



WESTFIELD GAS+ELECTRIC

Priority Response – Emergency Medical Program

Do you use life-support equipment?

Westfield Gas & Electric maintains a list of customers who, for medical reasons, are given priority for service restoration. The list is updated regularly to enable the department to better assist those most in need.

Priority list accounts are identified in department records to highlight the account's status as a medical priority location. You will receive notification (by phone, email, or text) in the event of severe storm watches and warnings with the potential to cause extended outages such as severe thunderstorms, hurricanes, tropical storms, tornados, blizzards, heavy snow, and ice storms, and depending on the severity of your medical need, notice of planned outages.

To be placed on the priority list, individuals who depend on electricity for life-support equipment should contact the department with proper certification from a licensed physician. This certification is required to be updated annually.

Despite our best efforts, electric lines are vulnerable to storms, lightning, and accidents. We strive to restore service efficiently for all department customers, particularly those on the priority list. However, in the event of widespread outages, being on the list is not a guarantee of early service restoration. Our crews must work in an orderly manner when restoring service. If we don't methodically work through the outage, service could be lost again and outages might last even longer.

When at all possible, we give priority to those on the medical priority list. Please remember, people who depend on electrical equipment for a medical necessity should always have alternate plans in place in case the power goes out for an extended amount of time. This may include a back-up power source, extra medical supplies or an alternate location until the outage is over.

Please call Customer Service at 413-572-0100 if you would like us to mail a certification form to you, or visit our website at www.wgeld.org to download the form.



Priority Response – Emergency Medical Certification

Please print or type all information.

Completed by Customer:

Patient's Name _____

WG&E Customer Name _____

Account Address _____

WG+E Account No. _____ - _____

Method of Contact for Potential Outage Notification

(Please supply information for all the ways you would like us to contact you):

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ Text Message _____

Email _____ Alternate Email _____

Please read and answer the following:

1. What electrically-powered device is medically necessary to sustain the life of the patient?

☐ Nebulizer for Asthma, Lungs

☐ Feeding (Pump) Machine

☐ Oxygen Machine

☐ Heart Monitor

☐ Infant Apnea Monitor

☐ Ventilator/Respirator

☐ Home Dialysis Treatment

☐ Other, Please Describe: _____

2. How frequently is this device(s) used?

Weekly: ☐ Once a week ☐ Several times per week

Daily: ☐ Once daily ☐ Twice a day ☐ Every few hours ☐ Hourly ☐ Constantly

As necessary: _____

3. Does this device solely rely upon electrical power to operate? ☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Does this device have a battery backup? ☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Does the residence or building in which the device is operated at have a backup generator?
☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Is this device portable? ☐ Yes ☐ No

7. Is the patient physically restricted to the residence or building? ☐ Yes ☐ No

8. Does the patient have a support system to assist them in relocating in the event of a sustained power outage? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- FOR OFFICE USE -

Date Received _____ Initials _____ Prty Lvl: 1 2

Tag _____ Evrbg _____ Exp. Date _____

continued on next page

Priority Response – Emergency Medical Certification

_____ I certify that the patient named above is a member of my household residing at the above address.

_____ I understand that, if approved, WG+E will attempt to notify me in the event of planned outages and severe impending storms.

_____ I understand WG+E will make every effort to prioritize my location when restoring power whenever it is reasonably possible, and that in the event of a widespread outage, early service restoration is not a guarantee.

_____ I understand that the supply of power is not guaranteed, and if my need for electricity is high, that I should have plans for the patient should power become unavailable, which may include, but not limited to, battery backup, emergency generation, and a support system for the relocation of the patient to an alternate location with power.

_____ I understand that this in no way releases me from my obligations to pay my monthly bill in accordance with the MA Department of Public Utilities standard payment terms.

_____ I understand it is my responsibility to notify WG+E if the patient moves, or the patient's condition changes.

_____ I understand that this certification will expire one year from the date of approval and must be resubmitted annually by this date to continue participating in the Priority Response - Emergency Medical program.

PLEASE SIGN AND DATE

WG+E Customer Signature _____

Date _____

Information below to be completed by a MA Licensed Healthcare Provider:

I certify that I have examined the patient named above and, in my professional opinion as a medical doctor, physician's assistant, nurse practitioner, or advanced-practice registered nurse licensed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I certify that my patient requires the electrically-dependent medical device stated above, and that the device can be solely operated under electrical power.

(A detailed explanation for reasons not mentioned above must be submitted for review.)

Health Care Provider Name (please print): _____

Circle one that applies: *Medical Doctor* *Physician's Assistant* *Nurse Practitioner* *Advanced-Practice Nurse Practitioner*

MA Medical License Number _____

Office Address _____

Office Phone Number _____

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN

Health Care Provider Signature: _____ Date _____

NOTE: Both pages of this SIGNED form must be faxed (413-572-0104) or emailed (customerservice@wgeld.org) from the office of the MA-licensed healthcare provider directly to Westfield Gas + Electric. Hand-delivered forms by the customer or patient cannot be accepted. Thank you.