



## RELEASED

29 September 2005 5 p.m.

### Cooperative restores power to 24,427 meters

LIVINGSTON – Service has been restored to 24,427 meters as of 5 p.m. Thursday, with 13 substations/metering points being energized. At the height of the storm, 64,000 meters were without service.

Cooperative employees and the more than 1,200 line and tree-trimming contractors from 12 states are working around the clock to restore service to as many members as possible. The eastern portion of the Cooperative territory has suffered significant damage. There are few meters online in Hardin, Tyler, Liberty and Jasper counties while approximately half the meters in Polk County are receiving power.

A base camp has been set up in the Woodville area housing 500 contract workers to help speed the recovery process in this area.

More than 5,000 poles were broken in the storm. Additionally, 1,500 miles of distribution line are on the ground. However, all of the Cooperative's 39 substations and metering points are functional. Thirteen of them are energized. The Cooperative has 6,000 miles of distribution lines.

Entergy Texas transmission lines normally supply the bulk of power used in the Cooperative's service area. More than 280 Entergy transmission lines were damaged as a result of Hurricane Rita. As Entergy transmission service is restored, Sam Houston EC distribution lines will be able to deliver power to many parts of the system, including the counties of Montgomery, San Jacinto, Walker and Trinity where repairs to Sam Houston EC lines are nearing completion.

Because of the excessive heat this week, members who live near the Huntsville area have experienced rolling blackouts under Entergy's load management scheduling. Please visit [www.energy.com](http://www.energy.com) for more details regarding this procedure.

Sam Houston EC asks members who have power to conserve electricity whenever possible as we work to bring more meters online.

We appreciate your patience in this difficult situation. Rest assured, we won't stop working until every light is turned back on.

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