



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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Winter storm outages have been restored

BLOOMINGTON, IL — Friday, January 1, 2016 — Crews have restored power to all members in the Corn Belt Energy service territory after a winter storm earlier this week producing high winds, ice, sleet and flooding left thousands of Corn Belt Energy members without power.

“The aftermath of the storm caused extensive damage within Corn Belt Energy’s service territory including several substations, over 100 broken poles, many broken cross arms, downed lines, and numerous trees in the lines. A substantial amount of the damage was located in flooded areas and private right-of-ways making restoration times prolonged,” said Don Taylor, President and CEO of Corn Belt Energy.

Corn Belt Energy thanks our members for their patience, and the media for helping us keep our members and the public updated on our progress. Corn Belt Energy appreciates the assistance of township commissioners and law enforcement for providing information and traffic management.

We would like to thank the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives for activating the Illinois Electric Cooperative Emergency Work Plan and helping Corn Belt Energy in bringing in crews from sister cooperatives to assist in the restoration process. The emergency work plan is designed to expeditiously provide personnel, equipment and materials to cooperatives in Illinois that needs assistance during an emergency. “We are grateful to have the assistance of Adams Electric Cooperative, Clay Electric Co-operative, Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative, EnerStar Electric Cooperative, Jo-Carroll Energy, and Menard Electric Cooperative, the City of Geneseo and the City of Princeton,” remarked Taylor.

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

We want to wish everyone a happy New Year, and remind everyone to be safe around electricity. Do not go near any downed power lines, downed poles, or trees near lines.

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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