

## ***Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas Ice Storm Restoration Update***

**Little Rock, Ark.** – Feb. 23, 2009 – 9 a.m. – After about a month of exhaustive efforts, electric cooperative crews are wrapping up the final ice storm power restoration. Fewer than 50 members remain without service.

“Crews plan to have electric service reestablished to all members that can accept service today,” said Doug White, vice president of systems services for the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas. “The amount of work performed by the line crews and support staff over the past few weeks is amazing.”

The remaining outages are at Clay County Electric, which had nearly 100 percent of its membership knocked out at the peak of the outages.

Current estimates place peak outages at approximately 215,700 and destroyed power poles at 34,225. The storm impacted 12 electric cooperatives across the northern tier of Arkansas.

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>