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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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SCEMD Monitors Tropical Storm Edouard

COLUMBIA, SC (**September 2, 2002**) – The South Carolina Emergency Management Division is monitoring Tropical Storm Edouard. Although forecasters currently expect the storm to have minimal effects on South Carolina, the Division has increased its awareness level and is keeping an eye on the storm.

If Edouard moves to the South Carolina coast, it may begin to affect coastal areas Tuesday afternoon, although the forecast track is uncertain. The most severe effect on the state's coast is expected to be gusty winds; the prospect of rainfall is uncertain.

Key state agencies in South Carolina government have been notified to be ready to respond if the need arises.