

NEWS



A NiSource Company

801 E. 86th Avenue
Merrillville, IN 46410

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 24, 2006

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Tom Cuddy, Manager
NIPSCO Communications
(219) 647-6556

NIPSCO CREWS MAKE PROGRESS WITH STORM RESTORATION EFFORTS

(3:30 p.m. Update)

MERRILLVILLE, Ind. – Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) crews continue to make progress in power restoration efforts following a series of major storm systems that struck northern Indiana last evening and early this morning.

Of the original 23,300 customers impacted by the storms, approximately 6,500 customers remain without electricity. These powerful storms brought high winds, extensive lightning, heavy rains and marble-sized hail to portions of NIPSCO's electric service area.

All available field crews, electric linemen and tree-trimming contractors will continue to work throughout today and tomorrow to restore power. The hardest hit areas are northern LaPorte and Porter counties. NIPSCO crews will work through the night to repair damage and restore power.

NIPSCO reminds customers to treat any downed power line as if live electricity is running through it. Customers should not go near downed power lines and keep children and pets far away. Downed power lines should be reported immediately to NIPSCO at 1-800-4-NIPSCO.

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.

###