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Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 23, 2010

Readout of the President's Briefing on the Preparations for Tropical Storm Bonnie and its Impacts on the BP Oil Spill Response

President Obama was briefed today by Deputy National Incident Commander Rear Admiral Pete Neffenger on the ongoing administration-wide response to the Deepwater Horizon BP oil spill, and by FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate and Deputy FEMA Administrator Rich Serino on the preparations for potential impacts of Tropical Storm Bonnie along the Gulf Coast.

Administrator Fugate joined the briefing by phone. Deputy National Incident Commander Neffenger discussed how the storm is impacting the response to the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. He briefed the President on preparations for the temporary removal from the well site of the rigs drilling the relief well and other vessels involved in the response. In addition, Rear Admiral Neffenger discussed how Admiral Thad Allen directed BP to take measures to ensure the vessels operating the ROV's are the last to leave, and the first to return in order to maximize monitoring of the well. Monitoring of the site during the well integrity test remains one of the government's highest priorities.

Administrator Fugate and Deputy Administrator Serino discussed FEMA's close coordination with state and local officials in potentially affected states, including Florida, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi and Texas. FEMA is continuing to monitor the storm's movement through its regional offices along the Gulf Coast, and has pre-positioned commodities and staff across the Gulf Coast should assistance be requested from those states. Those supplies include water, meals, tarps, blankets, generators and other essential items.

The President stressed that the team needs to be prepared for all scenarios and do everything needed to protect the residents and communities of the Gulf Coast including the oil response personnel and ensure that all oil response efforts will resume as soon as the storm passes.

A photograph of the President's briefing is available [HERE](#).

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**BLOG POSTS ON THIS ISSUE**

August 09, 2010 1:52 PM EDT

[President Obama Welcomes the Saints & the New Orleans Spirit](#)

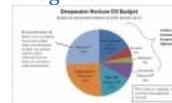
As the Gulf Coast fights to emerge from another tragedy, their football team is a reminder of what they've made it through before.

August 06, 2010 12:00 AM EDT

[West Wing Week: "Dispatches from the Gulf"](#)

Welcome to a special Gulf Coast episode of West Wing Week. We spent this week traveling through communities on America's Gulf Coast to give you a special behind the scenes look at the federal government's historic and unprecedented effort to contain and clean up after the BP oil spill.

August 04, 2010 5:59 PM EDT

[New Report: 74% of Oil in BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill has been Contained or Mitigated](#)

Heather Zichal, Deputy Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change, discusses a report released stating that the vast majority of the oil from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill has either evaporated or been burned, skimmed, recovered from the wellhead or dispersed much of which is in the process of being degraded.

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