



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Tom Cuddy**  
**NIPSCO Communications Manager**  
219-647-6556

**POWER RESTORED TO MORE THAN 45,000 CUSTOMERS**

*NIPSCO Focusing Restoration Efforts on Hardest Hit Communities*

**MERRILLVILLE, Ind.** – Northern Indiana Public Service Company today announced that power has been restored to more than 45,000 customers and will be focusing its efforts in those communities where the electric infrastructure suffered the most damage.

NIPSCO anticipates power being restored by late this evening to customers in Cedar Lake, Chesterton, Westville and Pinola. Power will be restored by Friday evening to those customers in Lake Station, Portage and Hobart, which suffered the most damage of any communities in NIPSCO's service area.

NIPSCO crews and contractors have been working around the clock since Tuesday evening to repair damage, clear trees, reset many new utility poles, and safely restore power. NIPSCO recognizes that losing power is frustrating – especially during prolonged electric outages – and thanks customers for their patience.

At the height of the storm, which featured 70-mile-per-hour winds, hail, lightning, heavy rain and thunder, more than 52,000 customers were without power. Customers without power should check their weatherhead – a pipe coming out the electric meter box – for damage. If a customer suspects damage, they are should contact a licensed electrician to make repairs before NIPSCO crews arrive to restore power.

NIPSCO, with headquarters in Merrillville, Ind., is one of the 10 energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI). With over 712,000 natural gas customers and 445,000 electric customers across the northern third of Indiana, NIPSCO is the largest natural gas distribution company, and the second largest electric distribution company, in the state. NiSource distribution companies serve 3.8 million natural gas and electric customers primarily in nine states. More information about NIPSCO is available at [www.nipSCO.com](http://www.nipSCO.com).

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