

NEWS



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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NIPSCO REPAIR CREWS FINDING SEVERE DAMAGE TO LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD POWER LINES SLOWING RESTORATION EFFORTS

MERRILLVILLE, Ind. – As additional NIPSCO crews move from repairing main power circuits to local neighborhood and easement distribution lines, severe damage being found from fallen trees and broken poles is slowing restoration efforts.

While repair crews continue to focus on Lake County, it is now estimated that most customers in the hardest hit Lake County communities will not have power restored until Friday evening, with some customer restoration efforts extending into Saturday.

As of Thursday morning, NIPSCO has restored power to approximately 47,000 customers with 16,000 still without power.

Typically, after any major storm hits the area, there are numerous steps that take place before all power can be fully restored. After inspecting the major transmission lines that are feeding local substations for any damage, the process begins with making any necessary repairs to main distribution lines, which usually serve a large amount of customers in a given area.

Once repairs are made to main lines, crews focus on larger repairs that will result in restoring power to the most customers possible. The next stage of the process focuses on repairing lines and transformers that serve neighborhoods and smaller groups of customers. NIPSCO repair crews are now in this final stage of the restoration effort.

NIPSCO understands that this prolonged outage is frustrating to customers, but the employees of NIPSCO sincerely appreciate their patience and understanding, as work continues to restore power to all customers as quickly and as safely as possible.

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.

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