

Little Rock, Ark. – Feb. 8, 2009 – 1 p.m. – As weekend restoration work continues electric cooperative crew members labor to restore electric service to more than 33,955 electric cooperative members.

The crews are working 16-hours-a-day to reestablish electric service for members and replace the thousands of poles and electric distribution infrastructure materials that were wrecked by the treacherous ice storm.

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

The cooperatives with outages include: Carroll Electric Cooperative, Berryville; Clay County Electric Cooperative, Corning; Craighead Electric Cooperative, Jonesboro; Farmers Electric Cooperative, Newport; Mississippi County Electric Cooperative, Blytheville; North Arkansas Electric Cooperative, Salem; Ozarks Electric Cooperative, Fayetteville; and Petit Jean Electric Cooperative, Clinton.

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/content.cfm?id=2210>