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Mr. Prefect of Police
Ladies and gentlemen, prefects of defense and security zones Ladies and gentlemen, department prefects (mainland, outside Corsica)

Object: Preparedness and crisis management measures in the event of the occurrence of a scheduled electrical load shedding measure

The context of the energy crisis that we are experiencing has led the Government to do everything possible to guarantee the best conditions for the passage of winter. This begins with the sobriety plan that has been announced, accompanied by measures aimed at smoothing out peaks in electricity consumption, and supported by a communication campaign for the general public. At the same time, this involves filling our gas stocks, maximizing the production of our available renewable and thermal capacities and monitoring the availability of the nuclear fleet. Finally, this involves securing our import capacity. All of these levers are added to the usual devices at the hand of the RTE transmission network manager (voltage drop, interruptibility, EcoWatt).

If these levers, mobilized to increase the room for maneuver of the electrical system this winter, both in terms of production and consumption, were to be insufficient, a national plan for electrical load shedding could be implemented on the territory of metropolitan France (excluding Corsica). The need to resort to this measure remains strongly linked to climatic hazards. It aims to temporarily relieve the electrical system to avoid *ablackout* generalized, which would have much heavier consequences. The hypothesis of having to resort to these partial and programmed cuts cannot to date be excluded or confirmed: it is therefore advisable to prepare for it.

Load shedding is an exceptional measure, implemented as a last resort by the managers of the electricity network, to avoid an imbalance in the national electricity system. It takes the form of scheduled power outages, with the objective of lasting two consecutive hours, affecting portions of departments alternately: thus, out of some 39 million customers (approximately 34 million residential customers and 5 million non-residential customers), any scheduled outages should not affect more than 4 million customers simultaneously, for a period of two hours, excluding critical sites (hospitals, points of vital importance, etc.) that you have protected by prefectural order. The load shedding periods, if they must occur, will concern peaks in electricity consumption, therefore on weekdays, and the indicative time slots from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Information specifying the places concerned and indicating the slots

cut-off times will be available the day before, around 5 p.m. On November 18, RTE indicated that its analyzes pointed to the month of January as being the most at risk.

Power supply interruptions, although rare and generally linked to exceptional phenomena, are not unknown to the French. The average outage duration per customer is around one hour per year. However, they are likely to affect, where appropriate, their activities and daily life. This is why they call for anticipation of their consequences and palliative measures to be implemented so that the normal activity of the territories, where applicable and in turn concerned, is affected as little as possible. A national, preventive and educational communication system is planned for the general public.

One of the most significant consequences of the interruption of electrical distribution is that it will lead to interruptions in electronic communications (mobile and fixed telephony). In these perimeters, users will not be able to reach the emergency services (emergency call numbers 15, 17, 18, 115, 196). In these situations, the use of 112 will be a palliative because it is a number accessible regardless of the operator, therefore with a much higher chance that the call will be routed, since the area of transmission would be covered by at least one operator. The State will ensure specific communication to publicize and encourage the use of 112. You will have, in your COD, the map of the areas which would not be covered by 112.

The purpose of this circular is to provide you with details on the preparedness measures to be taken at the departmental level now and what to do during the winter period. You are asked to involve all the actors from the preparation stage (State services, economic and associative actors, etc.), in particular to define the palliative and security reinforcement measures that you will be responsible for preparing and implementing in a load shedding situation. You will conduct meetings without delay with elected officials and local authorities. They will allow a perfect understanding of the risks and issues as well as a shared approach to the work to be carried out to articulate the systems to be implemented in the event of a power cut, in particular with the mayors who must have all the information enabling them to prepare for it. .

Furthermore, all the hypotheses making it possible to reduce the power demand during peak hours continue to be studied at the national level, and will eventually result in additional directives.

The system that I am now asking you to implement is divided into four phases: **a preparation phase (I), a reinforced monitoring phase (II), an operational mobilization phase (III), an operations management phase (IV).**

I. **Preventively, a preparation phase: promoting sobriety measures, the EcoWatt system and updating business continuity plans**

1. In anticipation:

Mobilization of actors:

I ask you to bring together the State services and the main public and private players in your department without delay. The first is to encourage local players to reduce their electricity consumption, in particular when an orange or red EcoWatt signal is emitted. This exchange must also lead them to undertake the identification of the repercussions of possible load shedding, and to prepare within the framework of their business continuity plans:

- Local operators, administrations and companies must undertake as soon as possible a campaign of verification and tests in real conditions of their means of electrical redundancy, in particular generators.

- Public and private players should be invited to review and, if necessary, update their business continuity plans. You will pay particular attention to the managers of public water and sanitation services, whose systems must be optimized to avoid spills of wastewater into aquatic environments and to anticipate the impact of load shedding on their services.

- As requested, you have updated by order the list of priority consumers who will not be load shedding. Each of them must be informed directly and individually that it is "unloadable". The decrees that you have taken are not published and the lists must not be disclosed in any way because, in addition to the sites essential for care in the care structures, they designate structures essential to the continuity of the life of the nation. For all other consumers, in the event of questions, and even for those who benefit from the proximity of a priority site which makes them by contiguity non-dischargeable, you will indicate that the site must be considered as "dischargeable".

- **Some departments are served by local electricity distribution companies (ELD), whose load shedding process and information tools may be different** from those described in this circular. I invite you to contact them now to find out about their situation and the tools deployed.

In addition, the associative actors, reservists and citizens must already be sensitized and associated to be able to intervene, at your request or that of the mayors, if load shedding were to occur.

Provisions to be made concerning vulnerable persons :

The ARS are in charge of the census high-risk patients (PHRV). You will check that these lists have indeed been sent to the Distribution Network Managers (ENEDIS or ELD) who will have taken them into account. In the event of load shedding, the information of the PHRVs is the responsibility of ENEDIS or the ELDs, for their geographical scope of responsibility. The PHRVs will therefore first be contacted by ENEDIS (or ELD), from D-3 until D-2 to ensure that they are informed and aware of the EcoWatt red signal. ENEDIS will keep the ARS informed of any particular situation that would require appropriate care. If necessary, in principle residual, it will be up to you to ensure, on the advice of the ARS, the organization of any travel for these people.

Beyond these people at high vital risk, I ask you to pay particular attention to vulnerable people, in liaison with the mayors. In particular, you can remind municipalities of the need to register vulnerable people in their registers of vulnerable people (see article L121-6-1 of the social action and family code).

It will be up to you, in conjunction with the mayors, to ensure that these people will be aware of the red EcoWatt signal on D-3 and, in the case of medical equipment, that it has

an independent power supply sufficient for a power outage of more than two hours. Otherwise, the emergency services should carry out an assessment of the need to carry out a preventive evacuation of the persons concerned to the health establishment closest to their place of residence, or a site provided for this purpose. having a power supply.

telephone operators : Significant work is being done at the national level with electronic communication operators, who will be required to set up detailed information for their customers on the means of communication available or not in the event of load shedding. Barring exceptions, mobile telephony and the Internet will not work in areas without electricity, and the electrical connection may be disrupted. The copper lines, with a functional T-shaped telephone socket, can be operational.

2. Standby device:

You have the data produced by the EcoWatt website (www.monecowatt.fr) of RTE. The EcoWatt tool is similar, for the electrical system, to a weather forecasting tool. It presents three levels of vigilance on a permanent map of the metropolis (excluding Corsica):

- Green signal: power consumption is considered normal;
- Orange signal: the electrical system is strained. Eco-gestures are to be preferred;
- Red signal: the electrical system is very tight during certain time slots. Power cuts are inevitable if electricity consumption does not decrease in these slots.

The device thus makes it possible to know the state of the electrical network for the current day and the next three and the times when eco-gestures will have the greatest impact on the system. This information also allows you to anticipate the rise in power of your territorial system.

From 1^{er} December 2022, the CIC will provide enhanced monitoring of the system. It will be put on alert according to RTE data and will be activated no later than D-3 in the event of a red EcoWatt signal.

In addition to the information provided by the ministerial operational centers on the subject, you will send any useful information to the Monitoring Center of the Ministry of the Interior (centredeveille@interieur.gouv.fr).

II.A reinforced monitoring phase as soon as an orange or red signal is issued

1. Modalities of signal transmission

Every Thursday, RTE identifies, based on meteorological data, information on the availability of means of production and interconnections, a possible use of load shedding between Saturday 00:00 and Friday of the following week until 23:59 (with the exception Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, which should not be affected in

due to the drop in activity). RTE communicates this information to the CIC which is then likely to be activated in crisis format.

From D-3, and as long as RTE confirms the possibility of load shedding, the manager will publicly issue an orange or red EcoWatt signal on the time slots concerned. The transmission of this signal would lead RTE and ENEDIS to trigger their national load shedding plan. This breaks down as follows:

At D-3 : RTE will emit an orange or red signal on EcoWatt At D-2 : RTE will confirm the forecast of a red signal on EcoWatt

The information will be widely disseminated nationally. You are asked to relay it to the elected representatives of your departments, indicating that this alert relates to the probability of load shedding but, at this stage, without specifying the geographical areas concerned. It is also possible that a D-3 alert will not subsequently be confirmed, due to favorable developments.

Communication to the "general public" will then mainly be carried out by the network operators (RTE and ENEDIS), in coordination with the State.

Information on eco-gestures, generating energy savings, is to be amplified, from D-3, for all players and the entire population. Any drop in consumption on D-Day is likely to reduce the final load shedding range . This is why it is essential to continue to relay the Government's messages on electricity sobriety (Sobriety plan and campaign "Every gesture counts") which will greatly contribute to increasing the room for maneuver of the electricity system throughout the winter and the year 2023.

A national test is planned by Enedis and RTE on December 9, with which the prefectures will be associated in the form of a tabletop exercise.

III. The operational mobilization phase

On D-1: RTE definitively confirms the red signal on Ecowatt

At 15h, RTE will produce an initial forecast of power to be shed, quantified for each regional "control agency". This information will be transmitted to ENEDIS, and visible on EcoWatt. It will be information forecast , which will switch to "red", indistinctly at this stage , all the departments of the geographical area covered by the ENEDIS agency.

You can therefore, from 3 p.m., activate your CODs so that they are operational, in the event that your department is confirmed at 5 p.m. as partially load shedding. In the same way, the activation of a Public Information Unit (CIP) is recommended, to relieve, if necessary, the standards of the prefectures which could be strongly solicited.

Around 17H, ENEDIS will produce a first version of its load shedding plan, which will allow you find out if your department is concerned. The ENEDIS "temporary cuts" site

(<https://coupures-temporaires.enedis.fr>) will then make it possible to inform the general public about the cities or boroughs concerned. The search for an address will specify if it is concerned and will indicate the precise time of the power outage. The EcoWatt site will refer to this information page of the ENEDIS site.

Upon this confirmation, your departmental operational centers must be fully operational.

At the same time, the CIC will be informed of the precise distribution of load shedding and will integrate it into the GIS SYNAPSE tool.

At 7:30 p.m., in the event of deterioration in the forecasts on the basis of a more precise and updated assessment, RTE will update the powers and/or the time slots to be shed. These elements will then be sent to ENEDIS, which will in turn update its initial load shedding plan.

From 9:30 p.m., in this hypothesis of updating the load shedding plan upwards, ENEDIS will update and distribute the geographical areas, the list of municipalities and districts concerned.

In addition, the GIS SYNAPSE tool will be supplied on the evening of D-1 with a set of data, allowing you to visualize the precise areas that will be subject to load shedding. The impacts on the telecom network will also be visible through specific data layers made available. Access to this map must comply with confidentiality rules which will be specified to you in a specific message.

NB: RTE/ENEDIS will not change their load shedding forecasts between 9:30 p.m. and 6 a.m. To avoid the availability of changing information, any final adjustments will only be visible to the general public at 6 a.m. They would only concern a possible reduction in load shedding or even an avoidance of outages (in the event of low-power load shedding being forecast). SYNAPSE will be updated after processing new data as it is updated by ENEDIS.

IV. The D-1 operations management phase, from 5 p.m.

If your department is concerned, it will be up to you to centralize requests for information and initiate work on managing the monitoring of the impact of power outages. ENEDIS is committed to providing physical presence in each COD concerned.

As soon as a load shedding measure scheduled for your department is announced, I ask you to implement the following measures as a priority:

- Supplement national information with an appropriate local crisis communication system. In this context, a frequently asked questions (FAQ) will be sent to you to allow you to answer the main questions of our fellow citizens and the press. Materials will also be made available to support your educational efforts on social networks in particular. This territorial communication system upstream of the load shedding period is essential, and will allow you to issue basic safety instructions to the

population. In addition, you will deploy your own territorial communication system, adapted to the provisions that you will put into force.

- Ensure the information of the departmental council, the regional council as well as the elected representatives of the department.
- Ask the mayors concerned to activate a "crisis cell" within the framework of the PCS for the municipalities which are equipped with it, and to provide in the town hall, or in predefined places according to the size of the municipality and designated to the populations, a physical presence capable of relaying the alert to the emergency, health and safety services, for the duration of the load shedding and any interruption of the telephone network.
- Schools located in a sector affected by load shedding in the morning will not welcome children for the whole half-day. Appropriate catering at lunchtime in schools and establishments relieved of the burden remains an objective. Local work must be carried out with local authorities to adapt school transport to these situations.
- You are asked, in the departments or regions concerned, to carry out local work without delay with the authorities organizing transport, to examine the questions relating to daily guided transport. The effective ability to run on their entire route, during load shedding hours, commuter trains, metros or trams must be carefully checked. If nominal conditions cannot be guaranteed, their circulation must be stopped before the start of load shedding.
- Set up, in relieved areas, a human presence of the "posted guard" type in all fire and rescue centres, gendarmerie brigades and police stations in order to be able to physically receive a request for help, the radio networks of the internal security forces, the SAMU and the fire brigade, excluded from load shedding, then allowing the triggering of the emergency means.
- Mobilize all volunteers (approved civil security associations, municipal reserves, citizen participation schemes) to ensure a local presence in the municipalities. Mobilize in addition the departmental association of civil security radio amateurs.
- The national emergency number call reception centers are resilient: the territorial emergency call numbers of the national gendarmerie (17), the national police (17), the fire brigade (18), the SAMU (15), social emergencies (115) and maritime rescue (196) are able to receive calls, because they are rescued independently or registered on the lists of priority users. You will ensure that the operational centers for receiving calls are reinforced by liaison officers, in order to facilitate exchanges between these centers, and to increase the number of call-taking operators, in particular for the departmental platform for receiving calls 112. These reinforcements must be carried out at least 2 hours before load shedding and up to a minimum of 2 hours after load shedding.

The 112 should be less impacted by disturbances of the telephone network, due to its special status which allows it to be relayed by any operator. However, in the face of disturbances that may affect the telephone network in offloaded areas, it could be impossible for users to make calls.

The mapping provided by the operators and available on SYNAPSE will allow you to identify these areas without any coverage of urgent calls, including 112. In this specific configuration , it will be necessary, in addition to the general measures above:

- To encourage the population to ensure a presence alongside an elderly or vulnerable person, and, if necessary, join or help join points served by telephone or identified reception sites (gendarmerie brigades, police station, rescue centre, town halls, etc.);
- To organize the physical presence during load shedding periods on the rights-of-way of public emergency and security services (firefighters, police, gendarmerie, municipal police, etc.) in order to take into account an unexpected request for emergency relief by a citizen coming into contact;
- To physically deploy on the ground means to maintain radio coverage in areas without coverage (satellite means, ADRASEC devices, etc.).

Index cards, detailing, sector by sector (schools, justice, road transport, cold chain, etc.), the support measures taken at the national level and the actions necessary at the local level will be communicated to you and will be regularly updated.

v. The communication system around a possible national plan for scheduled electrical load shedding

A national communication system is organized on the issue of possible load shedding. It is articulated in two stages:

- A preventive and educational communication aimed at the general public, aimed at raising the awareness of the general public. In this context, a frequently asked questions will be sent to you, allowing you to answer the main questions of our fellow citizens and the press. Support will also be made available to support your educational efforts on social networks in particular. A specific communication on the use of the emergency number 112, the only one capable of picking up communications by relay antennas in operation, what regardless of the operator, will be deployed.
- Communication to the general public in the event of electrical load shedding, mainly carried out by network managers (RTE and ENEDIS), in coordination with the State. In addition to this national system, you will organize communication

department at the announcement of the period of difficulties in the supply of electricity. This communication device, comprising basic, specific and local safety instructions, is essential, in particular from the triggering of a red EcoWatt signal, and up to the triggering threshold of a possible load shedding.

You will report to the CIC on the implementation of these measures.