FirstEnergy

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May 1, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Matthew Homsher, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 2nd Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Major Event Exclusion Request – FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company

Dear Secretary Homsher:

Pursuant to the major event exclusion requirements as established by Commission Order at Docket No. M-00991220, FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company on behalf of its Penelec Rate District ("Penelec") hereby submits a written request of exclusion for reliability reporting purposes of service interruptions that occurred between March 13, 2026 and March 18, 2026.

This request seeks Commission approval to exclude for reliability reporting purposes the interruption of service to customers in Penelec's service area for the period from 10:41 a.m. on March 13, 2026 to 6:42 p.m. on March 18, 2026 because it qualifies as a major event under 52 Pa. Code § 57.192(i)(A). A total of 144,736 customers were affected with this event.

All correspondence regarding this matter should be directed to my attention at the above address, with a copy to Bret Young at the following address:

341 White Pond Drive
Akron, Ohio 44320

Please contact me at (610) 921-6202 with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Angelina Umstead

Angelina Umstead

Enclosure

c: Dan Searfoorce – Bureau of Technical Utility Services
Derek Ruhl – Bureau of Technical Utility Services
John Van Zant – Bureau of Technical Utility Services
Clint McKinley – Bureau of Technical Utility Services

REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION OF MAJOR OUTAGE FOR
RELIABILITY REPORTING PURPOSES TO
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
PO BOX 3265
HARRISBURG, PA 17105-3265

Information Required:

1. Reporting Utility: FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company ("FE PA") on behalf of its Penelec Rate District ("Penelec")
   Address: 800 Cabin Hill Drive, Greensburg, PA 15601

2. Name and title of person making request:

   Karen M. Kinslow *(Name)* — Vice President Pennsylvania Operations *(Title)*

3. Telephone number: (610) 921-6311 *(Telephone Number)*

4. Interruption or Outage:

   (a) Number of customers affected: 144,736 (represents 24.41% of Penelec's total customers).

   Total number of customers in Rate District: 592,971

   Total Customer Minutes of Interruption: 39,472,818

   (b) Number of trouble locations in each geographic area affected, listed by county and local political subdivision:

County	Outages	Outage Cases	Trouble Cases
Bedford	1,414	16	22
Blair	1,766	55	91
Bradford	461	24	25
Cambria	13,178	108	143
Centre	138	9	21
Clarion	6,960	39	43
Clearfield	9,912	126	227
Crawford	7,243	131	170

County	Outages	Outage Cases	Trouble Cases
Erie	32,137	412	742
Forest	3,471	20	19
Franklin	2,085	15	7
Huntingdon	590	27	22
Indiana	10,681	101	131
Jefferson	7,314	57	56
Juniata	12	2	4
Lycoming	10	3	2
McKean	3,123	27	36
Mifflin	19,632	43	37
Perry	164	3	3
Potter	34	4	5
Somerset	3,353	70	70
Sullivan	38	6	5
Susquehanna	540	26	11
Tioga	2,304	35	26
Venango	6,127	88	120
Warren	9,508	101	125
Wayne	81	3	7
Westmoreland	45	5	2
Wyoming	2,415	17	23
Total	**144,736**	**1,573**	**2,195**

(c) Reason for interruption or outage, including weather data where applicable: ***See*** Attachment A.

(d) The number of utility workers and others assigned specifically to the repair work:

Company	# of Workers	General Function
FirstEnergy Service Company	12	Forestry
Davey Tree	26	Forestry
Davey Resource Group	7	Forestry
ArborMetrics	36	Forestry
Lewis Tree	11	Forestry
Penn Line Services, Inc.	149	Forestry
Treesmiths	27	Forestry
Subtotal	**268**	**Forestry**

Company	# of Workers	General Function
FirstEnergy Service Company	20	Hazard Responder
FE PA	39	Hazard Responder
Subtotal	**59**	**Hazard Responder**
Asplundh Construction	65	Line
Harlan Electric Co	35	Line
Haugland Energy Group LLC	5	Line
Henkels & McCoy - East Region	81	Line
IB Abel	22	Line
INTREN	17	Line
JW Didado	130	Line
NG Gilbert	14	Line
FE PA	140	Line
Thompson Electric	41	Line
UtilityInnovation Group DBA UtilityPower	32	Line
Valiant Energy Service	8	Line
Subtotal	**590**	**Line**
FE PA	3	Substation/Network
Subtotal	**3**	**Substation/Network**
Asplundh Construction	1	Support
FirstEnergy Service Company	17	Support
Henkels & McCoy - East Region	1	Support
IB Abel	2	Support
JW Didado	3	Support
Pennsylvania Electric Co	1	Support
Pennsylvania Electric Company	23	Support
Thompson Electric	3	Support
UtilityInnovation Group DBA UtilityPower	2	Support
Valiant Energy Service	1	Support
Subtotal	**54**	**Support**
FE PA	7	Transmission Support
Subtotal	**7**	**Transmission Support**
Grand Total	**981**	

(e) The date and time of the first information of a service interruption: March 13, 2026, at 1041.

(f) The actual time that service was restored to the last affected customer: March 18, 2026, at 1842.

Remarks: This request seeks Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission") approval to exclude from reliability reporting purposes the interruption of service to 144,736 customers as a result of the significant weather system because it qualifies as a major event under 52 Pa. Code § 57.192(i)(A), consistent with prior Commission approvals. This particular service interruption resulted from conditions that were beyond the control of FE PA and affected more than 10 percent of its customers for a duration of greater than five minutes.

Attachment A: Timeline of Events

On March 9, 2026, FE PA began monitoring a storm which was expected to bring high wind gusts and damaging storm cells. ***See*** Attachment B for the weather forecasts.

FE PA prepared for the storm as the forecast increased in certainty. FE PA's incident command system's leadership, employees, and on-site contractors were made aware of the potential for a restoration event.

The Corporate Emergency Operations Center in Akron, Ohio was fully operational and conducted situation monitoring, assessment, and resource coordination activities before and during impacts from the storm. Restoration was managed through the distribution control center ("DCC") and additional contractor resources were mobilized to assist.

Beginning the afternoon of Friday, March 13, 2026, an intense and widespread windstorm began moving through Pennsylvania including FE PA's service territory, which maximized in intensity during late afternoon, and carried into early evening before subsiding overnight. Frequent and widespread gusts reached 50-60 miles per hour with some 65-75 miles per hour observed. Before the significant winds developed, precipitation was limited to the northern half of the footprint with generally 0.15" or less.

On Monday, March 16, 2026, a second wave of strong storms with heavy precipitation and gusty winds moved through FE PA's service territory between 11:30 am and 11:30 pm. Maximum winds between 55-65 miles per hour were observed throughout the FE PA footprint. Rainfall amounts were generally 0.5-1" with some localized 1.5-2" reported. Temperatures in the mid-60s fell dramatically into the 20s by Tuesday, March 17, 2026. ***See*** Attachment C for the Wind, Precipitation, and Temperature Reports.

Crews were confronted with an unusually high number of damaged poles due to the high winds and fallen trees associated with this event. Crews also dealt with restoration activities in off-road locations where accessibility was the main impediment to this portion of the restoration process. Specialized equipment and forestry assistance were required to clear the way for safe access to damaged facilities. Additionally, in areas where line and forestry crews would normally operate bucket trucks, sustained high winds required the use of manual climbing techniques or the acquisition and deployment of specialized track equipment. The Erie, Oil City, Clearfield, Altoona, and Johnstown areas were the hardest hit. Approximately 56.3% of the total outages that occurred were tree-related and an additional 20.1% were wind related. ***See*** Attachment D for the restoration curve.

Additionally, FE PA's subtransmission network received significant damage as a result of the storm. The outages impacted the distribution substations, which impeded FE PA's ability to adequately identify the locations of distribution trouble until the transmission network was restored. Crews were coached on the importance of making safe decisions and taking proactive steps to reduce risk based on changing conditions. ***See*** Attachment E for photographs of the damage throughout the territory.

See Table 1 below for a list of equipment replaced during the restoration.

Table 1

Equipment	Number
Primary Spans	569
Secondary Spans	232
Crossarms Replaced	335
Cutouts Replaced	164
Poles Replaced	167
Transformers Replaced	65
Wire & Cable Replaced (feet)	32,150

From a resource planning perspective, FE PA crews were on duty at the time of the initial outages with additional crews called in to support restoration. Crews began working sixteen-hour shifts from the onset of the event. Storm leads were also identified for various storm support functions including, but not limited to, hazard, forestry, the DCC, and storm analysts. In total, FE PA had 981 line, forestry, hazard responders, substation/network, and other supporting personnel working to restore service to affected customers. These personnel included FE PA employees, FirstEnergy affiliate employees, and contractors. ***See*** the response to 4(d) above for a complete list of personnel.

To assist with restoration efforts, FE PA also verified power for single-customer outage orders. This was accomplished by remotely sending a signal to the customer's smart meter to determine if it had voltage. If a return signal indicated that there was power to the meter, the need for a field visit or phone call could possibly be eliminated. Approximately 143 single-customer outage orders were able to be closed based solely on positive signals from the smart meters.

From a communications and outreach perspective, FE PA local engagement specialists ("LESs") provided regular updates to emergency management agency directors, state and local elected officials, municipal officials, and first responders via email, phone, and text for the duration of the event. The LESs responded to all local concerns and questions, as well as provided regular updates throughout the event describing the extent of the outages, the restoration efforts underway, restoration progress, road closures due to electric facilities, and safety precautions.

Communications began public messaging on March 12, 2026, and maintained proactive and continuing updates through the end of the March 13 windstorm and additional severe weather on March 16. The communication strategy led with empathy while setting clear expectations, demonstrating action and reinforcing safety, with close coordination across operations, regulatory reporting and local engagement to ensure consistent core messages, tone and facts. Five news releases and media advisories were issued to share preparation and response actions, summarize impacts and outages, outline next steps, and provide restoration estimates. Communications also responded to more than a dozen media interviews as well as a sustained, steady cadence of customer-facing social media updates before, during and after the storm – publishing nearly 100 posts across Facebook and X including key updates, damage photos where available and safety reminders. In addition, the FE PA State President shared three LinkedIn updates expressing appreciation for employees and customers.

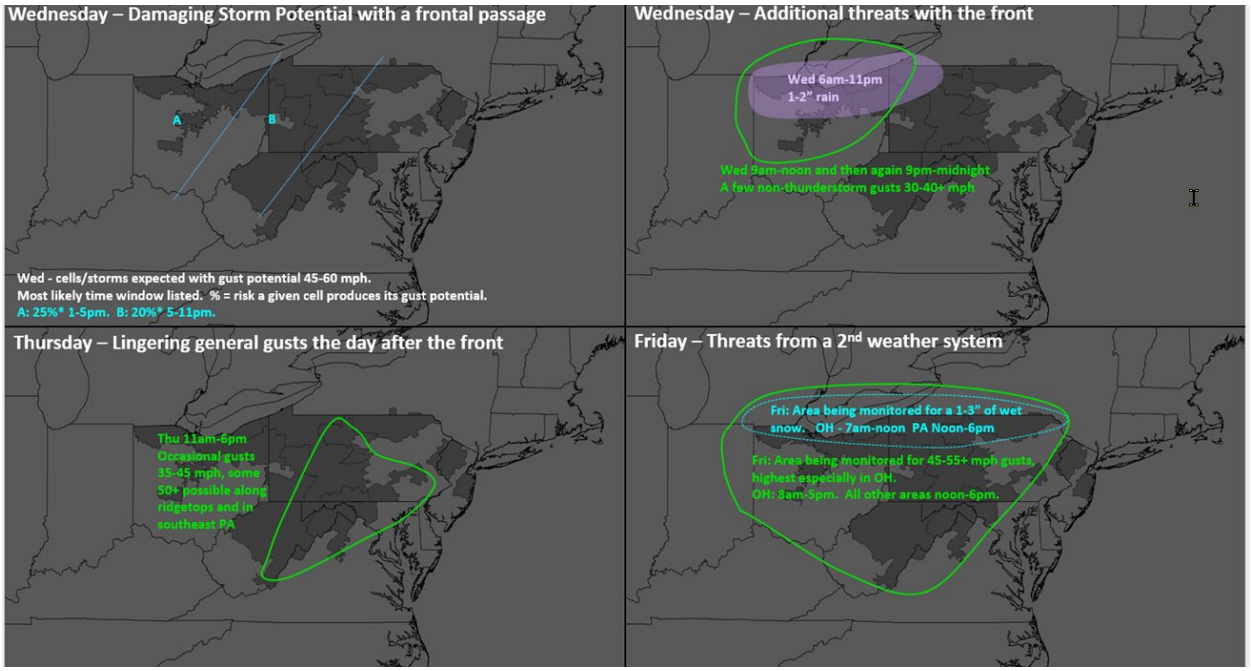
Finally, customers were able to stay informed about service restoration by utilizing the suite of web and mobile tools that are made available by FE PA. These included: 1) the 24/7 power center outage map available on FE PA's website, which was updated approximately every fifteen minutes with restoration information such as the number of customers affected, cause, crew status, and the estimated time of restoration; 2) an email or text messaging service to report outages or request status updates on the restoration process, as well as estimated restoration times; and 3) a mobile website to report outages or view status updates on the restoration progress and estimated restoration times.

Attachment B: Meteorologist Reports

Monday, March 9, 2026 @ 0854

New issuance. Two weather systems expected this week (Wed and Fri) – wind will be the primary offender with each.

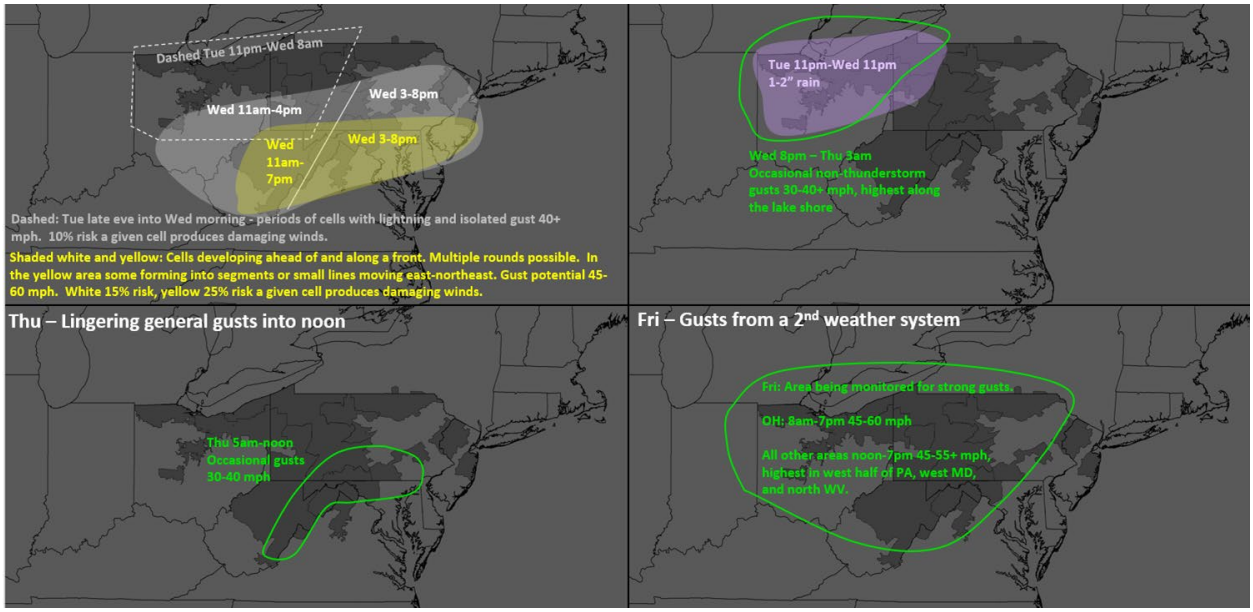
Although we are still about ½ to one day out on being able to provide more specific details for the Wed storms, below is a good starting point.



Tuesday, March 10, 2026 @ 0951

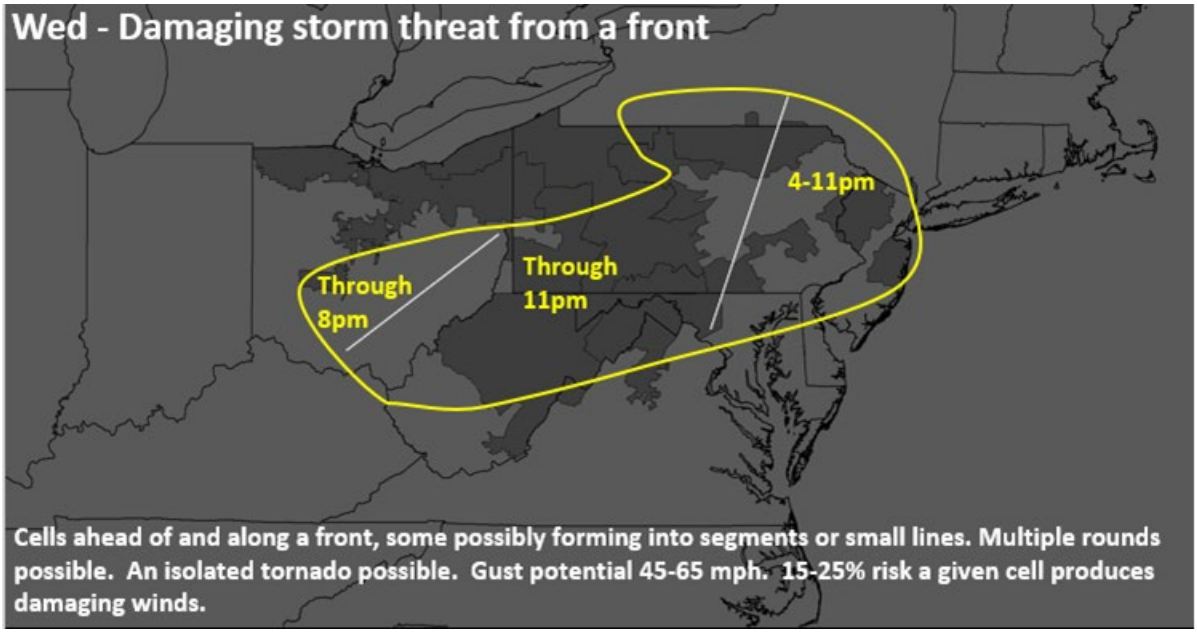
Changes. Since the suite of morning state briefings, the latest guidance has significantly changed thunderstorm threat overnight through tomorrow.

1. Added storm threat for overnight tonight in OH, west PA, north WV, and extreme northwest MD.
2. Extended and added details for thunderstorm threat Wed.
3. Fine-tuned remaining aspects of forecasts for Wed through Fri including mention of possible strong frontal passage late weekend.



Wednesday, March 11, 2026 @ 1331

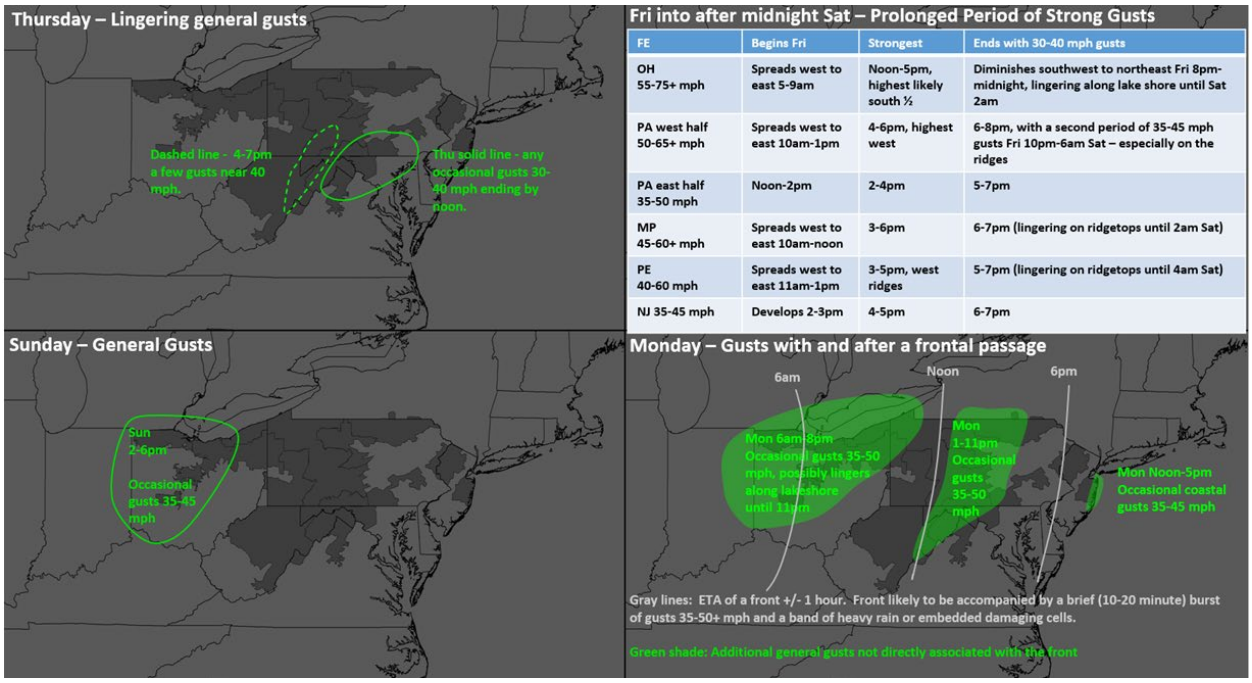
Updated timing given to line up current conditions with latest model guidance. Forecast for remainder of week remains unchanged.



Thursday, March 12, 2026 @ 0926

Changes.

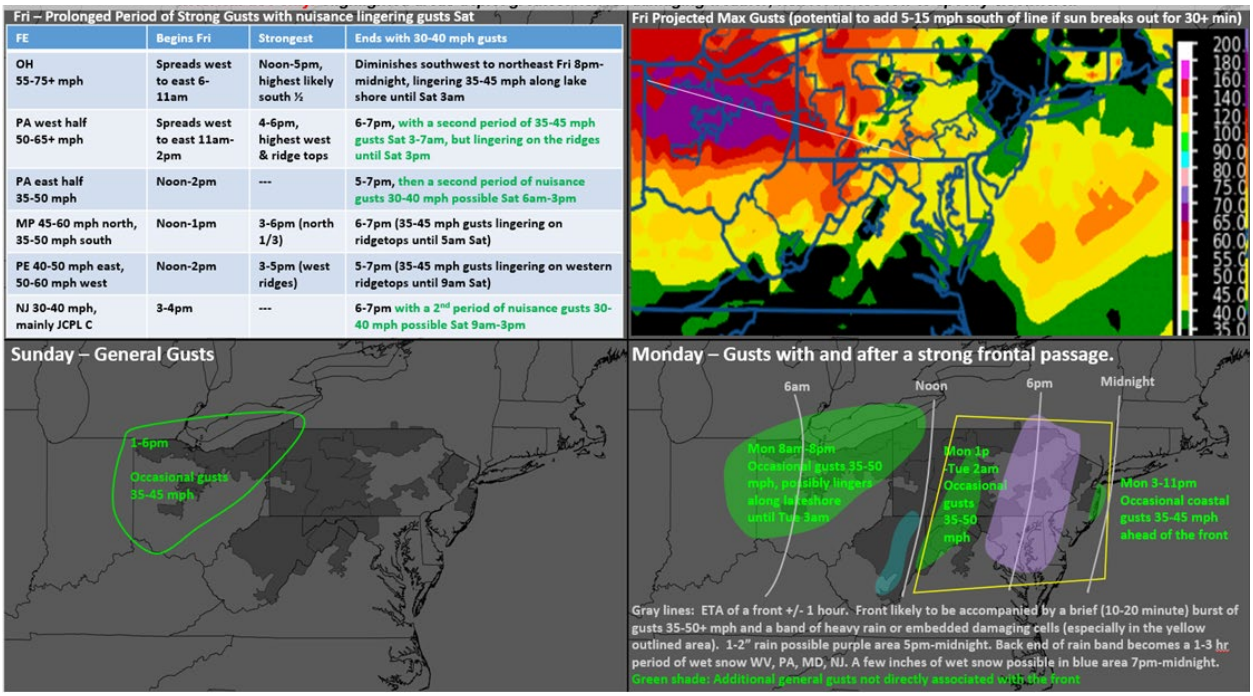
1. Today: Fine-tuned area/timing for today's storms based on last minute guidance.
2. Fri: Increased magnitude of max gusts due to some expected sunshine (in OH especially). Fine-tuned timing. Note: We've only seen 2 similar events to this in the past 20 years (Sep 14 2008 Hurricane Ike remnants and Mar 8 2017 non-precipitation high wind event). This looks to be stronger than either.
3. Sun: Added area of afternoon nuisance gusts in OH.
4. Mon: Added details of strong frontal passage.



Friday, March 13, 2026 @ 0807

Changes.

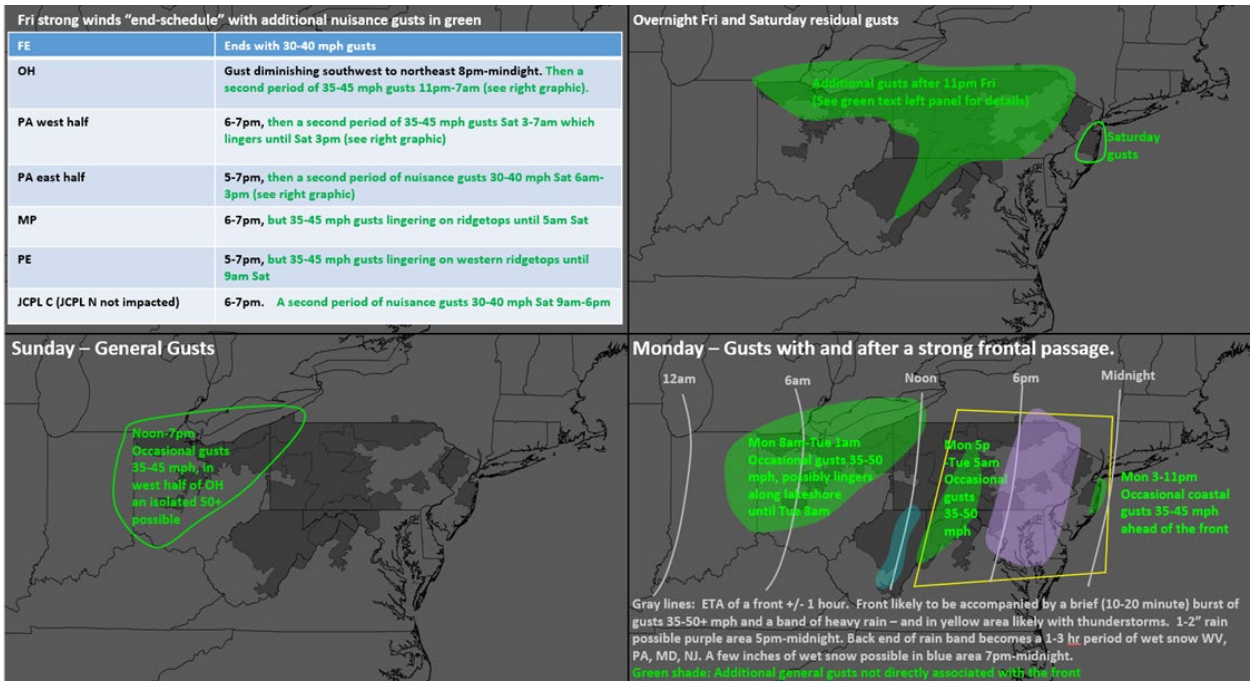
1. Today: Fine-tuned timing, added graphic (also showing where gusts might be enhanced even further due to partial sunshine), and highlighted in the table a period of secondary or lingering nuisance gusts into Sat.
2. Sun: Fine-tuned area/timing.
3. Mon: Provided additional threats from strong frontal passage.



Friday, March 13, 2026 @ 1759

Changes.

1. Today: Focused on end times of 45+ mph winds.
2. Overnight into Sat: Added graphic showing areas prone for additional period of 35-45 mph gusts.
3. Sun: Fine-tuned area/timing.
4. Mon: Fine-tuned areas/timing.

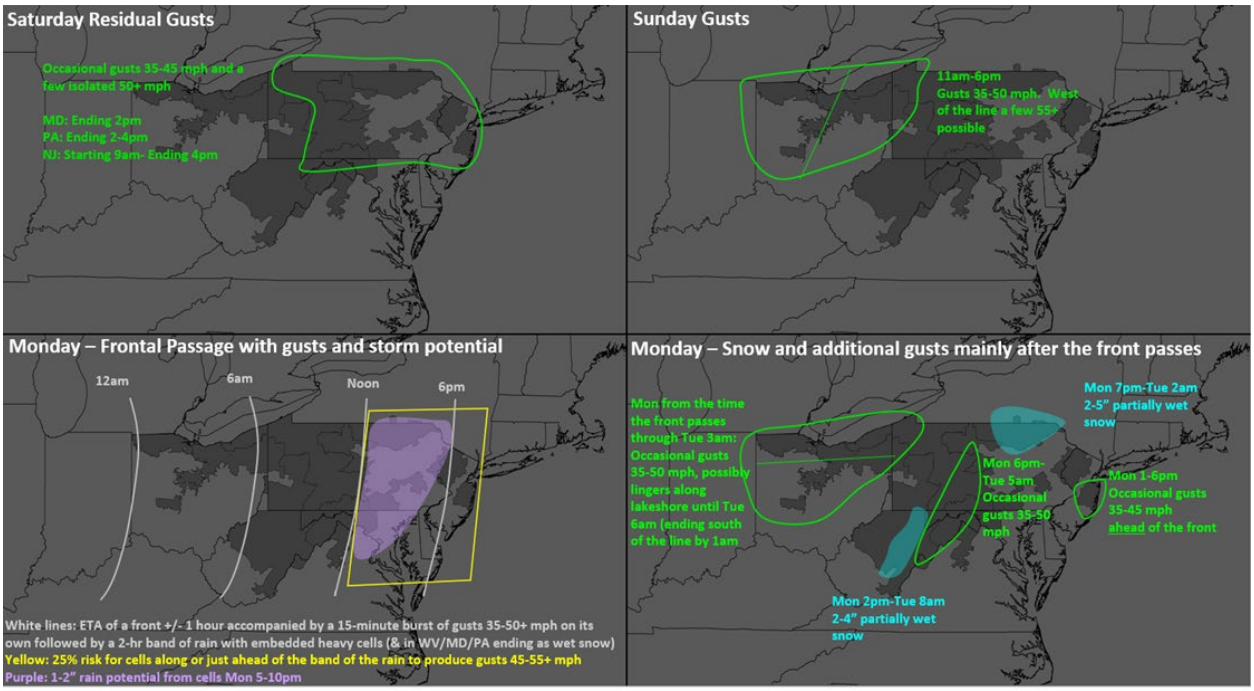


Saturday, March 14, 2026 @ 0758

Changes.

1. Today: Specified ending-times of gusts.
2. Sun: Fine-tuned area/timing.
3. Mon: Fine-tuned areas/timing.

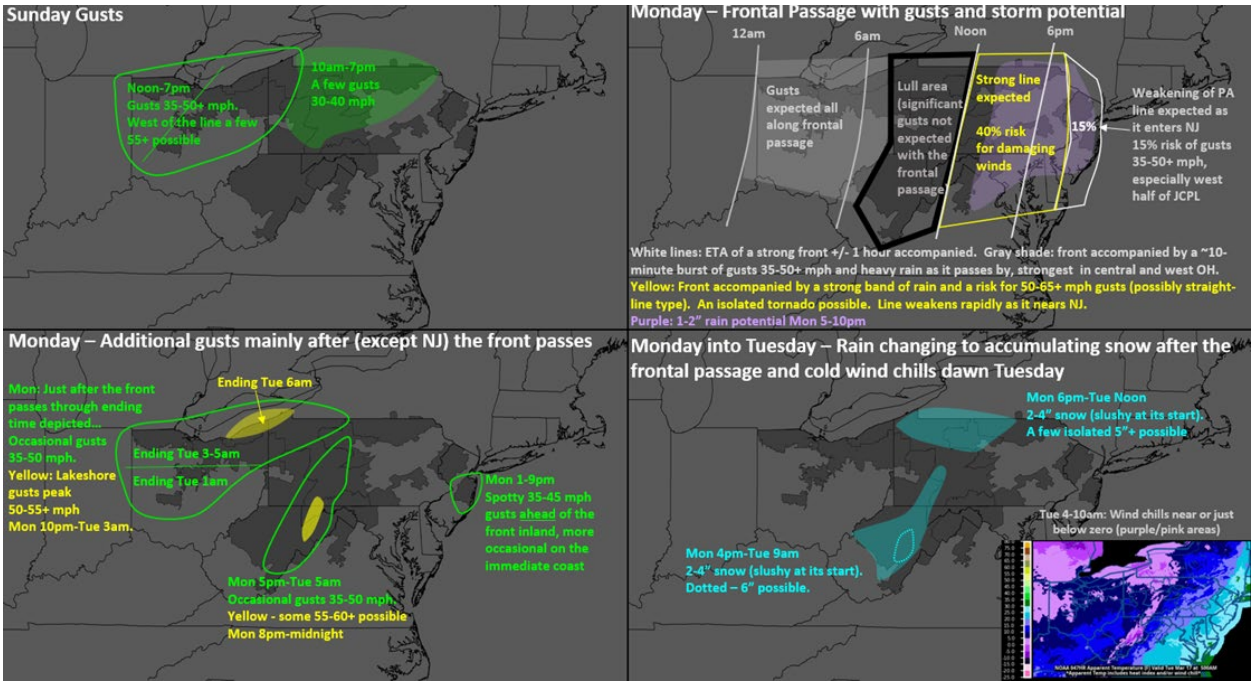
Note – weather becomes quiet remainder of work-week and temperatures strive to return to normal.



Sunday, March 15, 2026 @ 0836

Changes.

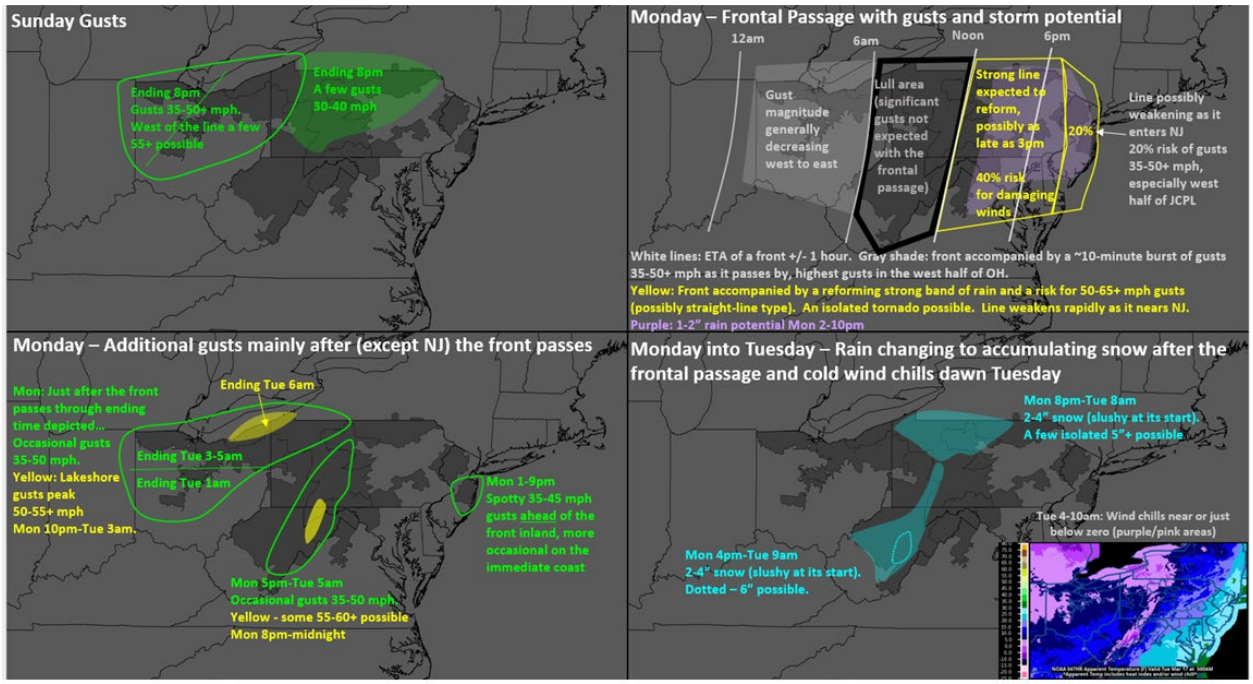
1. Today: Added area of nuisance gusts in west and north PA (shaded). Increased magnitude of gust potential in west OH.
2. Monday frontal passage (top right panel): Significant changes.
   a. Limited pre-dawn winds with frontal passage to mainly OH and borders with PA and WV.
   b. Added a "lull-area" of no significant gusts expected for west PA, most of MP, and extreme west PE (the morning line moving through OH weakens as it reaches the PA and WV border and wont re-fire until about midday).
   c. Increased damage risk for remainder of PA and MD with mention of straight-line wind risk and tornado.
   d. Greatly decreased threat for NJ (PA line weakens after 6pm – but still needs to be monitored).
3. Monday into Tuesday post frontal gusts/snow: Increased magnitude of winds in OH, WV/MD/southwest PA. Increased snow magnitudes. Fine-tuned timing for both threats.
4. Tuesday: Added mention of near zero wind chills near dawn.



Sunday, March 15, 2026 @ 1758

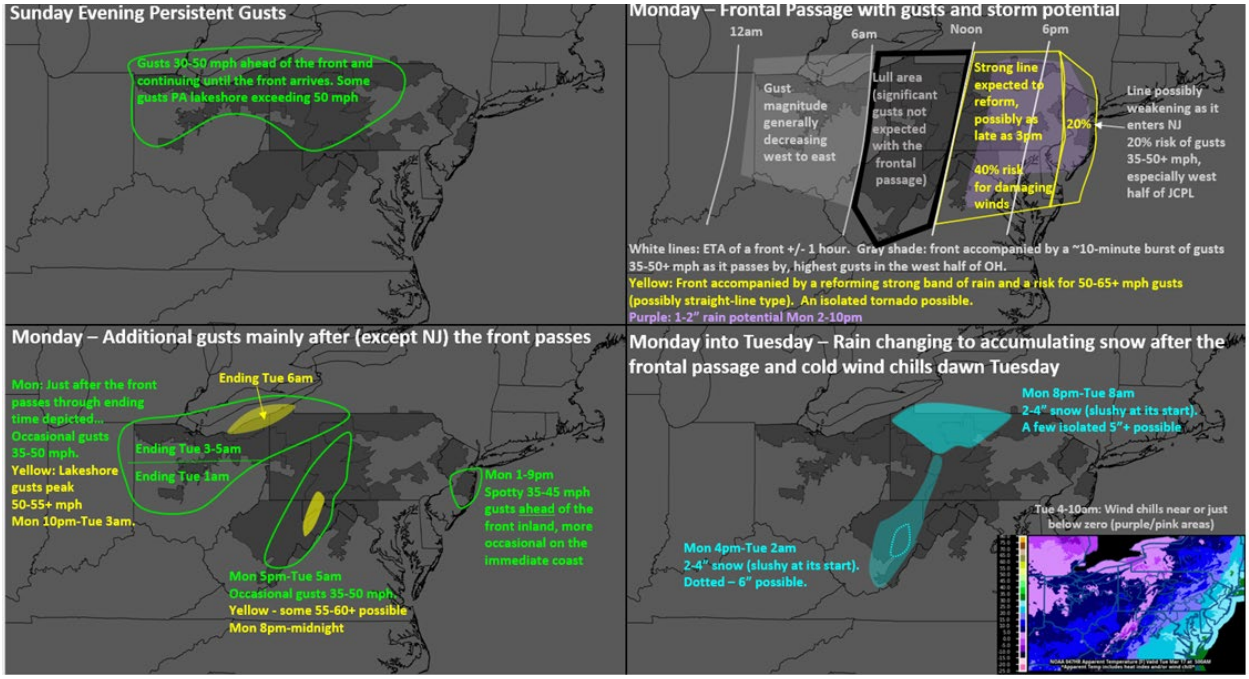
Changes.

1. Extended gust window 1 hour this evening.
2. Monday: Frontal passage (top right panel): Slightly reduced threat in OH overnight, added mention of tomorrows storms may hold off until mid afternoon in MD and East PA.
3. Remaining panels: Fine-tuned details.



Sunday, March 15, 2026 @ 2059

Changes. Extend wind gust threat this evening and overnight as depicted top left panel – despite loss of sunshine, gusts will continue until the front arrives. Fine-tuned snow amounts on Monday.

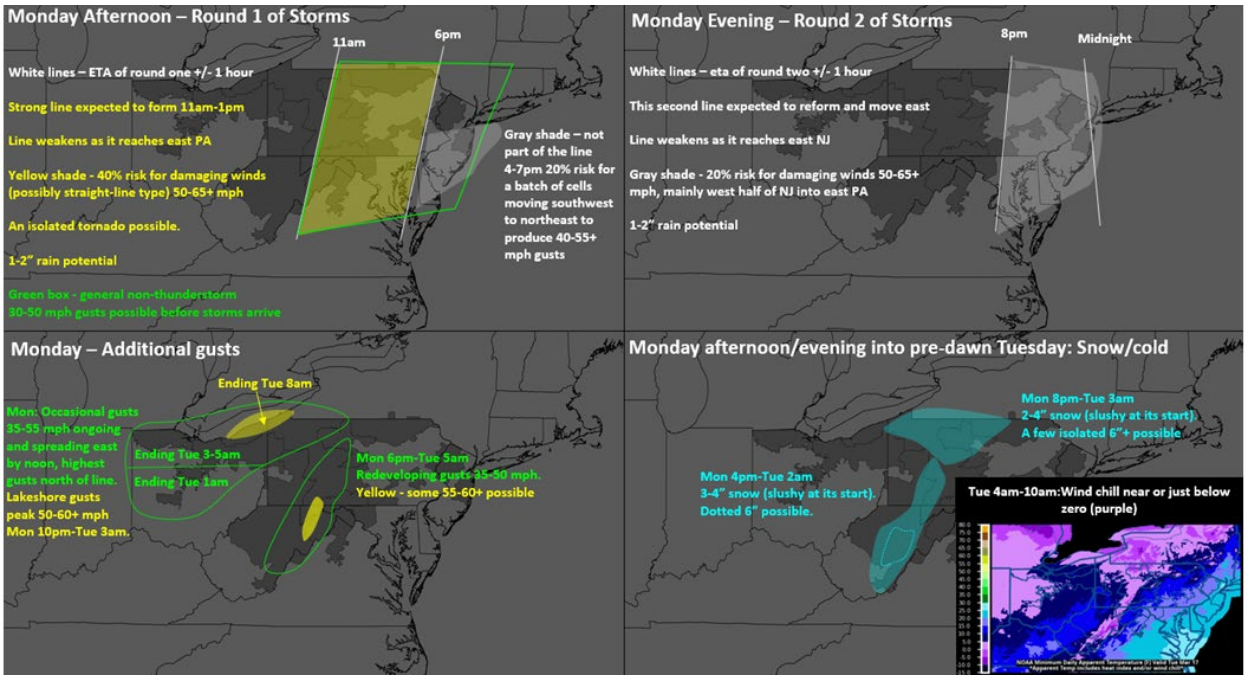


Monday, March 16, 2026 @ 0843

Changes.

1. Today – two rounds of storms expected (afternoon then in the evening) and added details for both rounds.
2. Fine-tuned snow threat overnight.

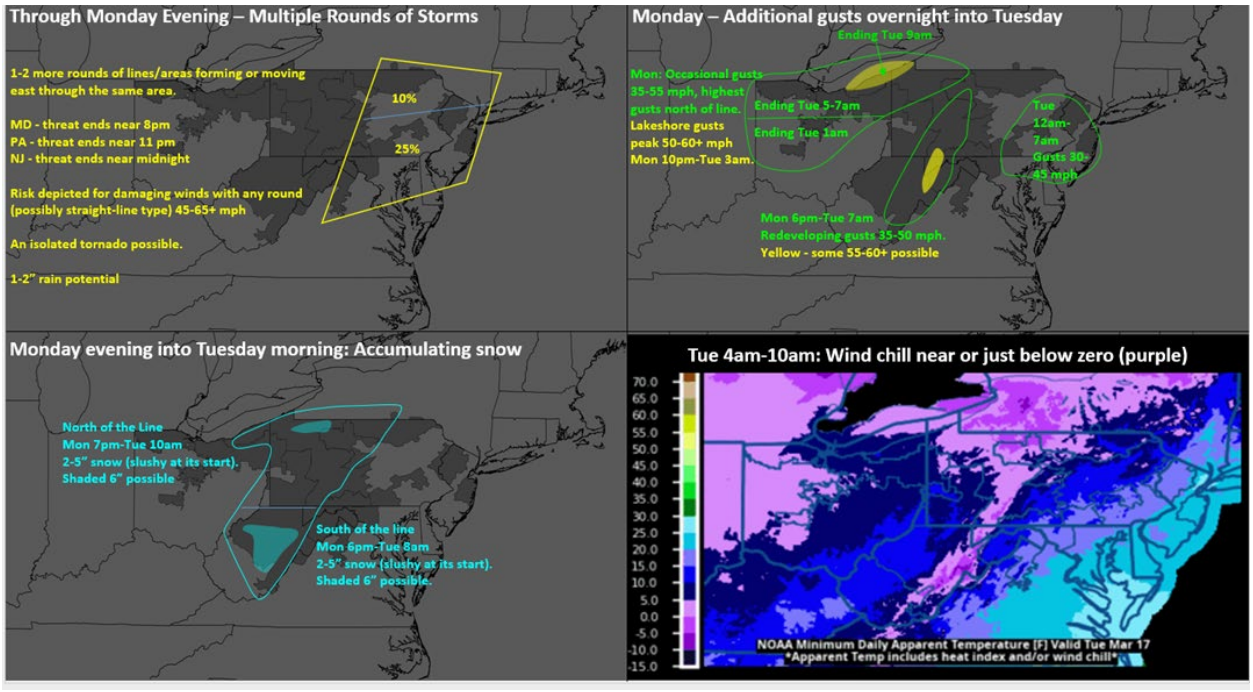
Note – weather pattern looks relatively quiet rest of the work week.



Monday, March 16, 2026 @1807

Changes. Detailed end times of threats from final rounds of storms as the true front passes by. Increased snow amount and area overnight.

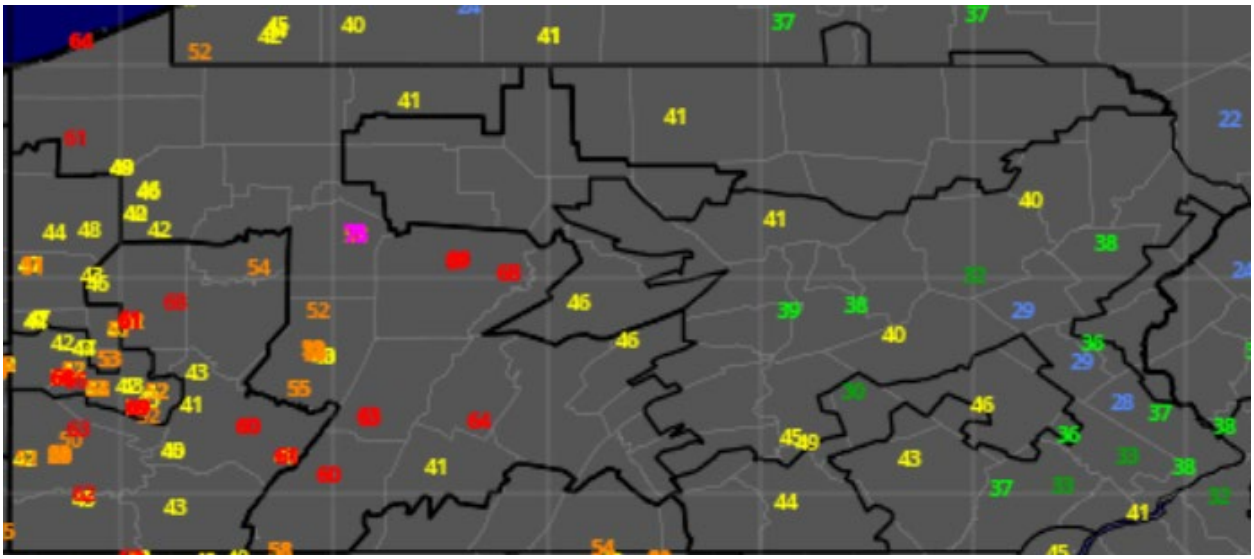
Note – weather pattern looks relatively quiet rest of the work week.



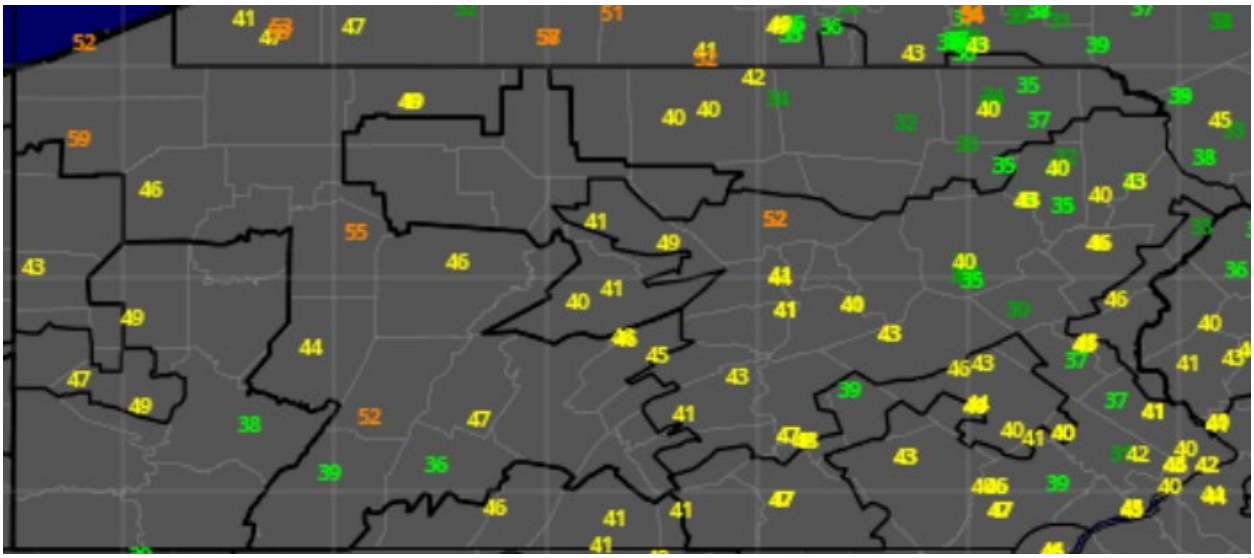
Attachment C: Wind, Precipitation, and Temperature Reports

Wind, Precipitation, and Temperature Reports: Graphics 1 through 5 illustrate the maximum wind gusts in the FE PA service territory from March 13, 2026, through March 17, 2026. Graphics 6 through 8 illustrate the 24-Hour Total Precipitation on March 13, 2026, March 16, 2026, and March 17, 2026. Graphics 9 through 10 illustrate the Maximum and Minimum Temperatures on March 16, 2026, and March 17, 2026. The graphics depict data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ("NOAA").

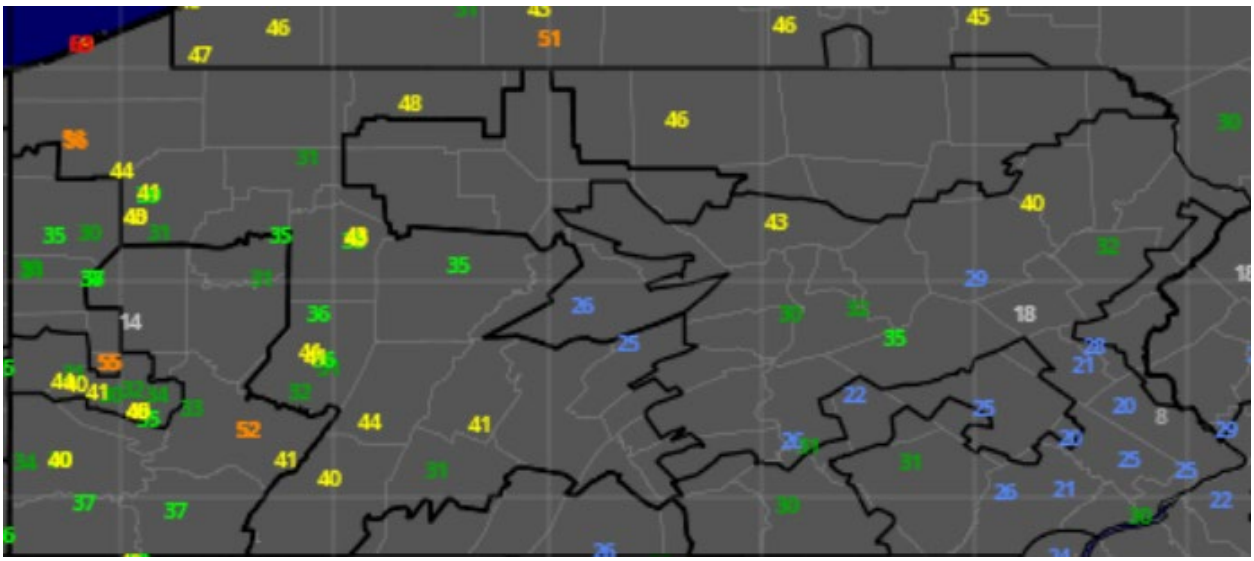
Graphic 1 – Maximum Wind Gusts – Friday, March 13, 2026



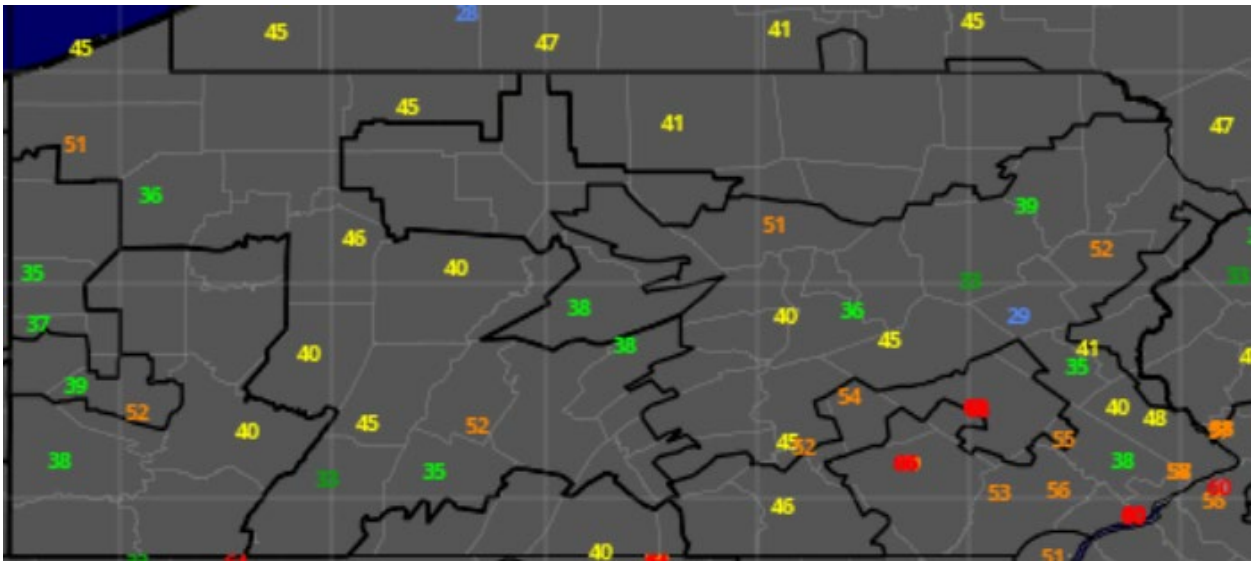
Graphic 2 – Maximum Wind Gusts – Saturday, March 14, 2026



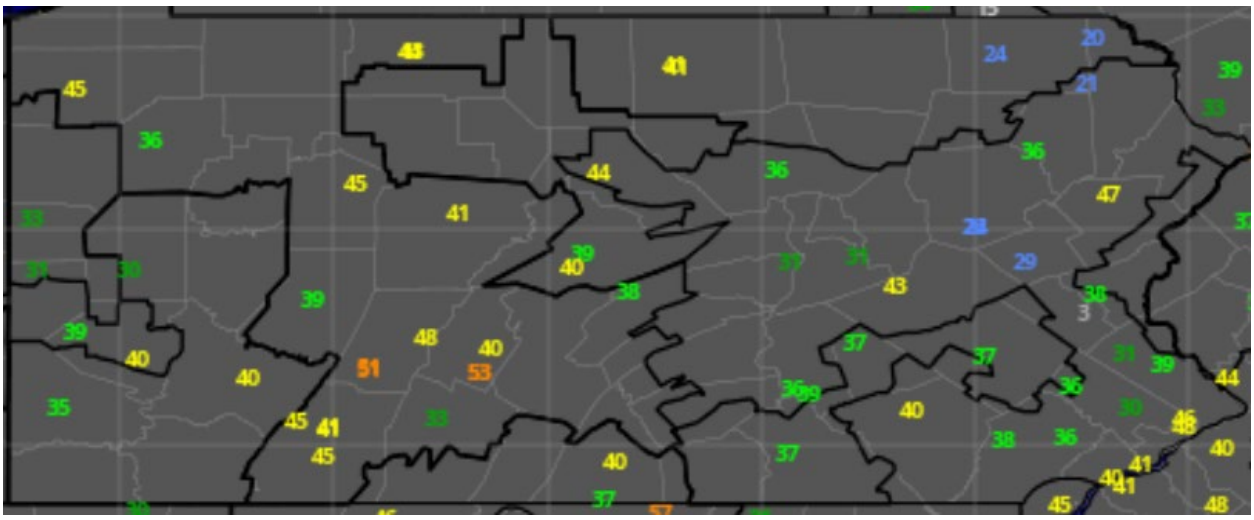
Graphic 3 – Maximum Wind Gusts – Sunday, March 15, 2026



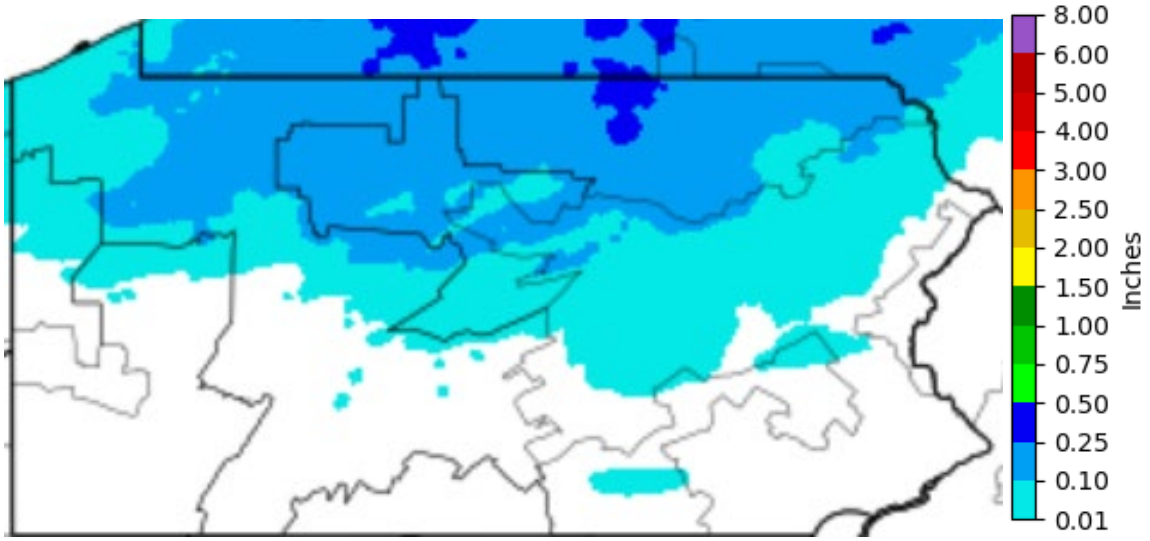
Graphic 4 – Maximum Wind Gusts – Monday, March 16, 2026



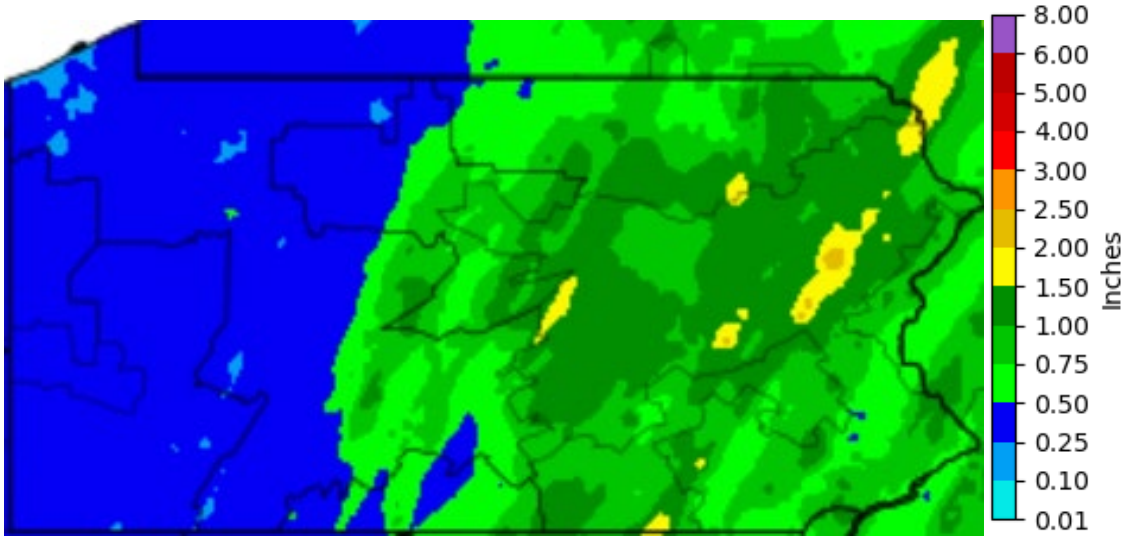
Graphic 5 – Maximum Wind Gusts – Tuesday, March 17, 2026



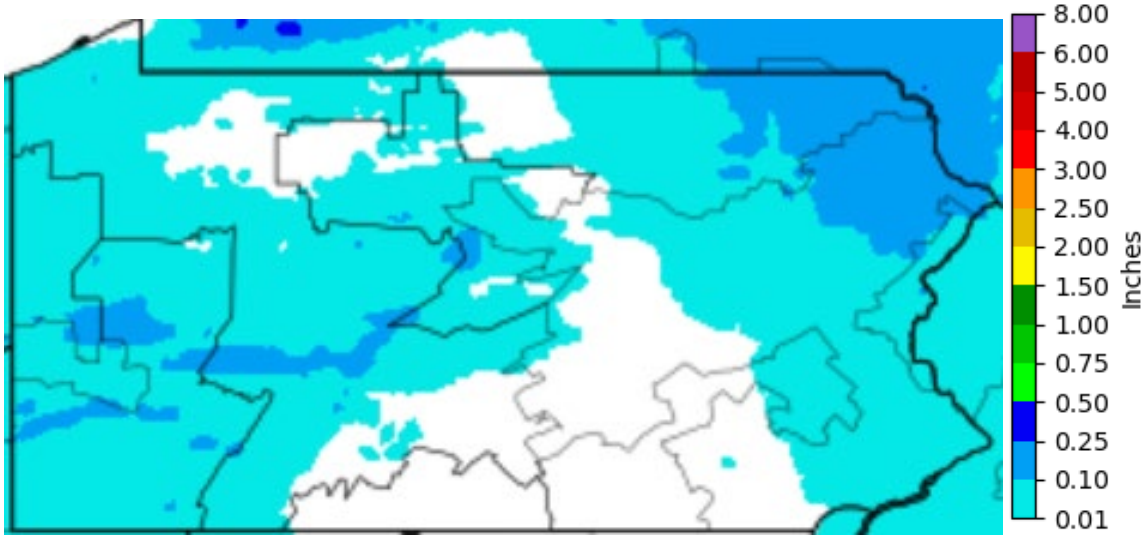
Graphic 6 - 24-Hour Total Precipitation – Friday, March 13, 2026



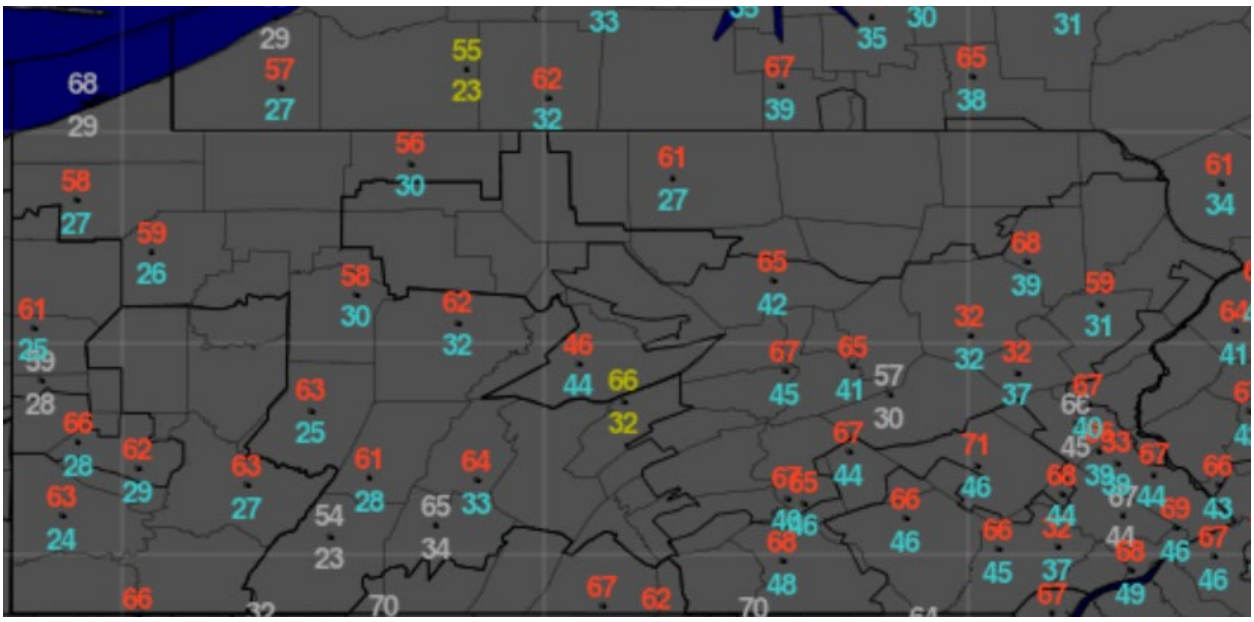
Graphic 7 - 24-Hour Total Precipitation – Monday, March 16, 2026



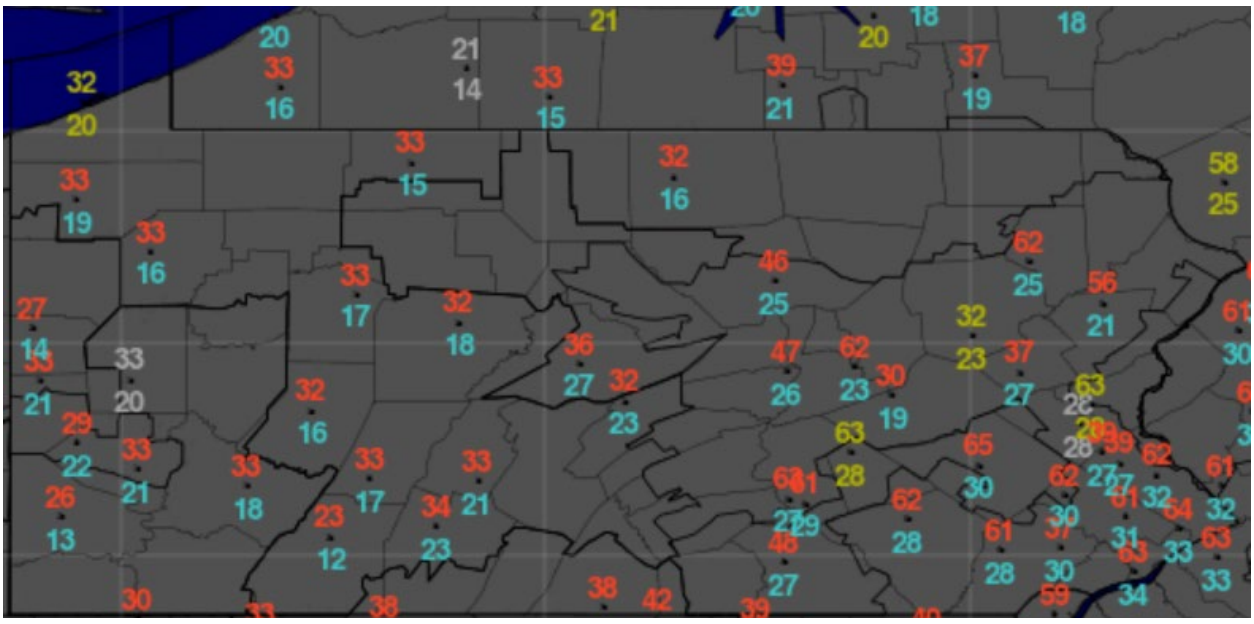
Graphic 8- 24-Hour Total Precipitation – Tuesday, March 17, 2026



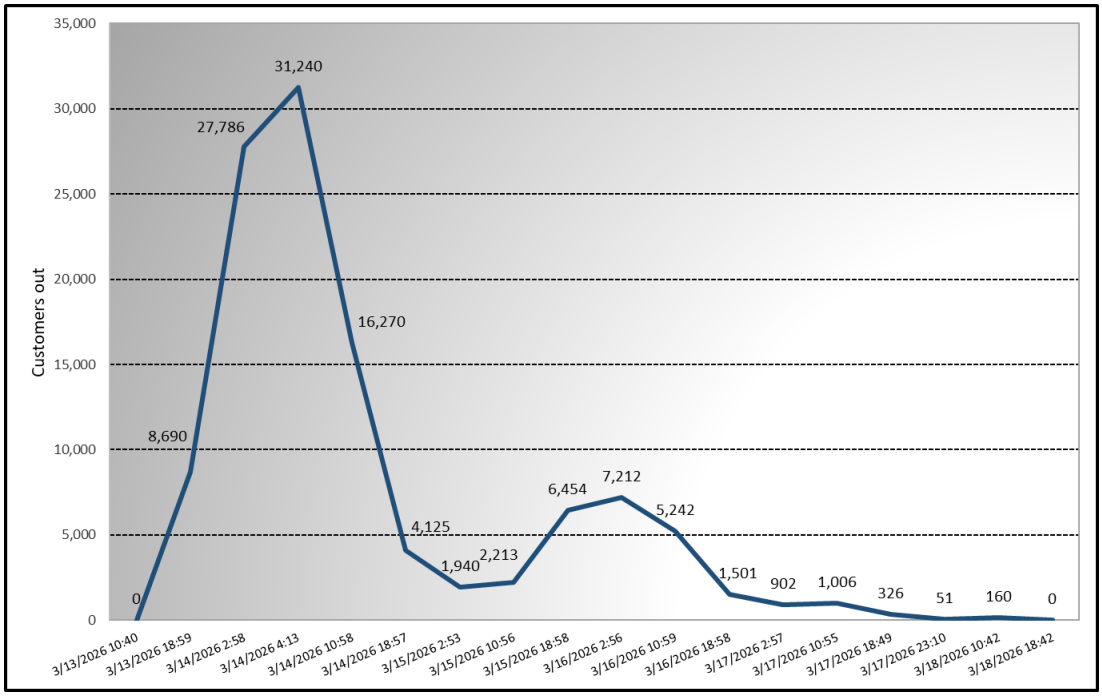
Graphic 9- Maximum and Maximum Temperature – Monday, March 16, 2026



Graphic 10- Maximum and Maximum Temperature – Tuesday, March 17, 2026



Attachment D: Restoration Curve



Attachment E: Damage Photographs