

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY**Office of Cybersecurity, Energy
Security, and Emergency Response

Hurricane Idalia | Update #1

REPORT TIME & DATE: 5:00 PM EDT | Tuesday, August 29, 2023**REPORT DISTRIBUTION:** Public

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As of 2:00 PM EDT, Hurricane Idalia was about 240 miles southwest of Tampa, FL, moving north at 15 MPH with maximum sustained winds of 90 MPH. Idalia's squalls are overspreading portions of the lower Florida Keys and the southwestern coast of Florida. On the forecast track, the center of Idalia is expected to move over the eastern Gulf of Mexico today, reach the Gulf Coast of Florida within the Hurricane Warning area on Wednesday, and move close to the Georgia and Carolina coastline on Thursday. The combination of storm surge and the tide on Tuesday evening and Wednesday will cause normally dry areas near the coast to flood with rising waters moving inland from the shoreline.

Electricity Sector Summary

- As of 2:30 PM EDT, there are no significant electricity outages associated with Idalia.
- Utilities are preparing for storm impacts, including pre-staging crew and equipment outside the projected storm track. On the morning of August 29, Governor Ron DeSantis stated that there are over 25,000 linemen in Florida. They anticipate a total of 30,000 to 40,000 linemen to be in Florida by the end of August 29.

Oil & Natural Gas Sector Summary

- As of August 29, the ports of Tampa, Manatee, and Panama City are closed. The ports of Jacksonville, Canaveral, Pensacola, Savannah, and Charleston have pre-storm restrictions in place.

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 the 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 <i>as of 3:00 PM EDT 08/29/2023</i>				
State/Territory	Details	Effective Dates		Status
		Start	End	
Florida	Presidential Declaration of Emergency	8/28	Until Rescinded	Active
Florida	State of Emergency	8/26	10/27	Active
Georgia	State of Emergency	8/29	9/8	Active
North Carolina	State of Emergency	8/28	9/27	Active

Sources: State government websites

- The Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles issued an [emergency order](#) in response to Governor 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.