

Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas Ice Storm Restoration Update

Little Rock, Ark. – Feb. 3, 2009 – 5:00 p.m. – As restoration work continues, the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas continue to add to the number of crews working on the mass outages. As of 4:00 p.m. today, almost 3,000 line workers from 11 states are involved in the effort.

Today, approximately 62,797 members are without power. At the peak of the ice storm outages this number was almost 200,000.

“This type of vast natural disaster is almost incomprehensible,” said Doug White, vice president of systems services for the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas. “As work continues we cannot stress the importance of safety and patience enough both with the crews and the general public.”

White said that even if a member does not see a crew, they can rest assured that the line crews are hard at work replacing poles and the rebuilding the utility infrastructure.

Linemen from electric cooperatives in Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Texas are working to restore power at the seven cooperatives with the largest number of outages. Several contract line crews are also working across the service areas.

The hardest hit systems are in northern Arkansas. The cooperatives with outages include: Carroll Electric Cooperative, Berryville; Clay County Electric Cooperative, Corning; Craighead Electric Cooperative, Jonesboro; Farmers Electric Cooperative, Newport; First Electric Cooperative, Jacksonville; Mississippi County Electric Cooperative, Blytheville; North Arkansas Electric Cooperative, Salem; Ozarks Electric Cooperative, Fayetteville; and Petit Jean Electric Cooperative, Clinton. ***(A chart is attached for outages by cooperative; cooperative service territory map is also attached)***

The public is cautioned to avoid any downed power lines and to report them immediately to local authorities.

The Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas comprise 17 electric distribution cooperatives; Arkansas Electric Cooperatives Inc. (AECI), a Little Rock-based cooperative that provides various services to the distribution cooperatives; and Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corp. (AECC), a generation and transmission cooperative. The distribution cooperatives provide electricity to approximately 490,000 members, or customers, in Arkansas and surrounding states.

To see how your local electric cooperative typically goes about the task of restoring electric services go to: http://www.aecc.com/files/pdf/restoringpower/restoring_electricity.pdf

January 2009 Ice Storm Outage Report

<i>Updated 3:00 p.m. February 3, 2009</i>				
Electric Cooperative	Current Member Outages (est.)	Storm Peak Outages (est.)	Storm Total Broken Poles (est.)	Known Current Broken Poles (est.)
Arkansas Valley	0	4,400	100	0
Carroll	8,200	57,500	1660	1,660
Clay	7,200	12,000	15,000	14,000
Craighead	8,000	17,000	4,000	4,000
Farmers	400	3,500	500	200
First	22	8,300	225	0
Mississippi County	800	3,000	1,000	200
North Arkansas	21,505	30,500	2,000	900
Ozarks	12,770	51,000	1,200	100
Petit Jean	3,900	13,000	1,000	700
Rich Mountain	0	800	0	0
Woodruff	0	1300	0	0
Totals	62,797	202,300	26,685	21,760