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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### *Progress continues on outage restoration efforts in the wake of heavy ice and high winds*

**BLOOMINGTON, IL — Wednesday, February 13, 2019** — High winds and heavy ice throughout the Corn Belt Energy service territory yesterday and this morning resulted in downed lines, broken poles and loss of transmission feed impacting several Corn Belt Energy substations. Although greater than half of the outages reported by the initial storm have been restored, approximately 1,256 members remain without power, most of which have been out since early yesterday.

The majority of the damage is located in the northern portions of the Corn Belt Energy service territory. Corn Belt Energy has crews from Shelby Electric Cooperative and Menard Electric Cooperative continuing to work with Corn Belt Energy crews on repairing storm related damage including over 25 broken poles and many downed power lines. Corn Belt Energy has requested additional assistance from other electric cooperatives as well. Crews from Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative, EnerStar Electric Cooperative, and Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative will be joining the restoration efforts this morning. Corn Belt Energy continues to make safety and restoration of power a top priority.

At this time, we do not have estimated safe restoration times for the majority of the outages remaining. Even with the outside assistance, 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.





Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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](http://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 36,000 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](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com).

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