



# Emergency Management Issues Special Interest Group Annual Meeting

## **Savannah River Site: Achieving StormReady Status**

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**Atmospheric Technologies Group**

May 2-5, 2011 Charleston Marriott • Charleston, South Carolina



# What is StormReady?

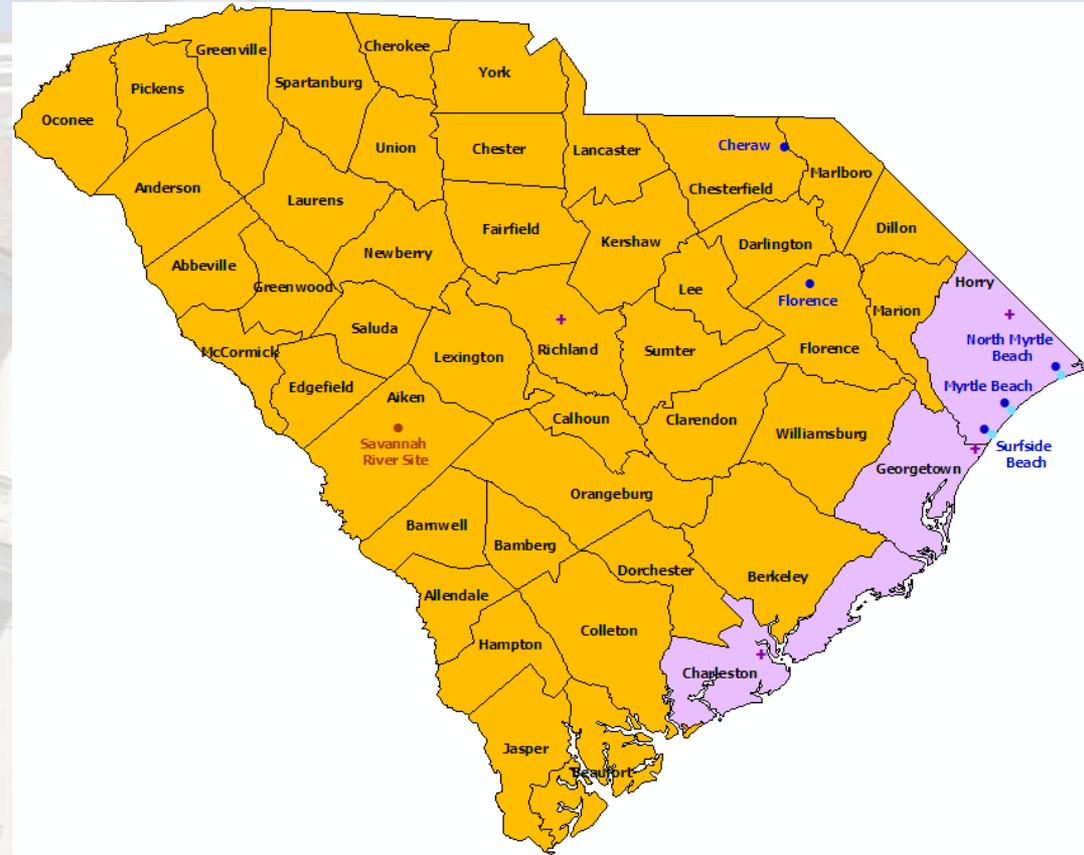
- Nationwide community preparedness program that uses a grassroots approach to help communities develop plans to handle all types of severe weather
- Program encourages to take a proactive approach to improving local hazardous weather operations.

# Becoming StormReady

- To be officially StormReady, a community must:
  - Establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center
  - Have more than one way to receive severe weather warnings and forecasts and to alert the public
  - Create a system that monitors weather conditions locally
  - Promote the importance of public readiness through community seminars
  - Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and hold emergency exercises

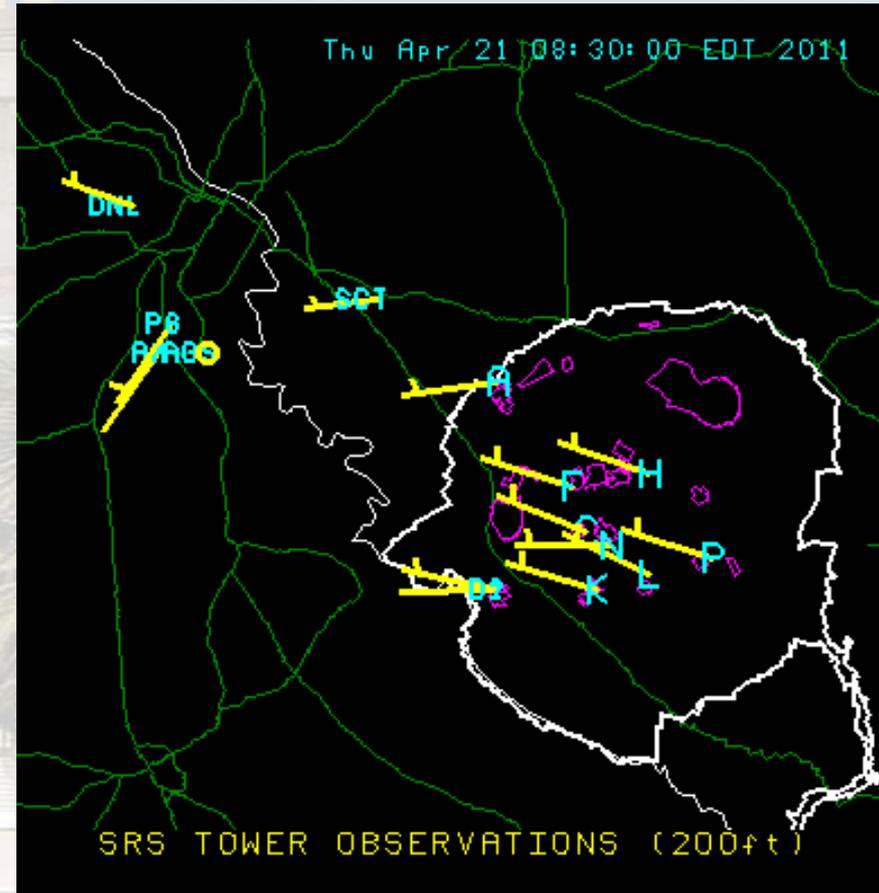
# SRS and StormReady

- Applied July 2008
- Received StormReady status October 2008
- Became 8<sup>th</sup> government site and 3<sup>rd</sup> DOE site to attain StormReady status (INL and BWXT Pantex were first two)
- Up for renewal in 2011

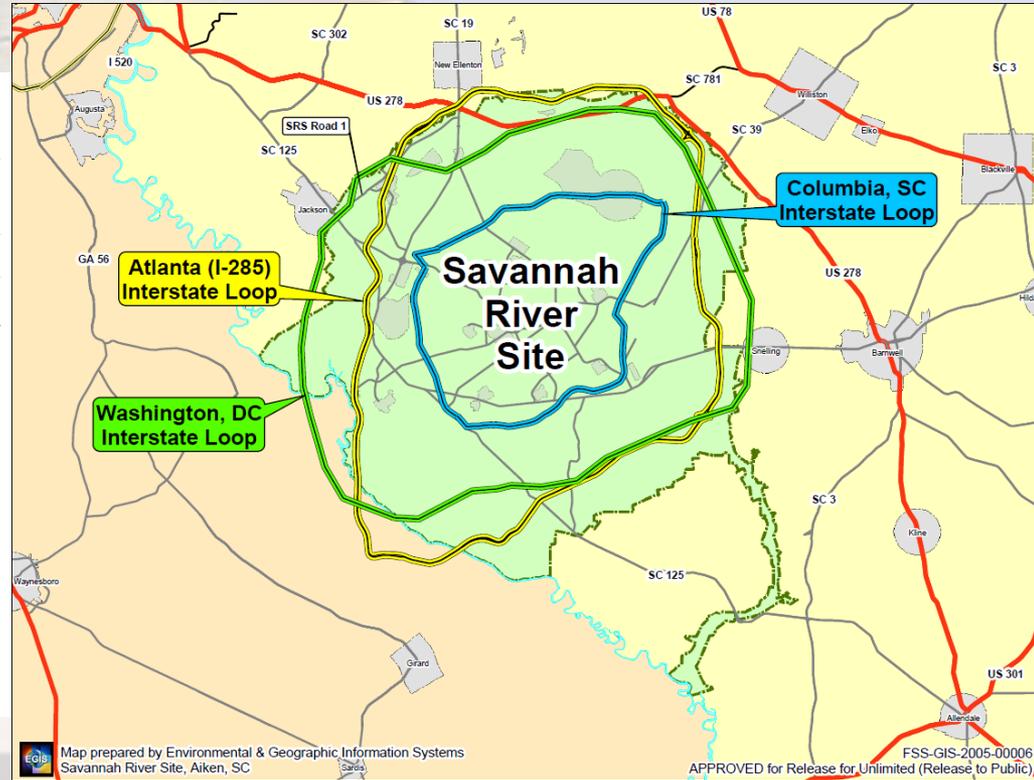
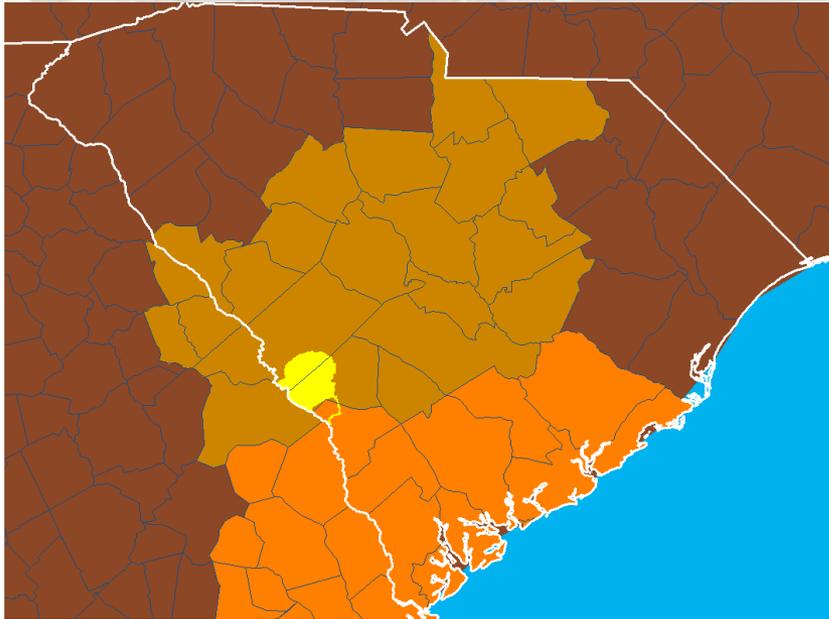


# SRS and StormReady

- Meteorological Monitoring
  - 9 site towers, 3 offsite, 2 NWS, 1 Tall Tower
- Severe Weather Notification
- Dissemination
- Hurricane Drills

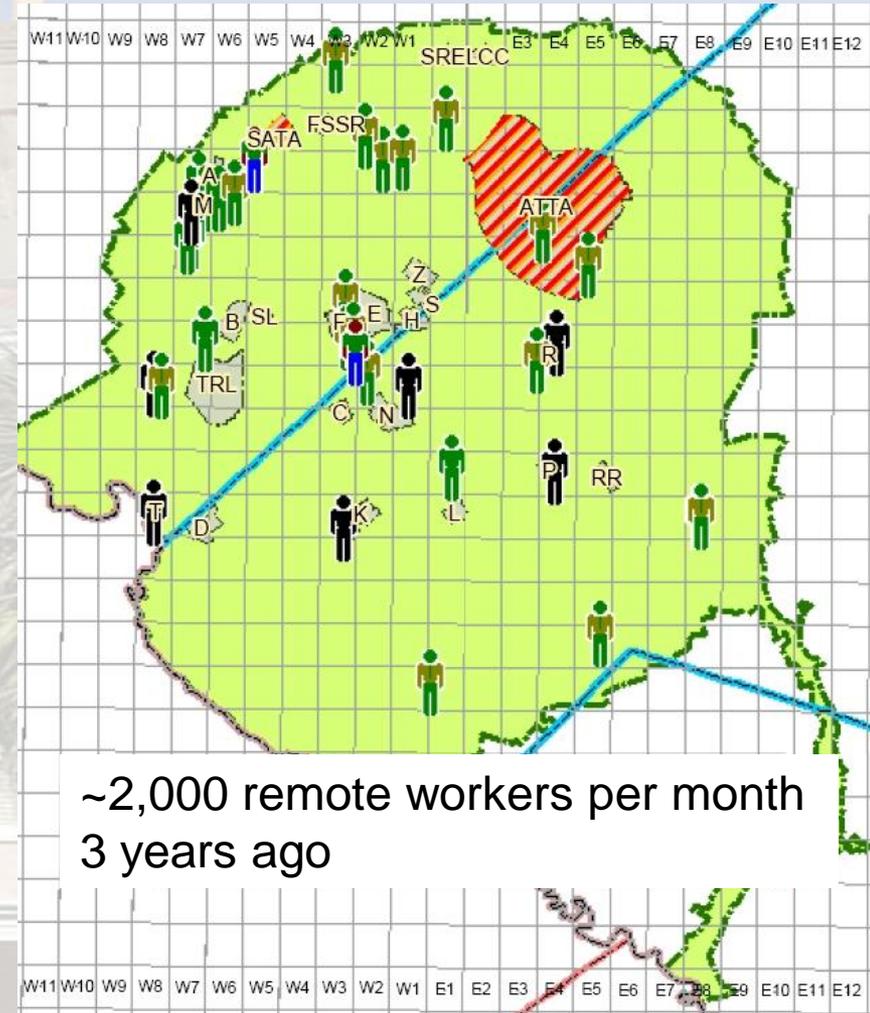


# Severe Weather Notification and Dissemination



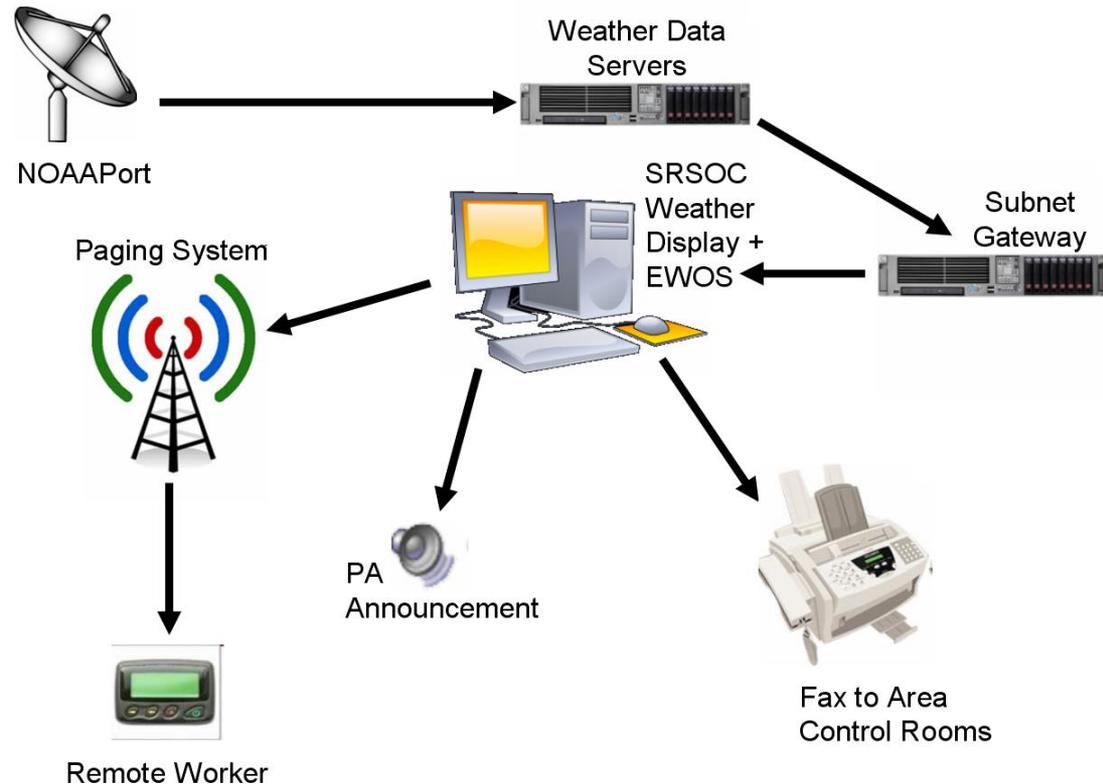
# Severe Weather Notification and Dissemination

- Definition: any worker within the SRS boundaries who cannot hear an installed safety alarm system
- Here's the Problem:
  - Now with ARRA work, average 4,000 remote workers per month (or more!)
  - Remote Worker Monitoring in near real-time
    - **Need: Quick and effective dissemination of National Weather Service Watches and Warnings**
      - Including lightning advisories



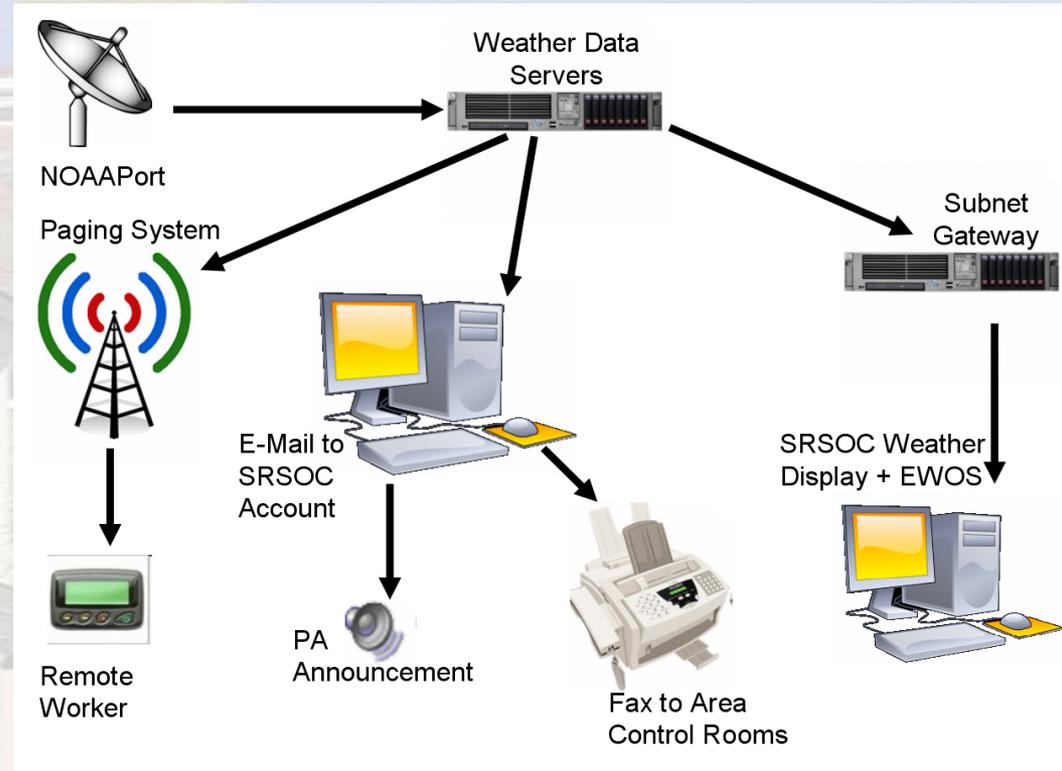
# The Issue at Hand – There’s a Lot to Do During Severe Weather!

- Average notification time via pager to remote workers was 5-10 minutes after receipt from NWS

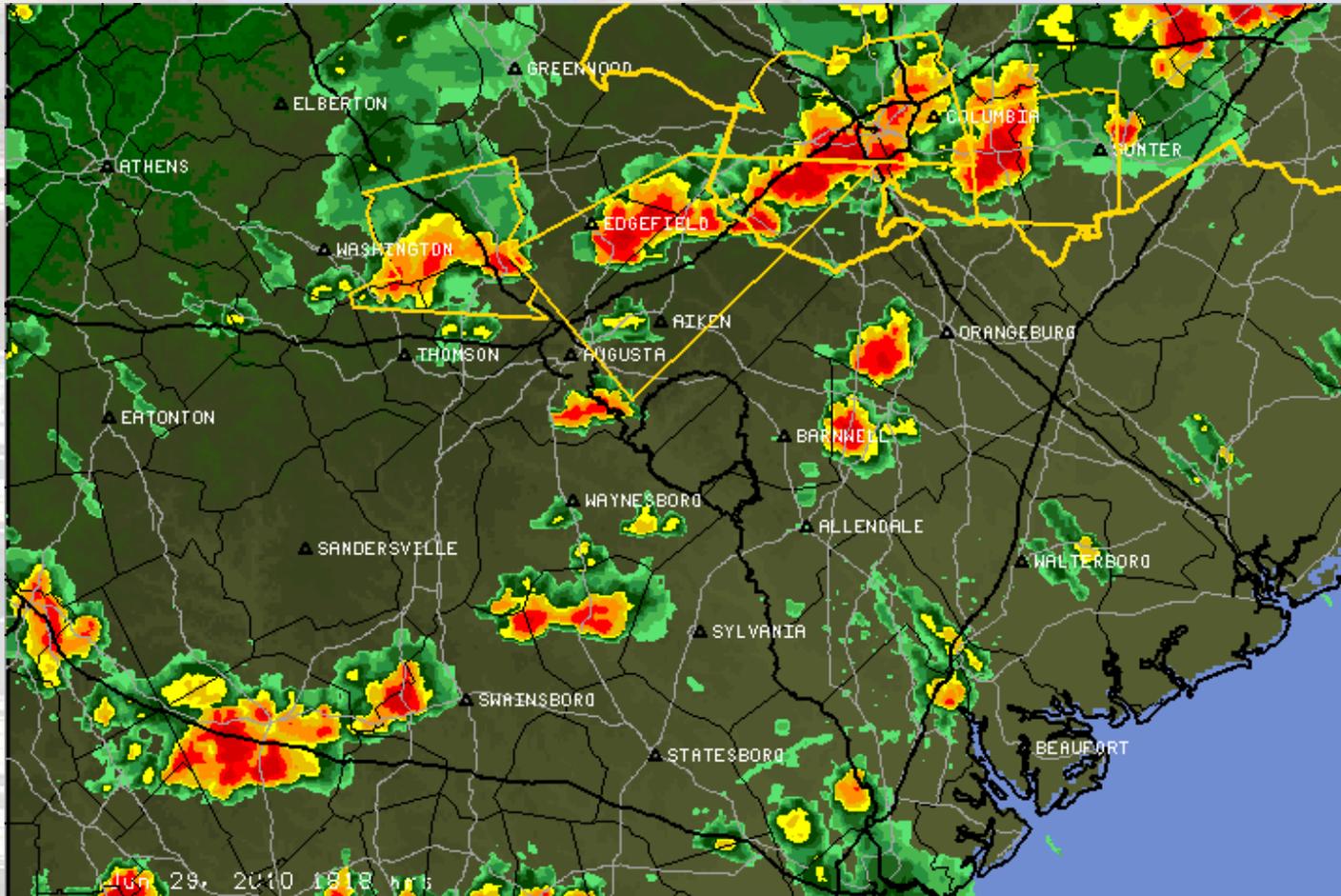


# The Solution

- Implemented automated method for dissemination of advisories
- Reduces lead time for notification by 5 to 10 minutes – allows workers to seek shelter sooner
- Allows for redundancy

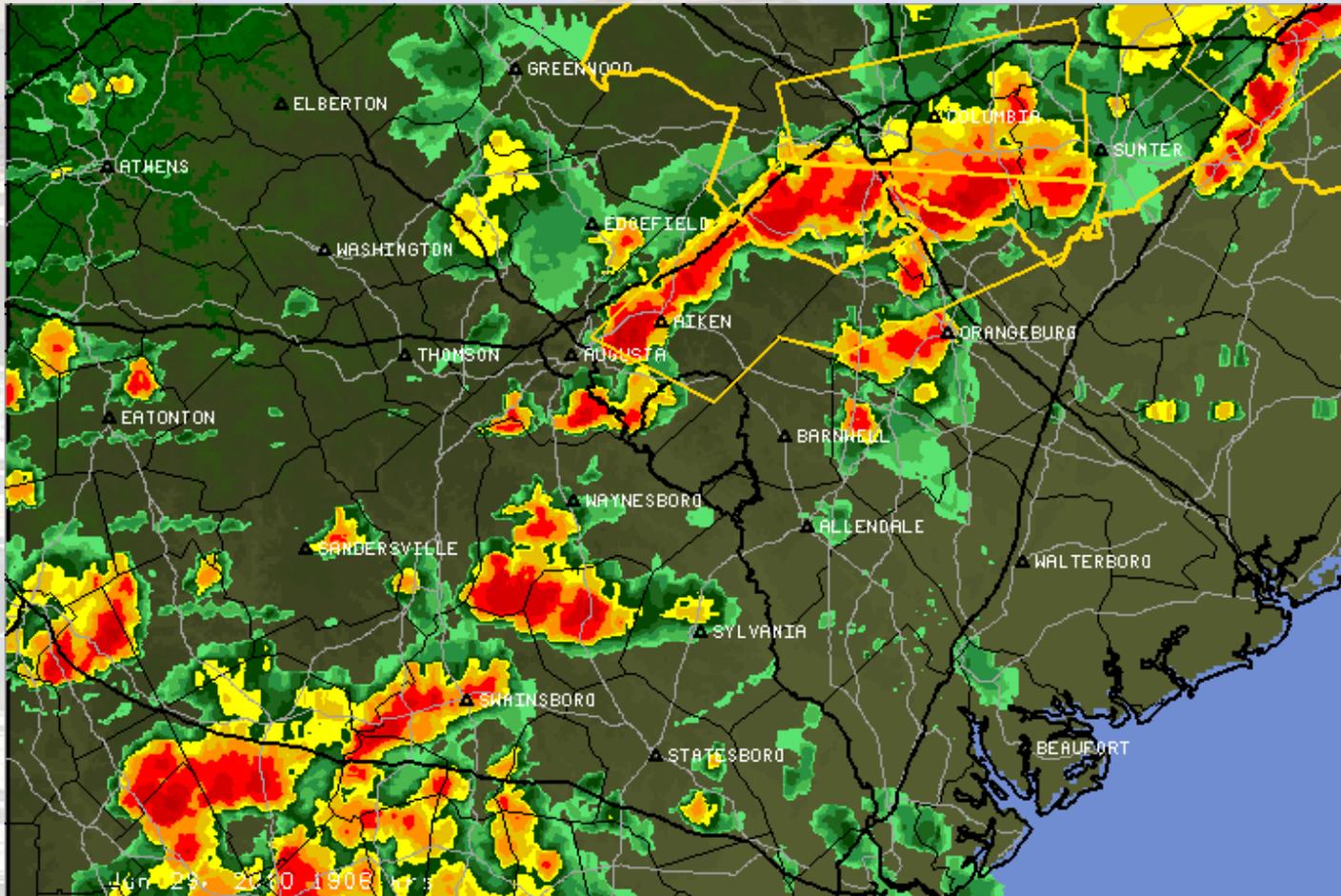


# Example of Severe Thunderstorm Warning not including SRS

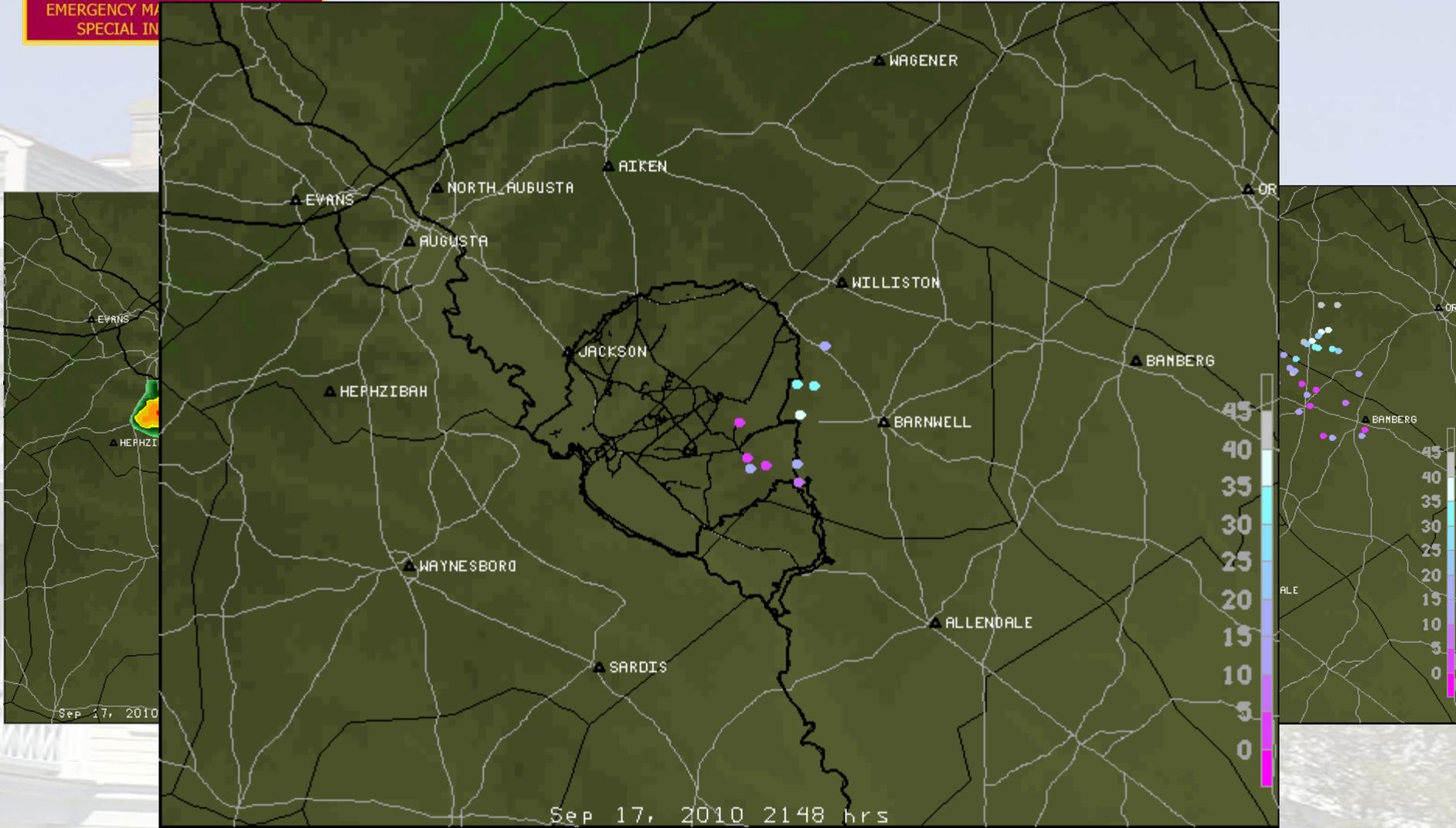


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# Example of Severe Thunderstorm Warning includes SRS



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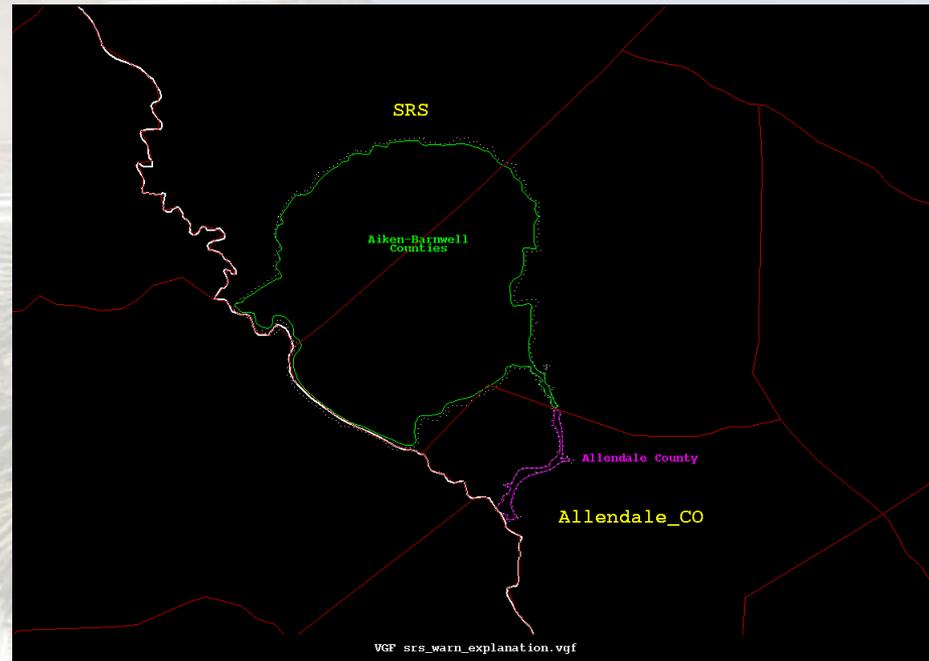


**E-mail and pager notification received at 2148**

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# Next Steps

- SRS does not recognize county boundaries within site boundary
- County-based watches, warnings, and advisories from NWS can lead to confusion as to what facilities fall under advisory – especially with multiple, rapid issuances of advisories
- Working with NWS-CAE to obtain Universal Geographic Code (UGC) for SRS-proper
- In short-term, NWS-CAE has added “Savannah River Site” to list of communities impacted



# Hurricane Predaredness Drill

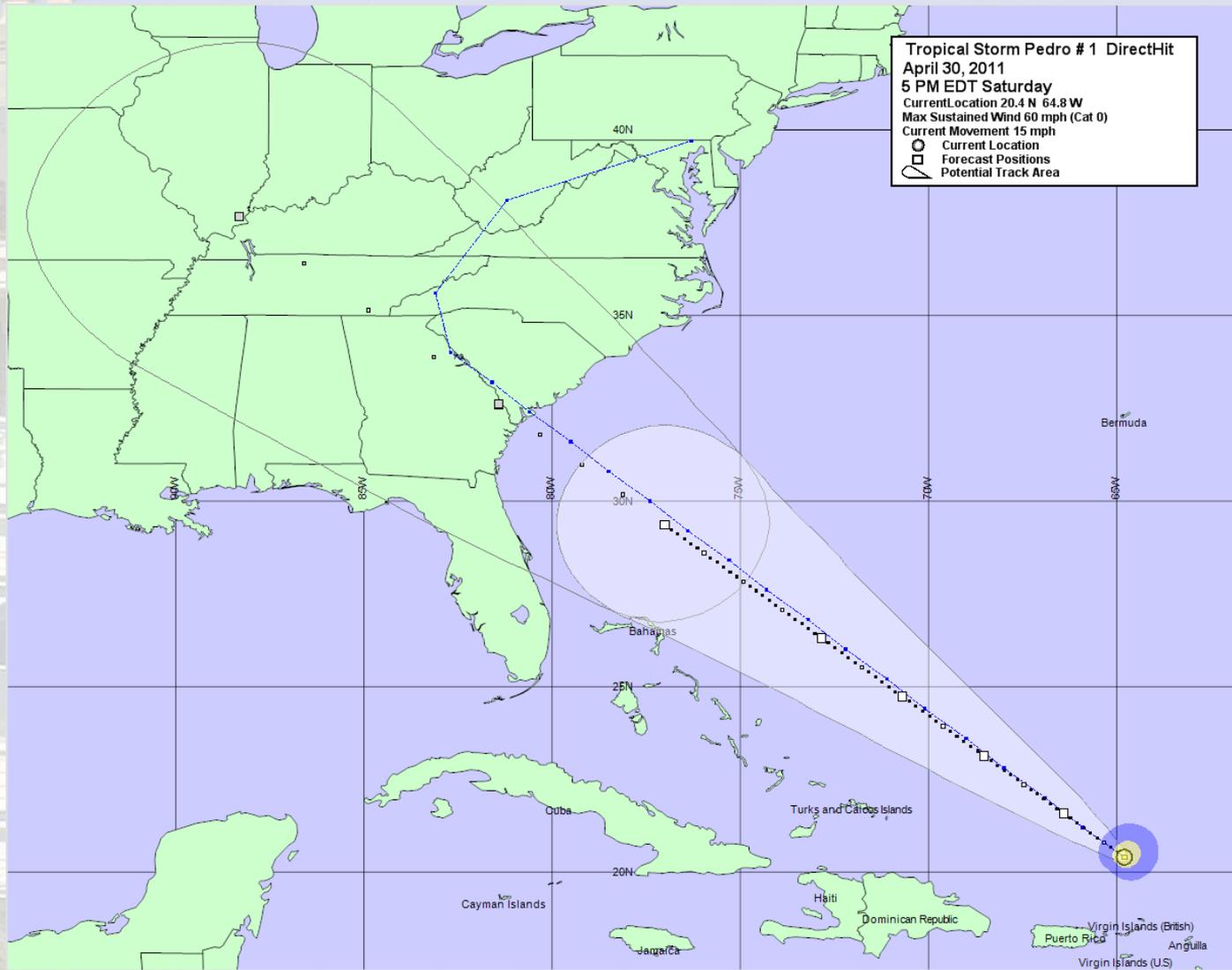
## SCEMD Travel Times – Beaufort to Aiken/Augusta

Low Tourist High Tourist US-278 Counterflow

Category 1	2-6 hours	8-11 hours	
Category 3-5	4-8 hours	11-14 hours	7-10 hours

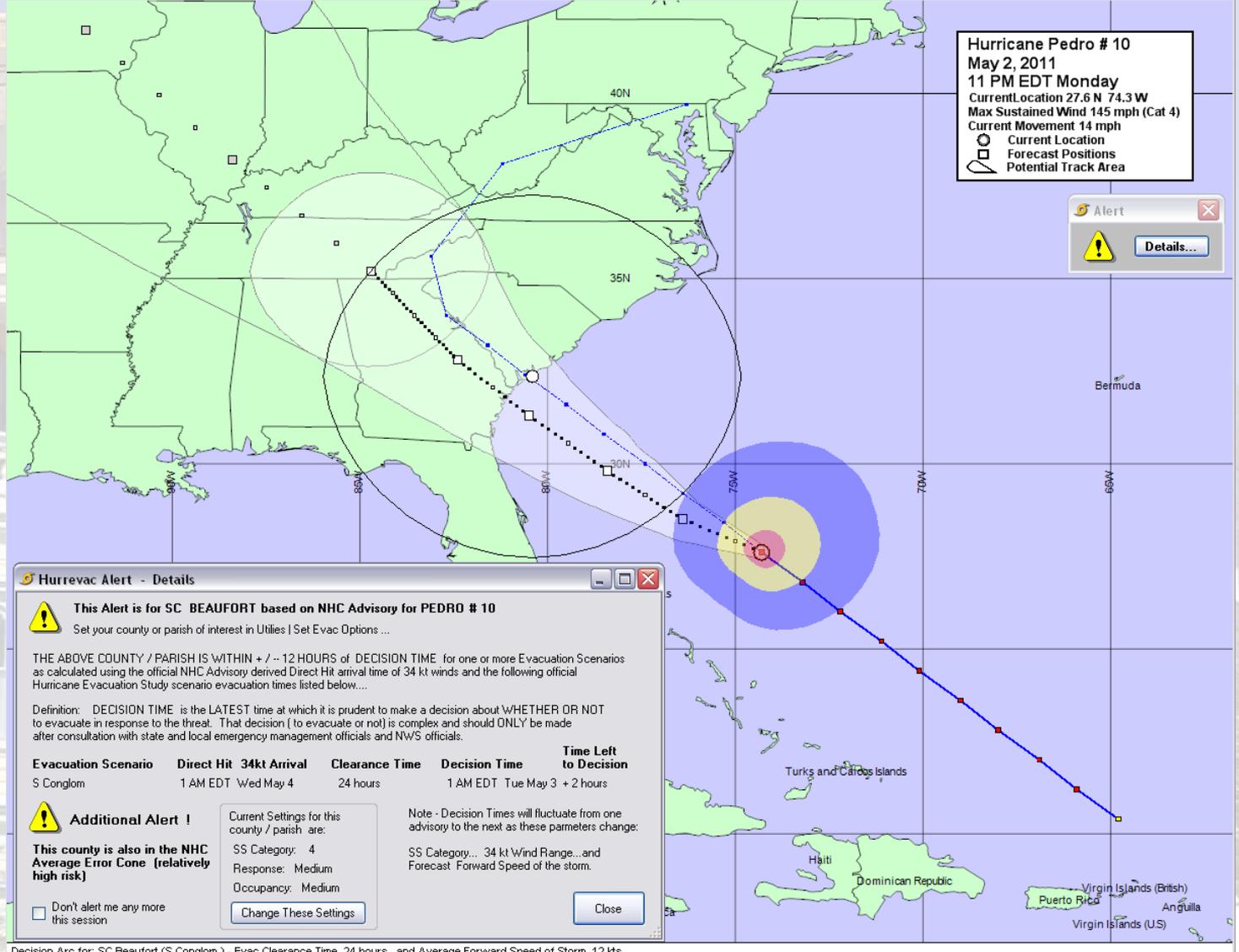


# Exercise – Hurricane “Pedro”



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# Exercise – Hurricane “Pedro”



Decision Arc for: SC Beaufort (S Conglom) - Evac Clearance Time 24 hours... and Average Forward Speed of Storm 12 kts.

# Severe Weather – Tornadoes and Rainfall

