DOTD reminds citizens to get latest road condition updates through the 511 Traveler Information System

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BATON ROUGE, La. – With Tropical Storm Isaac tracking toward Louisiana, the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) reminds citizens they can get the latest updates on real-time traffic and road conditions by using the 511 Traveler Information System.

"DOTD will work closely with local and state police to close roads, as needed," said DOTD Secretary Sherri H. LeBas, P.E. "Motorists are strongly encouraged to access the 511 Traveler Information System to receive up-to-the-minute information on road closures. Knowing road conditions before leaving home can help motorists make critical decisions about their route."

The voice-activated 511 Traveler Information Service is available to most wireless and landline telephone users. The service allows callers to access up-to-date information about weather-related road conditions, construction activities and other critical incidents simply by dialing 511 from their telephone and saying the route or region about which they are seeking information. Out of-state travelers can call 1-888-ROAD-511 (1-888-762-3511). Travelers can also access information by visiting the 511 Traveler Information Web site at www.511la.org.

During severe weather conditions, motorists should drive slowly and carefully, avoid driving while distracted, and avoid driving through standing water. Always allow for extra driving time, reduce speeds when visibility is low, and make sure there is plenty of room between vehicles. As always, DOTD reminds motorists to buckle up and refrain from drinking and driving.