

CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY

Date: 4/7/08

MEDIA UPDATE

Time: 9:00 p.m.

Update: # 1

Incident: Emergency Health Advisory #1

This is a civil defense message.

This is a health advisory update for Monday evening, April 7, at 9:00.

This emergency health advisory is being issued due to the forecast of southeasterly winds that will bring fumes from Pu`u `O`o and Halema`uma`u to affect down wind areas commencing tomorrow (Tuesday, April 8).

The National Weather Service forecasts southeast winds may commence early in the morning. Due to the projected high levels of sulfur dioxide carried by the forecasted winds, the following advisories are issued.

The following communities and areas are advised to expect possible high levels of sulfur dioxide to begin sometime Tuesday morning. The levels may be high enough to cause severe reactions to those in the sensitive groups as well as those in the general population. For your safety, the Department of Health advises that all in the following areas be on the alert and evacuate as a precaution. Color Code PURPLE is now in effect. These areas are:

- o Mauna Loa Estates
- o Ohia Estates
- o Volcano Village
- o Keauhou Ranch area
- o Volcano Golf Course Subdivision

Again, residents of these areas are advised by the Department of Health to evacuate as a precaution due to the projected high and dangerous levels of sulfur dioxide that is expected because of the southeasterly winds. It is advised that especially the sensitive groups of children, individuals with pre-existing respiratory conditions and lung or heart disease evacuate prior to arrival of high levels of sulfur dioxide or serious reactions. As a guide, evacuation should be completed by the early afternoon hours, and earlier if necessary.

Other areas down wind of Halema`uma`u and Pu`u `O`o are advised to be on the alert, take precautions, and prepare for evacuation. These areas are the subdivisions of Royal Hawaiian Estates and Hawaiian Orchid Isle Estates. As a guide, these are in Color Code RED. Take precautions as necessary.

Due to the projected wind forecasts, the lower Puna and Hilo areas are not expected to be affected at this time. However, as always, everyone should be prepared and keep themselves informed. For your planning purposes, areas not expected to be affected at this time are areas below Glenwood Road. This would be about the 19 mile marker on Highway 11.

For those needing these services, an evacuation shelter has been established at Aunty Sally's Luau Hale.

As a reminder, if you are going to evacuate to a shelter, please bring the following items with you:

- Bedding (blankets, sleeping bags, etc.)
- Change of clothing
- Special medications and needed medical equipment
- Infant necessities (formula, diapers, baby food, etc.)
- Personal toilet articles and sanitary needs

*Be sure to provide for your pets as they will not be allowed in shelters.

If you do need any special assistance for evacuation, please call 935-0031.

Again, for your safety, there is an evacuation advisory in effect for Mauna Loa Estates, Ohia Estates, Volcano Golf Course Subdivision, Keauhou Ranch area, and Volcano Village. Color Code PURPLE in effect for these areas. Trade winds are forecast to return by Thursday. If we all take precautions, no one should be hurt by this event.

Thank you for listening and please be safe.

This is your Hawai'i County Civil Defense.