

Emergency Response Plan

391 Durham Rd, Madison, CT

Purpose

This Emergency Response Plan (ERP) describes actions to ensure the safety of Project employees, emergency service members serving the Project, and the surrounding community in the event of an emergency. This ERP provides emergency personnel contact information and outlines procedures to prevent, mitigate, and effectively respond to an incident should one arise at the Project.

General Facility Information

The Project is a 1.975-megawatt, ground-mounted solar electric generation facility located in the Town of Madison, Connecticut. The Project consists of approximately 3,800 solar panels oriented in linear rows spaced approximately 7.5 feet apart. Panels are connected by electrical cables hung on the underside of the panels and buried underground at various points. “Blocks” of panels are connected to an inverter. The Project contains 8 inverters that convert direct current (DC) electricity to alternating current (AC). The AC power is then routed to the Eversource three-phase distribution feeder running along Durham Road. Project components, including solar panels, fencing, inverters, access roads, the Substation, and gates. Upon consultation with local first responders and fire department officials, gates will be outfitted with either a “Knox Box” or daisy-chain type locking system to allow site access by emergency personnel.

Emergency Detection

In the event of an electrical fault or project malfunction, the remote monitoring system will detect equipment faults which will then lead to dispatch of project personnel to investigate accordingly. If warranted, emergency personnel will be alerted of issues per the notification schedule listed in the Emergency Contacts section of this ERP. There is no fire suppression system for the project equipment located on-site.

Shutoff Procedures and Locations

Entry of the Project should only be attempted at the direction of the Project operator or qualified emergency personnel. In the event of an emergency requiring shutdown, the solar system may be de-energized/isolated by local disconnect switches, which require manual operation by a qualified project representative or emergency responders. Additionally, the Project can be disconnected from the electrical grid by Eversource Energy using disconnecting means on Eversource’s side of the project interconnection. Unless properly trained, emergency responders shall not assume the system is de-energized nor attempt to de-energize equipment due to arc flash risk. Lock out/tag out procedures

should be followed by qualified personnel. In an emergency, only Project representatives or qualified emergency personnel may disconnect power blocks within the solar arrays at each inverter, if necessary.

Emergency Contacts

The project owner will coordinate with the Town of Madison police and fire departments regarding access to the facility and emergency shutoff switches. The table below provides an emergency contact list for the Town of Madison and Eversource Energy, the interconnecting utility provider. These responders will be contacted as necessary, depending on the type of situation involved. The entrance gate will be outfitted with a “Knox Box” or daisy-chain type locking system to allow site access by emergency personnel, based on feedback from the relevant Town emergency departments.

In the event of Emergencies	Dial 911
Madison Police Department	John "Jack" Drumm Chief of Police Email drummj@madisonct.org Emergency Phone: 911 Non-Emergency Phone: (203) 245-6502 Address: 9 Campus Drive Madison, CT 06443
Madison Fire Department	Samuel E. DeBurra Jr. Fire Marshal Email: deburrase@madisonct.org Emergency Phone: 911 Non-Emergency Phone: (203) 245-5617 Address: 8 Campus Drive Madison, CT 06443
Eversource Energy	877-944-5325

General Safety and Operational Information

Solar panels, located throughout the Project, convert sunlight to electricity. The process involves solid- state technology that consumes no materials and is self-contained. As such, the primary concern for first responders is exposure to electrical components that present a hazard to electric shock. During a response, it should be assumed that:

- All solar equipment on site contains lethal AC and DC voltages;

- All inverters contain energy storage devices that require 15 minutes to safely discharge lethal voltages;
- Electricity is supplied from multiple sources; and
- The site should only be accessed by qualified personnel or emergency responders.

Precautions While in the Vicinity of the Solar Electric System:

- Only trained personnel should work near the solar arrays, modules, electrical boxes, or wiring.
- Do not attempt to service or respond to an emergency unless another person capable of rendering first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is also present.
- Photovoltaic panels are made of glass and may break. If any cracks occur in the modules, touching a crack may expose a person to the full voltage and current of the array. Do not touch the modules without wearing electrical insulating gloves.

Appropriate training of first responders is key to their understanding of the hazards that are present within the Project area and to mitigate potential risks to their life during a response. As such, first responders that could be dispatched to the Project in the event of an emergency will be trained prior to commencement of operation. The Operator will work with Fire and other Town Departments to provide site-specific orientation to emergency response leadership and their assigned staff as requested by such officials.

Emergency Situations

Emergency situation critical points:

- In the event of an emergency, dial 911.
- Entry and shutdown of the Project should only be attempted by qualified personnel.
- Solar components should always be considered electrically energized. DC voltage is always present.
- All inverters contain energy storage devices that require 15 minutes to safely discharge lethal voltages.
- Do not touch the modules without wearing electrical insulating gloves.

Fire Response

In the event of a fire, the individual discovering the emergency shall:

1. Assess the situation to determine potential safety concerns to life and the environment, with life safety as the priority.
2. Notify the appropriate local authorities by dialing 911.

Upon arrival to the Project, responders shall:

1. Evacuate and secure the area and keep people a minimum of 300 feet away, provided there are no immediate threats to people or non-solar property.
2. Let the facility burn. Burning electrical equipment is already damaged and must be replaced.

3. Protect adjacent exposures, such as homes, buildings, and forested areas, as needed, to limit the potential of the fire spreading.
4. If fire must be suppressed within the array fence line, qualified personnel should direct how to proceed.

The following are the most important considerations when responding to a fire or other emergency at the Project:

- Solar components should always be considered electrically energized. DC voltage is always present.
- Identify and validate the hazard in order to minimize injury.
- Electrical components produce gas during combustion. All responders should use a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).
- Before committing apparatus to the access roads within any of the fenced panel array enclosures, understand that turn arounds space may be limited or not available.
- Only qualified personnel should attempt to isolate or shutdown the electrical power at the site of the fire, if possible.
- Leave the scene in a safe condition after mitigating hazards.

Natural Disasters

Severe weather events such as snowstorms, hurricanes, and tornadoes are possible at the Project. Although much less common, there is also the potential for minor earthquakes, flooding or high wind events (e.g., microbursts). After an extreme weather event, the project operator will evaluate all equipment for damages and repair, as necessary, to restore full Project operations.

Public Safety

Access to the Project is limited to trained staff and maintenance personnel only. Solar panel arrays are surrounded by a chain link fence per requirements of the National Electric Safety Code (NESC). Access to the Project site occurs through gates in the chain-link fence that are secured with a padlock, and only project personnel should have access to the Project (as previously noted, Knox Box or daisy chain type locks may be installed at gates).

In the event of personnel injury from electric shock or if personnel should become incapacitated while within the Project site, the following procedures should be followed:

1. Assess the area for hazards and secure the area to protect additional injury.
2. Notify the appropriate local authorities by dialing 911 and direct them to the Project access point.