



POWERING THE LIVES OF CO-OP MEMBERS FOR OVER 75 YEARS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Power restoration efforts continue in Corn Belt Energy's service territory

BLOOMINGTON, IL — Tuesday, December 29, 2015— High winds, ice, sleet and wet conditions throughout the Corn Belt Energy service territory yesterday morning resulted in damage to several substations, over 130 broken poles and 6 broken transmission poles, downed lines, broken cross arms and downed trees. Although greater than half of the outages reported by the initial storm have been restored, 2,200 members remain without power, most of which have been out since early yesterday morning.

The majority of the damage is located in the north and west portions of the Corn Belt Energy service territory. Corn Belt Energy crews in conjunction with seven other electric cooperatives have been working since early Monday morning to restore power to members. Crews are working to have the transmission poles back up today.

We do not have estimated restoration times for the majority of the outages remaining. Even with the outside assistance from other cooperatives, restoration times could be prolonged in some areas. Corn Belt Energy encourages members to check on neighbors who may be without power, especially the elderly and those with physical limitations. We urge members who are concerned about prolonged outages to find an alternative location to stay such as a relative or friend's home or a local warming center.

We encourage members to contact us at 1-800-879-0339 to report power outages and downed lines or poles.

As a reminder, people should not go near any downed power lines, downed poles, or trees near lines. To check for outage updates, members can call 1-800-879-0339 or use their cell phone to view outage updates at www.cornbeltenergy.com or on Facebook or Twitter.

About Corn Belt Energy

Started in 1938 to bring electricity to rural Central Illinois, Corn Belt Energy Corporation now distributes electricity to over 35,000 households and businesses throughout 18 counties. One of the largest cooperatives in Illinois, Corn Belt Energy employs 85 people, maintains over 5,000 miles of line, and distributes electricity from the Wabash Valley Power Association, a generation and transmission cooperative based in Indiana. As a not-for-profit energy cooperative, Corn Belt Energy is owned by the members it serves and is committed to providing reliable, affordable energy. Governed by 13 directors who are themselves residential members, Corn Belt also supports energy efficiency, education, and safety initiatives. Learn more at www.cornbeltenergy.com.

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