

# **WIRELESS CARRIER BACKUP POWER CONSIDERATIONS**

Presentation to  
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# Backup Power - Best Practices

- The industry agrees with best practices that permit flexible deployment of backup power assets that enable carriers to account for individual markets, dynamic network management and particular site characteristics.
- Katrina Independent Panel Report “Essential Steps for Addressing Lessons Learned From Hurricane Katrina”
  - “Service Providers, Network Operators and Property Managers should ensure availability of emergency / backup power (e.g., batteries, generators, fuel cells) to maintain critical communications services during times of commercial power failures, including natural and manmade occurrences (e.g., earthquakes, floods, fires, power brown/black outs, terrorism). The emergency / backup power generators should be located onsite, when appropriate.” NRIC Best Practice 7-7-5204

# Important Backup Power Considerations

- All sites are not the same – networks are designed with hardened critical sites that will preserve coverage after a disaster has knocked many sites out of service.
- Carrier plans are specific to each market and the disasters that market is exposed to or is likely to face.
  - *e.g.*, wildfires vs. ice storms, manmade / terrorist threats vs. hurricanes.
- Other federal, state and local laws constrain carriers from augmenting backup capacity.
  - There are MANY instances where building codes, OSHA and environmental rules, or zoning limitations may preclude the placement of additional batteries, fuel cells, generators or fuel storage.
- Rigid or arbitrary FCC rules will prevent carriers from deploying their capital resources in a way that can best preserve communications through the disasters that market will face.