

Little Rock, Ark. – Feb. 10, 2009 – 9 a.m. – Electric cooperative crews battle inclement weather as they continue to charge forward in power restoration efforts at eight cooperatives. Presently, 20,187 electric cooperative members are without electric service down from a peak of approximately 210,300.

“A key fact in the outage situation is that the cooperatives average about six members per mile of electric distribution line,” said Doug White, vice president of systems services for the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas. “Some service territory areas are simply less populated. Our crews continue to work to restore the largest pockets of members as quickly and safely as possible.”

The number of line workers has climbed to more than 4,100. As crews complete restoration work at a cooperative they often move to the cooperatives that still have outages.

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. **(A chart is attached for outages by cooperative)**

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>

January 2009 Ice Storm Outage Report

<i>Updated 8:00 a.m. Feb. 10, 2009</i>				
Electric Cooperative	Current Member Outages (est.)	Storm Peak Outages (est.)	Storm Total Broken Poles (est.)	Current Broken Poles (est.)
Arkansas Valley	0	4,400	100	0
Carroll	275	57,500	1900	500
Clay	5,900	12,000	15,000	12,900
Craighead	5,200	25,000	4,000	2,150
Farmers	2	3,500	500	60
First	0	8,300	225	0
Mississippi County	210	3,000	1,000	225
North Arkansas	6,000	30,500	2,500	700
Ozarks*	1,100	51,000	1,600	500
Petit Jean	1,500	13,000	2,000	700
Rich Mountain	0	800	0	0
Woodruff	0	1300	0	0
Totals	20,187	210,300	28,825	17,735

*Ozarks-1900 outage total for AR & OK