

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM
Washington, D.C. 20305-2010

NCS DIRECTIVE 3-8

TELECOMMUNICATION OPERATIONS

Provisioning of Emergency Power in Support of National Security and
Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP) Telecommunications

1. Purpose. This directive establishes policies within the National Communications System (NCS) covering the provision of reliable electric power for telecommunication facilities in support of National Security and Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP) (including EO 12656 requirements).
2. Applicability. This directive is binding upon the Executive Agent, NCS; Manager, NCS; NCS Committee of Principals and member organizations; and other affected Executive entities.
3. Authority. This directive is issued under the authority of Executive Order 12472, "Assignment of National Security and Emergency Preparedness Telecommunications Functions," April 3, 1984; 49 Federal Register 13471 (1984).
4. Supersession. NCS Memorandum No. 2-68, "Policy for the Provision of Reliable Electrical Power to NCS Facilities," September 16, 1968; and NCS Instruction 195-1, "National Communications System Emergency Power Test and Evaluation Procedures," January 25, 1971, are hereby superseded and cancelled.
5. General. Major causes of communication outages are the loss of primary electric power and excessive fluctuations in voltage or frequency of primary power. These losses are often complicated by lack or malfunction of emergency power generating equipment.
6. Policy. NCS member organizations should take appropriate steps to ensure primary and backup power of suitable capacity and reliability be provided to ensure continuous operation of those telecommunication facilities supporting NS/EP owned or leased by Federal Departments and agencies.
7. Responsibilities.
 - a. The Manager, NCS, shall:
 - (1) Provide assistance in coordinating inter-agency actions with respect to provisioning of emergency power.

(2) Administratively support agency programs to the extent that these programs cover provisioning of emergency power to serve NS/EP telecommunications.

(3) In coordination with the NCS member entities:

(a) Develop technical standards covering design of emergency power facilities.

(b) Develop emergency power test and evaluation procedures.

b. NCS Member organizations shall:

(1) Conduct surveys to determine critical locations where improvement in power reliability is required.

(2) Take appropriate measures to ensure that those systems and facilities serving NS/EP telecommunication functions are adequately protected against power failures.

(3) Assist the Manager, NCS, in developing and implementing technical standards for emergency power systems.

(4) Participate in the developing and implementing of NCS emergency power system test, exercise, and maintenance program.

8. Authorizing Provision. NCS manuals and handbooks implementing this directive are authorized.

9. Effective Date. This directive is effective immediately.

10. Expiration. This directive is in effect until superseded or cancelled.

April 2, 1991

NCSD 3-8

Man Zoubei

Director
Office of Science and Technology Policy

Date: 3/15/91

DATA

Brent Scowcroft

Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

Date: April 2, 1991

Summary of Changes: Initial Issuance.



NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

OFFICE OF THE MANAGER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20305 · 2010

NCS 2228/1

IN REPLY
REFERTO: NJ

31 May 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR NCS COMMITTEE OF PRINCIPALS

SUBJECT: National Communications System Issuances

1. Enclosed for your files is a document which supports Provisioning of Emergency Power in Support of National Security and Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP) Telecommunications. This document is being distributed in accordance with the NCS Issuance System:

NCS Directive 3-8, "Provisioning of Emergency Power in Support of National Security and Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP) Telecommunications, dated April 2, 1991.

2. Any questions regarding this document may be referred to Dr. Dennis Bodson of my staff, at 692-2124.

1 Enclosure:
NCS 3-8

T. D. RODGERS
Lieutenant General, USA
Manager

Copy to:
NCS Representatives

National Communications System Principals

DOS Mr. Warren E. Littrel
TREAS Mr. Steven W. Broadbent
DoD Mr. John G. Grimes
DOJ Mr. Anthony C. Moscato
DOI Mr. James P. Jadlo
USDA Mr. John L. Okay
DOC Mr. Thomas W. Zetty
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