



NEWS RELEASE

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DORA responds to tornado ravaged communities

DENVER – In response to the tornadoes that hit Weld and Larimer counties yesterday, staff from the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies, which houses the Division of Insurance and the Public Utilities Commission, will be working through Monday to assist residents and address issues.

The tornadoes resulted in one confirmed death, over 60 homes destroyed, and hundreds more homes and businesses damaged. Thousands of residents in and around the path of these destructive storms have been affected by the disruption of electrical power, water systems and natural gas service.

This morning, three staff members from the Division of Insurance joined emergency workers at the Windsor Community Center to answer questions and facilitate issues for residents. They are available at the community center between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. through Monday.

"I am proud of the dedication my staff has shown to get to the affected residents as soon as possible," said Marcy Morrison, Colorado Commissioner of Insurance. "We will reassess the need for our people to be there following the holiday," she said. The Division also helped the Office of Emergency Preparedness gather information on insurance agents and companies in the immediate areas.

The Public Utilities Commission is keeping in close communication with the utilities, while their crews are working quickly to restore power to those areas hit by yesterday's tornadoes.

"From our discussions with the affected utilities, we are encouraged by their efforts to restore service as quickly as possible," said Doug Dean, Director of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission.

Approximately 15,000 customers in Windsor, Greeley, Johnstown and Platteville were without service this morning. Service has already been restored to Johnstown, and the vast majority of the customers should have service restored by the end of the day Wednesday.

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DORA is Colorado's consumer protection agency. DORA seeks to protect consumers while fostering a safe and healthy business environment.

