination between EPA, DOE, and state agencies. EPA waivers are frequently issued to cover a group of affected states in a single action, so where a disruption spans more than one member state, NEROCC states should coordinate a joint request and align on the fuel specifications and duration sought. If a state has its own fuel specification requirements, those may also need to be waived. Contact the DOE CESER Energy Waivers Library and EPA Fuel Waivers page for current guidance and active waivers.

3.3 Public Information and Crisis Communications

Implementation Level: State — coordinated across member states

Coordinated public messaging is a critical response tool. Confusion, misinformation, or inconsistent messaging across state lines can exacerbate a shortage by triggering panic buying, diverting resources, or undermining public trust.

How to Use

During a NEROCC activation, the Stand-Up Agenda includes a dedicated section for crisis communications coordination. States should align key messages, target audiences, and communications channels before issuing public statements.

3.4 State Weight Limit Waivers for Petroleum Tanker Trucks

Implementation Level: State — governor's emergency declaration

Under a governor-declared emergency declaration, weight limits for petroleum tanker trucks may be temporarily waived to allow larger loads and more efficient delivery.

How to Use

These waivers are state-specific and require a governor's emergency declaration. An hours-of-service declaration does not waive size, weight, or permit requirements; that relief must be written explicitly into the state declaration, which is a key drafting point when working with the governor's office (see Section 3.1). If tanker trucks must cross state lines for fuel supplies, they are subject to weight limits in each state they traverse. Coordinating waivers across contiguous NEROCC states significantly improves effectiveness. Reference the FMCSA Active Emergency Declarations page for active federal waivers.

3.5 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Dyed Diesel Fuel Excise Tax Waiver

Implementation Level: State or Federal — governor's emergency order suspending state dyed diesel restrictions (state) or IRS penalty relief at the state's request (federal)

This measure enables states to request that the IRS temporarily waive the tax penalty for dyed diesel fuel sold for highway use, increasing the available supply of usable fuel during a shortage. Dyed diesel fuel is ordinarily restricted to off-road use (farm tractors, heavy construction equipment, heating, generators). Because highway use of dyed diesel is restricted under both federal and state law, relief has two layers. At the federal level, the IRS can grant penalty relief at a state's request. At the state level, a governor can use emergency authority to suspend enforcement of the state's own dyed diesel restrictions and penalties, and related state motor fuel tax provisions, which IRS relief alone does not reach.

How to Use

Full relief generally requires both state and federal actions. Implementation at the federal level requires coordination with the IRS. States should coordinate with their governor to execute an executive order. Additional information is available through the DOE CESER Energy Waivers Library.

3.6 Odd-Even / License Plate Sequencing Program

Implementation Level: State — governor’s executive order

This program mandates that gasoline and/or diesel fuel be dispensed to vehicle owners whose license plates end in a specific number or letter on designated days, managing demand and reducing the risk of panic buying and station-level shortages.

How to Use

Governors may implement this program by issuing and publicizing an executive order. Coordinating the start date and terms across multiple states simultaneously increases effectiveness and reduces cross-border arbitrage. Template executive orders are available through the NASEO library.

3.7 Petroleum Priorities for Essential Services Program

Implementation Level: State — governor’s executive order

This program requires petroleum suppliers to prioritize supply to critical end-users such as law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services, hospitals, and other essential service providers determined by the state or applicable legal authority.

How to Use

This program should only be used in serious, longer-term shortages. Implementation requires the state to identify and formally designate critical end-users, issue an executive order, and develop Priority End-Use Certification Forms. Template executive orders and certification forms are available through the NASEO Petroleum Shortage Response Templates library.

3.8 Retail Gasoline Station Priorities for Essential Services

Implementation Level: State — state designation of essential services

This measure prioritizes gas station fuel supplies for essential government services and critical operations, particularly in jurisdictions that have become reliant on retail gas stations rather than fleet fueling infrastructure.

How to Use

States must identify essential services to prioritize and coordinate unified messaging about prioritization. Implementation should be coordinated regionally to avoid uneven supply impacts. Reference NASEO Guidance for States on Petroleum Shortage Response Planning for additional detail.

3.9 Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Emergency Fuel Request

Implementation Level: Federal — DLA, generally requires a federal disaster declaration

Under this measure, the DLA can leverage existing fuel transportation resources and bulk fuel contracts to reposition fuel stored at other U.S. Department of Defense installations in support of disaster response operations.

How to Use

This measure is generally only available when a federal disaster declaration has been issued. States must assess the petroleum supply situation, determine fuels and quantities needed, and identify delivery locations and available storage capacity. Coordinate through DOE CESER and/or FEMA.

3.10 Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve (NEHORR)

Implementation Level: Federal — presidential authorization

NEHORR is a federally-owned reserve of approximately one million barrels of ultra-low sulfur distillate held in commercially leased storage in the New York Harbor, New Haven, and Boston areas, established specifically to buffer a severe heating oil supply interruption in the Northeast. A release places product directly into the regional market through competitive sale.

How to Use

NEHORR is not a routine response tool. A release requires presidential authorization based on a finding of a severe energy supply interruption under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, subject to statutory conditions including a heating oil price differential test, and is therefore slower and less certain than the waivers described above. NEROCC states should treat NEHORR as an escalation option for a prolonged, severe winter heating fuel shortage, raise it early with DOE CESER if conditions appear to be trending that way, and continue to pursue waiver and logistics measures in parallel rather than waiting on a release decision.

3.11 Jones Act Waiver

Implementation Level: Federal — U.S. Department of Homeland Security

The Jones Act (46 U.S.C. § 55102) requires that cargo moved between two U.S. ports travel on U.S.-flagged, U.S.-built, and U.S.-crewed vessels. A waiver permits foreign-flagged vessels to carry petroleum products between U.S. ports, which for the Northeast can open Gulf Coast refined product supply to regional ports when pipeline or coastwise vessel capacity is constrained.

How to Use

Waivers are issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, either at the request of the Department of Defense in the interest of national defense or following a determination that qualified U.S.-flag capacity is not available. They have historically been granted only in significant disruptions, such as following major hurricanes and the 2021 Colonial Pipeline shutdown, and a request from a single state is unlikely to succeed on its own. NEROCC states considering this route should coordinate a joint regional request through DOE CESER, documenting the specific vessel capacity gap and the volumes and delivery windows needed. Given the low probability and long lead time, a Jones Act waiver should be pursued as a supplement to, not a substitute for, other supply measures.

SECTION 4: REGIONAL COORDINATED RESPONSE – ACTIVATION AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

Coordinated regional response requires consistent decision-making protocols that can be executed rapidly under pressure. This section maps the full activation lifecycle—from individual state monitoring to NEROCC stand-down—and provides guidance on how decisions are made at each stage.

4.1 Overview of the Activation Process

NEROCC activation begins at the state level, with individual state monitoring identifying an anomalous or disruptive event. The activation process is designed to be scalable—not every disruption will require full NEROCC activation—and is guided by a Risk Rubric that helps states assess severity consistently. The full activation flowchart is maintained as a companion resource on the NEROCC SharePoint.

At a high level, the NEROCC activation process proceeds through the following phases:

1. **Individual State Monitoring:** States continuously monitor for disruptions to fuel supply and delivery using local data sources, PENGUIN/DOE CESER data, weather forecasts, and critical infrastructure contacts.
2. **Event Identification and Verification:** When a potential disruption is identified, the affected state investigates, verifies, and notifies designated state staff. If conditions meet or approach established thresholds, the state contacts the NEROCC Lead and Co-Lead States.
3. **NEROCC Triggered:** Lead and Co-Lead States are notified by the Activating State or by DOE/DHS. The Lead State determines whether to convene a NEROCC Stand-Up Call using the NEROCC Agenda Template.
4. **Risk Rubric Data Call and Refresh:** NEROCC members and DOE CESER perform relevant data calls to inform an updated Risk Rubric. Lead States share the updated Risk Rubric with all member states via the SitRep Template prior to or during the Stand-Up Call.
5. **Common Operating Picture Developed:** During the Stand-Up Call, a Common Operating Picture (COP) is developed based on Risk Rubric results, state report-outs, industry updates, and federal partner briefings.
6. **Joint Action Determination:** States assess whether joint action is warranted, determine which programs and measures to implement, seek required gubernatorial or agency approvals, and coordinate implementation.
7. **Implementation and Monitoring:** Selected programs and measures are implemented. Efficacy is monitored against Risk Rubric thresholds. Follow-on coordination calls are scheduled as needed.
8. **Stand-Down:** When data points return to normal or near-normal levels and the active response is concluded, NEROCC stands down and future coordination calls are cancelled.
9. **After-Action Review:** NEROCC conducts an after-action review to document lessons learned, update tools and templates, and improve future response capabilities.

4.2 Triggers and Thresholds for NEROCC Activation

Activation thresholds are designed to be informative rather than prescriptive. The Risk Rubric, described further in Section 4.3, provides quantitative structure to the activation decision, but qualitative factors—

such as pipeline outages, severe weather forecasts, or industry partner reports—are equally important inputs.

NEROCC activation is appropriate when one or more of the following conditions are present:

- A sudden, significant event with the potential to cause a severe disruption to energy supply or the movement of liquid fuels product in the region;
- Anomalous weather, key data point variances, or fuel availability conditions that have been investigated and verified by an individual member state and that the state believes may have regional significance;
- A developing supply or logistics situation that is becoming increasingly complex or unmanageable at the single-state level; or
- A request from DOE CESER, FEMA, or another federal partner to convene regional coordination.

Note: *Any* NEROCC member state may request an activation. The Activating State consults with the Lead and Co-Lead States to determine whether convening a call is warranted. The Lead State retains discretion to schedule and host the call.

4.3 The NEROCC Risk Rubric

The NEROCC Liquid Fuels Risk Rubric is a quantitative and qualitative assessment tool designed to provide a consistent, shared basis for evaluating the severity of a potential or active fuel supply disruption. The Risk Rubric enables member states and federal partners to quickly align on a common understanding of conditions across the region. The full, live Risk Rubric is maintained as a separate supplementary resource on the NEROCC SharePoint.

DOE CESER maintains and updates the Risk Rubric on a biweekly basis under steady-state conditions. During an activation, the Risk Rubric is updated in real time through a collaborative data call involving NEROCC member states and DOE.

This risk rubric is designed to aid New England states in monitoring fuel market conditions, assessing the severity of fuel supply shortages, and responding to those shortages with appropriate response measures. The rubric focuses on five petroleum-based fuels: gasoline, ultra-low-sulfur diesel (ULSD), jet fuel, kerosene, and propane. The rubric also covers two biofuels: ethanol, which is needed to create gasoline almost everywhere in the region; and biodiesel, which is required to be added to heating oil in some New England states. The rubric focuses on five key metrics to assess the severity of fuel shortages in New England:

- A. **Inventories**—focusing on the level of inventories compared to the average inventories for the same week over the previous 5 years. The further below the 5-year average, the higher the severity of the situation.
- B. **Pricing**—focusing on the differentials between local wholesale prices (primarily spot prices at regional hubs) compared to an appropriate benchmark—front-month New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) futures prices for the same or similar products. Sharp and sustained increases in the premium for prompt delivery may be an indicator of a supply shortage.
- C. **Fuel Availability**—utilizing quantitative and qualitative information on supply allocations and outages at regional terminals as reported by local or regional marketers.
- D. **Key Infrastructure Status**—tracking the status of key supply infrastructure, such as terminals, ports, pipelines, and roadways. It is also important to track disruptions to key natural gas and electricity infrastructure that can impact demand for liquid fuels from power generators.

- E. **Weather Forecast**—including forecasts for extended cold snaps (often associated with a “polar vortex” event) that may drive winter heating fuel demands (ULSD, kerosene, propane) and fuel switching to USLD at gas-fired power plants; and forecasts for winter storms that may impact roadways, delaying truck movements; or cause power outages that impact liquid fuel supply infrastructure.

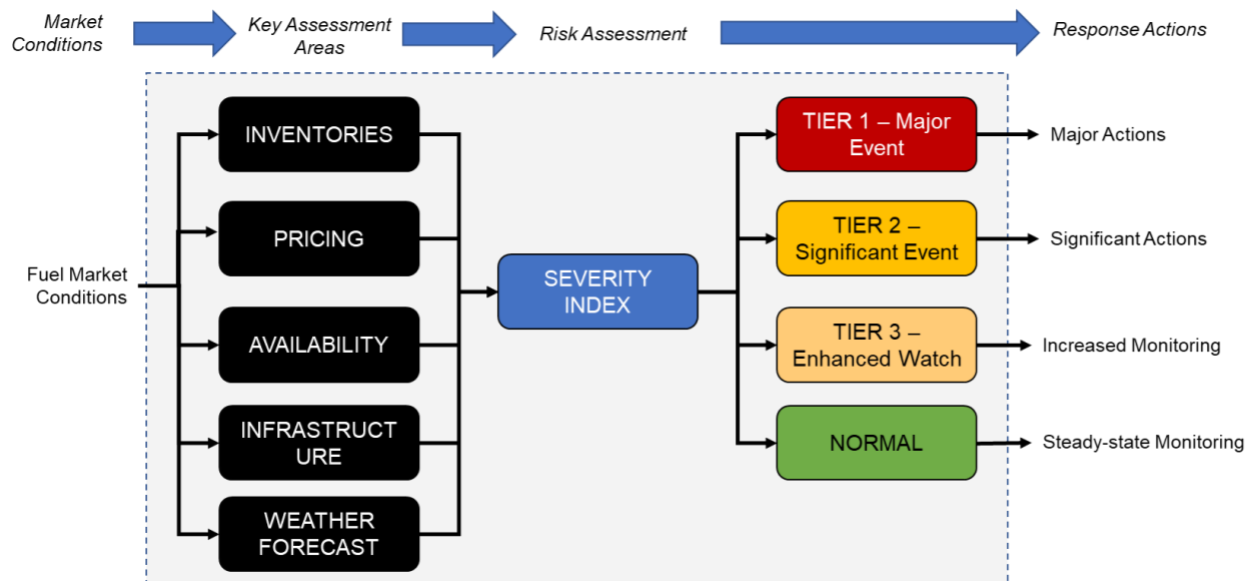


Figure 1: Energy Emergency Risk Rubric

While there are numerous other variables that should also be monitored for situational awareness (waterborne cargo arrivals, European weather and prices, etc.), these five key assessment metrics provide a reasonable gauge of the key supply and demand factors that impact fuels markets. These metrics are also relatively dynamic with updated inventory and pricing information available at least once per week and are manageable for users to monitor and update in 1-2 hours. For each of the key assessment areas, the rubric establishes generic severity thresholds and a tiered severity classification system (Tier 3: Enhanced Watch, Tier 2: Significant Event, Tier 1: Major Event) that aligns with the FEMA’s [National Incident Management System](#). These resources are intended to provide a template for states to customize to reflect the specific response structures and authorities in their state, as well as the unique structure and characteristics of liquid fuels markets in their state/region.

The Risk Rubric produces a total Severity Index score, which corresponds to a Tier designation:

- **Normal:** Steady-state conditions. Individual state monitoring and biweekly CESER updates are sufficient.
- **Tier 3:** Elevated concern. Increased monitoring and information sharing recommended. NEROCC Lead and Co-Lead States should be notified.
- **Tier 2:** Significant disruption. NEROCC activation likely warranted. Risk Rubric data call and Stand-Up Call should be initiated.
- **Tier 1:** Severe or critical disruption. Full NEROCC activation and joint action determination required. Governor-level approvals may be necessary.

4.4 Decision-Making Framework During an Activation

Once a NEROCC Stand-Up Call is convened, the following decision-making sequence guides the collaborative's actions:

Question 1	Does this event impact multiple states? → If yes: convene NEROCC member states and develop a Common Operating Picture. If no: impacted state implements its internal energy security plan and maintains active communication with NEROCC.
Question 2	Should joint action be taken? → If yes: member states align needs, capabilities, and timelines for coordinated implementation of programs and measures. If no: impacted states implement their own plans but keep NEROCC informed.
Question 3	Do identified programs or measures require governor's (or delegated) approval? → If yes: states follow their respective procedures for gubernatorial or agency approval. If no: states proceed with implementation immediately.

Following implementation, states monitor the efficacy of joint actions against the Risk Rubric thresholds. If programs are effective and conditions trend toward lower severity, NEROCC moves toward stand-down. If programs are not effective, additional programs, measures, or escalation should be considered.

4.5 Industry Partner Engagement During Activations

Industry partners—including fuel terminal operators, pipeline operators, rack operators, rail carriers, trucking associations, and port operators—play a critical role in NEROCC's situational awareness and response capability. NEROCC recognizes that industry owns and operates the infrastructure that state response programs are designed to support.

During a NEROCC activation:

- Industry partners may be invited to participate in the opening portion of the Stand-Up Call to provide situational briefings on infrastructure status, supply conditions, and logistics constraints;
- Industry partners are asked to leave or switch to listen-only mode prior to the joint action determination portion of the call;
- States may conduct direct data calls to industry partners outside of the formal Stand-Up Call to gather specific information needed for the Risk Rubric and SitRep; and
- Industry partners may share outstanding resource or information needs with their state partners, with the understanding that the NEROCC may seek collaborative regional solutions.

SECTION 5: REGIONAL COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SHARING

Pre-established communication protocols reduce confusion and delay during a fast-moving event. This section defines the channels, platforms, tools, and expected information flows that enable NEROCC to maintain a Common Operating Picture and support rapid, coordinated decision-making.

5.1 Communication Platforms and Channels

NEROCC utilizes the following platforms and channels for communication and information sharing:

Platform / Channel	Purpose and Use
PENGUIN (DOE CESER)	Repository for NEROCC SitReps, Risk Rubric updates, and activation documentation. CESER provides biweekly Risk Rubric updates via automated email through PENGUIN (Private Emergency Network for Government Understanding of Infrastructure and Notifications).
NEROCC Listserv (nerooc@naseo.org)	Primary email distribution list for NEROCC member state contacts. Any state may initiate a push or request through the listserv at their discretion. Contact Campbell Delahoyde (cdelahoyde@naseo.org) and Sarah Trent (strent@naseo.org) to request to be added.
NEROCC SharePoint	NASEO hosts a SharePoint for real-time information sharing, document collaboration, and resource collection. Live communications and resource edits are not currently supported in PENGUIN. Contact Campbell Delahoyde (cdelahoyde@naseo.org) or Sarah Trent (strent@naseo.org) to request to be added. Access is strictly limited to State members of the NEROCC.
Conference Call / Video Platform	NEROCC Stand-Up and coordination calls are facilitated by the Lead State using the NEROCC Stand-Up Agenda Template. Dial-in and video access is provided to all member state contacts.

5.2 Information Flow During an Activation

The following describes the expected flow of information during a NEROCC activation:

- Activating State notifies NEROCC Lead and Co-Lead States of a potential or actual regional disruption, either directly or via the NEROCC Listserv.
- Lead State convenes a Stand-Up Call and distributes the Stand-Up Agenda Template to all member state contacts.
- DOE CESER performs a Risk Rubric Data Call/Refresh and distributes updated data prior to or at the start of the Stand-Up Call.
- NEROCC members perform relevant data calls to their critical infrastructure contacts and compile state-level inputs for the SitRep.
- Co-Lead State takes meeting notes during the Stand-Up Call and works with the Lead State to finalize and distribute the SitRep following the call.

- Completed SitReps are uploaded to PENGUIN by the Co-Lead State and shared with state EMA/SEOC partners by each respective member state.

5.3 Critical Industry Contact Registry

Each NEROCC member state maintains awareness of its critical infrastructure contacts and can conduct targeted data calls during an activation. To protect data privacy, specific contact information is not retained in shared NEROCC repositories. Instead, states periodically report to the NEROCC Lead which categories of connections and relationships they maintain (e.g., fuel terminal operators, rack operators, pipeline operators, ports) without sharing personally identifying contact details.

Each state is the primary and authoritative point of contact for critical infrastructure located within its own borders. During an activation, the Lead State may offer suggestions or guidance on where to seek additional visibility, but the responsibility for contacting and engaging critical infrastructure partners rests with the state in which that infrastructure is located. A companion NEROCC Liquid Fuels Infrastructure Registry, which catalogs key regional supply infrastructure without including contact details, is maintained as a spreadsheet on the NEROCC SharePoint.

5.4 Public Information and Crisis Communications

Coordinated public communications are a critical element of a regional response. Inconsistent messaging across state lines can drive panic buying, create cross-border demand surges, or undermine public confidence in government response.

During a NEROCC activation, the Stand-Up Call agenda includes a dedicated section for crisis communications coordination, led by state EMA representatives and informed by State Energy Office input. Key elements of coordinated public communications include:

- Alignment on key messages and points to amplify across states;
- Identification of primary target audiences and communication channels;
- Active monitoring for and management of misinformation and rumors;
- Coordination on timing of public announcements to avoid creating unintended demand spikes; and
- [Referencing NASEO/NGA Crisis Communications guidance](#) and FEMA NIMS Public Information Officer guidance for messaging templates.

SECTION 6: ONGOING REGIONAL PETROLEUM SHORTAGE PREPAREDNESS

Effective response begins long before an event occurs. This section codifies the steady-state activities, community of practice, and preparedness investments that keep NEROCC ready to activate quickly and effectively.

6.1 Regular Meeting Cadence

During steady-state conditions (outside of active disruption response), the NEROCC meets on a quarterly basis. These meetings provide member states with opportunities to:

- Share state-level fuel planning developments, lessons learned, and preparedness activities;
- Review and discuss NEROCC tools, templates, and the Risk Rubric;
- Identify opportunities for cross-state alignment on response programs and waiver authorities;
- Discuss upcoming exercises, training opportunities, and coordination events; and
- Build the trusted relationships and shared understanding that enable rapid response during an activation.

6.2 Five-Year Strategic Plan

NEROCC operates under a Five-Year Strategic Plan (2025–2030) that defines the collaborative’s bodies of work, objectives, projects, and near-term tasks. The Strategic Plan is a living document, updated annually by the Lead State in consultation with member states. The four primary bodies of work are:

- Host State Chair Coordination — Establishing and maintaining a regular meeting cadence and community of practice around fuel planning and shortage response.
- NEROCC Maturity and Regional Alignment — Increasing the maturity of the NEROCC by aligning fuel planning and disruption response programs among members, sharing best practices, and documenting lessons learned.
- Responding to Supply Shortages and Distribution Problems — Collaborating with neighboring states in response to fuel shortages and distribution disruptions through an activated multi-state coordinated response structure.
- Integrating Natural Gas and Electricity Equities into NEROCC — Expanding the scope of NEROCC coordination to address cross-sector energy interdependencies as the collaborative matures.

6.3 After-Action Reviews and Continuous Improvement

Following each NEROCC activation—and annually after the winter heating fuel season—the Lead State facilitates an after-action review (AAR) process. The AAR documents:

- Which actions were taken and the rationale for those decisions;
- Details of the implementation approach and any challenges encountered;
- Insights and lessons learned that should inform future NEROCC operations;
- Recommended updates to NEROCC tools, templates, and the Framework document; and
- Gaps or areas requiring additional state capacity, resources, or authority.

AAR findings are incorporated into updates to the NEROCC Regional Framework, Strategic Plan, and operational tools on an annual cycle. This continuous improvement process ensures that NEROCC's capabilities evolve in step with changes in the regional energy landscape, infrastructure, and regulatory environment.

6.4 Pre-Heating Season Industry Briefing

Several NEROCC member states hold an annual pre-heating season briefing with fuel industry partners ahead of the winter season. These briefings walk industry through the state's process for requesting emergency relief — most commonly an FMCSA hours-of-service waiver — and set expectations on both sides before conditions deteriorate. States that conduct these briefings typically issue written guidance each year, to internal staff on how waiver requests will be evaluated and to industry on what a request must contain, and then review that guidance with industry in a fall meeting.

Common elements of state pre-season guidance include:

- Routing requests through the relevant industry association representative rather than individual companies, so the state receives a single consolidated request;
- Early notification to the state when an association becomes aware of a developing supply or transportation problem;
- A defined submission path — a written request to the designated state official, copying the staff named on the state's emergency coordinator list, followed by a phone call to confirm receipt;
- A required level of detail in the request, including a description of the emergency and the specific conditions that make relief necessary;
- An expected decision timeframe from receipt of the written request; and
- A stated reservation of discretion, allowing the state to depart from the published guidance as an emergency evolves.

Standardizing these expectations across NEROCC states reduces confusion for carriers and associations operating in more than one state. Member state templates and guidance documents for pre-season briefings and waiver request guidelines are included as Appendix E.

6.5 Regional Exercises

NEROCC is committed to conducting periodic regional exercises to test and strengthen the collaborative's activation and response capabilities. Exercise opportunities include:

- Tabletop exercises (TTX) simulating a regional fuel disruption event, requiring participants to work through the activation process, Risk Rubric assessment, and joint action determination in a structured scenario;
- Functional exercises testing specific operational elements such as data call procedures, SitRep development, or cross-state communications; and
- Coordination with NASEO, DOE, and industry members of the Oil and Natural Gas Subsector Coordinating Council (ONG SCC), and other partners to identify and participate in regionally relevant exercises.

SECTION 7: NEROCC FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN (2025-2030)

The Strategic Plan provides a shared roadmap for NEROCC's development and maturation over time. It translates the collaborative's mission into concrete, time-bound workstreams that member states can track and build upon year over year.

The following table summarizes NEROCC's Five-Year Strategic Plan. The plan is a living document and will be updated annually by the Lead State in consultation with member states.

Body of Work	Objective	Key Projects / Tasks	Timeline/Status
1. Host State Chair Coordination	Establish and maintain a regular meeting cadence and community of practice around fuel planning and shortage response.	a. States volunteer to chair NEROCC meetings for one-year terms. b. Transition to new state chair; schedule year's quarterly meetings. c. Develop agenda items in coordination with member states.	Annual – March/April (Ongoing)
		b. Survey group on topics of mutual interest. Identify goals, scope potential projects, assign tasks, and review as needed.	Annual – April 2026 (Ongoing)
2. NEROCC Maturity and Regional Alignment	Increase the maturity of the NEROCC by aligning fuel planning and disruption response programs among members.	a. Establish a SharePoint or equivalent mechanism for information-sharing and collection (NASEO leading).	Actively Pursuing
		b. Invite members to present on state fuel plans, mutual aid guidance, waivers, and coordination with public/private partners.	Ongoing (outside winter months)
		c. Develop after-action objectives and processes. Support and supplement the NEROCC Regional Action Implementation Guidance.	Ongoing
		d. Identify a planning team to develop a regional exercise scenario, determine extent-of-play, and develop exercise materials.	Potential exercise: Spring/Summer 2026
3. Responding to Supply Shortages and Distribution Problems	Collaborate with neighboring states in response to fuel shortages and distribution problems.	a. Determine if fuel situation impacts multiple states and whether joint state actions should be taken. b. Work with NASEO to convene coordination calls with member states as needed.	Ongoing

4. Integrate Natural Gas and Electricity Equities into NEROCC	Expand coordination scope to address cross-sector interdependencies as NEROCC matures.	TBD – to be developed by member states as part of NEROCC maturation.	TBD
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APPENDIX A: NEROCC ACTIVATION MEETING AGENDA TEMPLATE

How to use this template: The Lead State completes the header fields and distributes this agenda to all NEROCC member state contacts, NASEO, DOE CESER, and any invited industry partners prior to the Stand-Up Call. The agenda is designed to guide a structured, time-managed call. Suggested time allocations are provided as guidance—adjust as needed based on the nature and severity of the event.

Event Name or Description	
Date and Time (ET)	
NEROCC Lead (Primary)	
NEROCC Co-Lead (Secondary)	
Activating / Triggering State	
Conference Line / Video Link	

Agenda

Item 1 — Welcome and Roll Call (5 min)

States: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Jersey, Pennsylvania

Federal Partners: DOE CESER; FEMA; U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), or U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), if applicable; U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), if applicable

Industry Partners: Invited only — please note attendance

State Associations: NASEO (and others at the direction of NEROCC)

Item 2 — Opening Remarks by Lead / Host State (3 min)

Item 3 — Briefing by Activating State (10 min)

- What triggered NEROCC activation?
- Summary of current conditions (2–4 bullets)
- Any immediate state-level actions taken to date

Item 4 — Common Operating Picture (25–35 min)

- Regional Risk Rubric Refresh Results — DOE CESER
- Industry Status Updates and Logistics Report (invited industry partners)
- Other Federal Partner Updates
- Individual State Report-Outs (all participating states):
 - Current in-state conditions and activation status

- Key data points: current inventory levels and trends at major terminals
- Worst delivery delays by geography
- Weather and demand projections (3–7 days)
- Any public messaging issued to date (defer to EM partners)
- Requests to/from industry received?
- Cross-sector impacts (gas-electric, public safety, healthcare)

***** INDUSTRY TO LEAVE OR SWITCH TO LISTEN-ONLY AFTER STATE REPORT-OUTS *****

Item 5 — Joint Action Determination (20–30 min)

- Summary of severity thresholds (Risk Rubric alignment)
- What severity tier was determined? What qualitative information is informing this decision?
- Discuss menu of options (programs and measures from Section 3 of this Framework)
- Which states are prepared to implement waivers, and under what authority?
- What actions should be jointly taken based on available information?
- What start date/time and duration should be targeted?

Item 5a — Coordination of Public Messaging (Emergency Management-led; State Energy Office-informed, 10 min)

- Alignment of messaging across states
- Key points to amplify
- Managing potential panic or misinformation

Item 5b — Prioritization and Allocation Snapshot (if relevant, 5–10 min)

- Conflicting needs or priorities among states
- Transportation and logistical constraints
- Critical interdependencies and mitigation actions

Item 6 — Review of Next Steps (5 min)

- Determine next meeting timing
- Review and confirm responsible parties for action items
- Documentation and dissemination of meeting notes

Item 7 — Adjourn

APPENDIX B: NEROCC SITUATIONAL AWARENESS (SITREP) TEMPLATE

How to use this template: The Co-Lead State is responsible for completing and distributing the SitRep following each NEROCC Stand-Up or coordination call. The SitRep should be completed within 24 hours of the call and uploaded to PENGUIN. Member states are responsible for sharing the completed SitRep with their respective EMA/SEOC partners.

Event Name	
Date and Time (ET)	
NEROCC Primary (Lead State)	
NEROCC Secondary (Co-Lead State)	
Activating / Triggering State	
SitRep Prepared By	
SitRep Distribution Date/Time	

Attendees

States (check all present): CT | ME | MA | NH | NY | RI | VT | NJ | PA

Federal Partners: DOE CESER | FEMA | USCG/PHMSA | DHS/CISA | Other:

State Associations: NASEO | Other:

Industry Partners (by invitation):

Activation Snapshot (Activating State)

Triggered By (Event / Condition)	
Summary of Current Conditions (2–4 bullets)	
Immediate State Actions Already Taken	

Common Operating Picture

Risk Rubric Refresh Results

Assessment Area	Data / Indicator	Severity Points	Notes / Rationale
Inventories (vs. 5-yr avg)			
Pricing (spot vs. futures)			
Fuel Availability (allocations / outages)			

Key Infrastructure Status			
Weather (temp / demand outlook)			
Logistics / Transportation			
SEVERITY INDEX TOTAL: ____ TIER: Normal / 3 / 2 / 1			

State Report-Outs

State	Activation Status	Key Data Points / Conditions	Requests To/From Industry	Cross-Sector Impacts
Connecticut				
Maine				
Massachusetts				
New Hampshire				
New York				
Rhode Island				
Vermont				
New Jersey				
Pennsylvania				

Industry Updates and Logistics Notes

- Terminals / Racks of Note:
- Ports / USCG:
- Pipelines:
- Rail:
- Trucking (HoS / Weight Waivers):
- Power to Critical Assets:
- Other:

Federal Partner Updates

- DOE (CESER State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Program; Regional Energy Advisors):
- FEMA:
- USCG / PHMSA / EPA / DOT:
- DHS / CISA:
- Other:

Crisis Communications Coordination

Unified Messages / Key Points	Target Audiences and Channels	Rumor Control / Misinformation

Prioritization and Allocation Snapshot

- Conflicting needs or priorities among states:
- Critical interdependencies and mitigation actions:
- Other notes:

Next Steps and Action Items

Action Item	Owner	Due Date/Time (ET)	Status	Notes / Linked Doc

Administrative Item	Detail
Next Meeting (Host / Lead State)	
Documentation and Distribution of Notes	
SitRep Upload to PENGUIN (Co-Lead)	

Notes to Inform Regional Action Implementation Guidance

Complete this section after each activation to build a record of NEROCC decision-making and inform future guidance updates.

- Which actions were taken and why?
- Details of implementation approach and any challenges encountered:
- Key insights and lessons flagged during this meeting:
- Follow-up: goals, dates, and times for action completion:
- Notification procedures once actions are taken:
- Timing for follow-up coordination calls:

APPENDIX C: INDUSTRY PARTNERY ENGAGEMENT LANGUAGE

Industry partners own and operate the infrastructure at the center of any liquid fuels disruption response. Providing industry partners with a clear, concise overview of NEROCC's purpose and their expected role helps build the trusted relationships that are critical to effective collaborative response. NEROCC members may use this language as needed to more easily engage industry and socialize the objectives and functions of the NEROCC.

About NEROCC

The Northeast Regional Operational Coordination Collaborative (NEROCC) is a multi-state initiative supported by NASEO and DOE CESER aimed at enhancing regional coordination and preparedness for energy system disruptions and their cascading impacts on liquid fuels. NEROCC member states include Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

NEROCC's primary objectives are to establish a recognized process for multi-state liquid fuels disruption response coordination and information-sharing, harmonize response triggers and thresholds, and implement a regional mechanism to assist with resource prioritization.

Notice to Industry Partners

If You Are Receiving This Document

- You have been identified as a key industry partner by a state member of the NEROCC.
- There are no immediate expectations or requests from NEROCC.
- During a regional liquid fuels disruption, you may be contacted by a state partner as part of a NEROCC data call to inform a Situation Report (SitRep).
- You may also be invited to participate in a NEROCC coordination call to provide a situational briefing.
- You may share outstanding resource or information needs with your state partners, with the understanding that NEROCC may seek collaborative regional solutions.

Benefits of Collaboration

Industry participation in NEROCC coordination yields direct benefits to operations and logistics planning, including:

- Faster, better-coordinated government responses to fuel disruptions that can be aligned with industry operational realities;
- Enhanced coordination between regulated and unregulated interdependent energy sectors;
- Shared situational awareness that reduces the individual data-gathering burden on any single state or industry partner;
- A strengthened network among State Energy Offices, State Emergency Management, Public Utility Commissions, DOE, and industry partners; and

- A pre-established forum for communicating logistics constraints, infrastructure status, and resource needs to multiple state decision-makers simultaneously.

What to Expect During a NEROCC Activation

During a regional liquid fuels disruption, NEROCC may be activated by the Lead State at the request of any member state. Industry partners may be:

- Contacted directly by a state partner to provide data for the Risk Rubric data call (e.g., terminal inventory levels, operational status, allocation conditions);
- Invited to participate in the first portion of a NEROCC Stand-Up Call to provide a situational briefing to all member states simultaneously; and
- Asked to flag any resource needs or logistical constraints that NEROCC member states could assist in addressing through state-level authorities or interstate coordination.

Industry partners are not expected to participate in the joint action determination portion of NEROCC calls. At the conclusion of the industry briefing segment, industry representatives are asked to leave or switch to listen-only mode.

APPENDIX D: KEY RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

This appendix provides a curated reference list of tools, data sources, templates, and guidance documents that NEROCC member states can use for ongoing monitoring, activation preparedness, and response implementation.

D.1 NASEO Resources

- [NASEO Regional Petroleum Response Collaboratives Hub](#)
- [NASEO Guidance for States on Petroleum Shortage Response Planning](#)
- [Western Petroleum Shortage Response Collaborative Regional Framework \(WPC\)](#)
- [Southeast Petroleum Shortage Response Collaborative Regional Framework](#)
- [Midwest Petroleum Shortage Response Collaborative Regional Framework](#)
- [NASEO / NARUC: Energy Emergency and Preparedness Data FAQs and Crisis Communications Guidance](#)

D.2 DOE CESER Resources

- [DOE CESER Energy Waivers Library](#)
- [PENGUIN](#) Information Sharing Platform (biweekly Risk Rubric updates)

D.3 Federal Waiver and Regulatory Resources

- [FMCSA Active Emergency Declarations, Waivers, Exemptions and Permits](#)
- [EPA Fuel Waivers Page](#)
- [EPA Gasoline Reid Vapor Pressure \(RVP\) Page](#)
- [National Propane Gas Association \(NPGA\) Active Hours of Service Waivers](#)

D.4 Response Templates (Available through NASEO Library)

- [Draft Waiver of Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations \(Driver Hours of Service\)](#)
- [Draft Waiver of Temporary Suspension of Fuel Specifications](#)
- [Draft Executive Order for Odd-Even Purchase Plan](#)
- [Draft Executive Order for Implementation of Priorities for Essential Services](#)
- [Draft Priority End-Use Certification Form](#)
- [Draft Emergency Rules Procedure and Appeals Process](#)
- [Draft Executive Order for Emergency Petroleum Set-Aside](#)
- [Draft Emergency Rules for State Petroleum Set-Aside Program](#)
- [Draft Application for State Set-Aside](#)
- Additional Waiver Information:
 - [Energy Waiver Library - U.S. Department of Energy](#)
 - [Active Emergency Declarations, Waivers, Exemptions and Permits - Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration \(FMCSA\)](#)

- [Fuel Waivers Page – Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#)
- [Gasoline Reid Vapor Pressure \(RVP\) Page – Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#)
- [Active Hour of Service Waivers – National Propane Gas Association \(NPGA\)](#)

D.5 Emergency Management and Communications Resources

- [AGA: Emergency Preparedness Handbook for Natural Gas Utilities](#)
- [American Petroleum Institute \(API\): Oil and Natural Gas Industry Preparedness Handbook](#)

D.6 Petroleum Data and Monitoring Sources

This list is not exhaustive. NEROCC members may also access additional data and infrastructure information on the NEROCC Sharepoint.

Source / Dataset	Description and Use
U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) Weekly Petroleum Status Reports	Weekly data on U.S. petroleum inventories, production, and demand. Primary data source for Risk Rubric inventory assessment.
EIA Petroleum Supply Monthly	Monthly-level data on petroleum supply, consumption, and stocks by state and region.
EIA Capacity of Operable Petroleum Refineries by State	Refinery capacity data used to estimate supply disruption magnitude.
OPIS / Argus (Rack Price Data) (Paywall)	Wholesale rack pricing data for distillate, gasoline, and other products. Used for Risk Rubric pricing assessment.
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) / National Weather Service (NWS) Weather Forecasts	Temperature and demand outlook data. Key input for the weather and demand component of the Risk Rubric.
DOE CESER PENGUIN	Consolidated Risk Rubric and situational awareness platform with automated biweekly updates to NEROCC.