

**DOH** STATE OF NEW YORK  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

161 Delaware Avenue Delmar, NY 12054-1393

Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr. P.H.  
*Commissioner*

Dennis P. Whalen  
*Executive Deputy Commissioner*

July 10, 2006

DQS/DAL: #06-10  
Re: Storm and Alarm Systems

Dear Administrator:

This letter is to alert you of a potential problem with some wanderguard systems and thunder storms/power outages/power surges.

When there is a switch from generator to regular power and back again or a power surge, this can cause the system, at the point of egress, to fail. If this happens, the door alarm has to be immediately "reset" manually, or have a back up battery to prevent this from occurring. Staff should check all doors for proper alarm operation after the passing of a thunderstorm or a power interruption.

Please make sure staff are aware of this potential problem and know what to do.

Thank you in advance for taking precautions to the health and safety of your residents. If you have any questions, please call David Brusio at (518) 408 – 1282.

Sincerely,



Keith W. Servis, Director  
Division of Quality and Surveillance  
for Nursing Homes and ICFs/MR