DATE: July 2, 2011  9:00 a.m.

TO: Governor Scott Walker

FROM: Brian M. Satula, WEM Administrator

SUBJECT: Situation Report #1 on NW & NE Wisconsin Severe Weather

Severe thunderstorms moved through Wisconsin Friday evening and early Saturday morning, affecting much of the state. Officials report one person was killed. There is widespread power outages, downed trees and homes damaged. Officials were waiting until morning to begin conducting damage assessments.

Northwest Region
Burnett County – Law enforcement reports an 11 year old girl was killed when a tree fell on her at a campground in Burnett County. Details are still forthcoming. Officials report at least 37 additional people were taken to area hospitals. Most were treated and released.

A search is also underway along the St. Croix River for missing canoeists.

Straight line winds caused damage across the county, particularly in Grantsburg, Siren and Webster. Trees were down and power outages were widespread. Boats were upended and blown ashore at Trade Lake. Officials opened a shelter in Grantsburg. Two command posts were established at Grantsburg and Webster. Emergency Police Services mutual aid has enacted. Officers from St. Croix, Rusk, Pierce, Washburn, Polk Counties, Ladysmith Police Department and the Wisconsin State Patrol are providing assistance.

The county has opened its emergency operations center. WEM’s Northwest Regional Director Rhonda Reynolds is in Burnett County assisting with damage assessments this morning. An aerial search is expected to get underway shortly.

Douglas County – The Solon Springs area was hard hit in the storm. At least one home was damaged. A hanger at the Solon Springs Airport collapsed. Officials will be conducting damage assessments today. One-inch hail was reported at Maple in Douglas County.

Ashland County - Downed trees and debris caused several road closures in Ashland County including WI 112, Hwy 13 and 169. All the main roads are now open.

Polk County – Xcel Energy reported numerous power outages in the area including almost 1,000 customers near the communities of Frederic and Luck.
Sawyer County – More than 1,000 customers without power were reported near Hayward. Officials conducted an aerial search this morning and spotted isolated damage.

Washburn County – The roof was blown off a business along U.S. 53 in Minong.

Northeast Region
Marathon County - The winds caused numerous downed trees and power lines across the county. This morning, Wisconsin Public Service reports about 2,000 homes in the Wausau-Wisconsin Rapids area are without power.

Wisconsin Emergency Management continues to monitor the situation. Additional situation reports will be issued as new information becomes available. State assistance has not been requested at this time.

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