



## RELEASED

October 3, 2005 6 p.m.

### Sam Houston EC restores 76 percent of system

LIVINGSTON – As of 5 pm Monday, Sam Houston Electric Cooperative has restored power to 48,925 meters, an increase of nearly 3,000 since this morning. Most services west of U.S. Hwy 59 have been restored. Cooperative employees have begun the task of calling members to confirm power restoration in Walker, Montgomery, San Jacinto, Angelina and Trinity counties, most of Polk County and parts of Liberty County.

Line crews are working at a rapid pace to clear trees and debris and to rebuild downed power lines in Tyler, Polk, Hardin, Liberty and Jasper counties. Tree removal crews are progressing rapidly through the area and line technicians are quickly rebuilding lines. Entergy is doing the same on its transmission lines. (Entergy's transmission lines feed electricity into Sam Houston EC's distribution system.)

After the tremendous storm, all of the Cooperative's 64,000 meters were without power. With an army of more than 1,200 workers, the lights have been coming on steadily across our 10-county service area. At this time, 76 percent of members have had their service restored. At the height of the storm, an estimated 1.5 million Texans were without power. The total figure is down to 250,000 in the Lone Star State.

All 10 of Sam Houston EC counties have now been declared disaster areas. To find out what aid is available to you, please visit [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) or call (800) 621-FEMA (3362).

If your power remains off when electricity returns to your area, your location may have a blown fuse or a damaged service line. Rest assured, you have not been forgotten. Please call 800-458-0381 to report the situation and a crew will be assigned to your case as soon as possible.

#### **Angelina County 1347 of 1347 have been restored**

Angelina County has been declared a major disaster area. As of Sunday, service to Angelina County Members has been restored. Should you experience an outage, please call 800-458-0381 to report the situation and a crew will be assigned to your case as soon as possible.

**Hardin County****0 of 4151 have been restored**

Hardin County was devastated by Rita and has been declared a disaster area. Lines will be rebuilt as the tree removal process progresses. Entergy is working to restore transmission services to the area. Sam Houston EC serves in the areas of Sour Lake, Spurger, Honey Island, Hardin and Kountze. As workers finish in other parts of the Sam Houston EC territory, they are joining others already in Hardin County to speed the process of recovery.

**Liberty****6160 of 9712 have been restored**

Liberty County was devastated by Rita and has been declared a disaster area. Lines will be rebuilt as the tree removal process progresses. Sam Houston EC serves in the areas of Long John, Batson, Rye, and Tarkington. As of 7 pm Friday, all Sam Houston EC substations in the Liberty County area were energized.

Feeders from the Tarkington, Rye, Long John and Hightower substations are energized. Keep in mind that there may be some areas in which repairs still are needed as well as some individual cases. Service crews have been dedicated to this task.

**Montgomery 8473 of 8473 have been restored**

Although initially thought to have escaped the worst of Rita, Montgomery County has been declared a major disaster area. Due to high winds and trees that damage facilities, repairs to Entergy's transmission line to that area were required.

As of Sunday, service to Montgomery County Members has been restored. Should you experience an outage, please call 800-458-0381 to report the situation and a service crew will make the necessary repairs as soon as possible.

**Polk****17,206 of 19,481 have been restored**

Hurricane Rita hit Polk County extremely hard, especially on the eastern side. Saturday, it was declared a major disaster area. Restoration efforts have progressed well, as many areas surrounding Livingston are now back on line.

The substations that service areas around Corrigan, Indian Village and Indian Springs were energized this weekend. The Cooperative has steadily added load to these areas throughout the day.

Keep in mind that there may be some small areas in which repairs still are needed as well as individual cases. Service crews have been dedicated to that task.

The substation that serves the Menard area has not been energized at this time. Efforts to restore transmission services to this substation are progressing.

**San Jacinto 9891 of 10,115 have been restored**

San Jacinto County meters were among the first to be restored to service. At this time, service to most San Jacinto County members has been restored. If you are still without

power, please call 800-458-0381. There may be a blown fuse or a problem with your service drop. Crews are now repairing remaining locations.

The Cooperative is working to restore the last pocket of members in the Shepherd area.

**Trinity                      1806 of 1806 have been restored**

The Carlisle substation has been energized, and Sam Houston EC members are receiving power. Please report any outages to 800-458-0381. Crews have been assigned to repair remaining locations.

**Tyler                      0 of 5446 have been restored**

Tyler County was devastated by Rita and has been declared a disaster area. Lines will be rebuilt as the tree removal process progresses. Sam Houston EC serves in the areas of Hillister, Woodville, Chester, Ivanhoe, Fork Creek and Beech Creek. These areas have thousands of downed trees that are being removed. As workers finish in other parts of the Sam Houston EC territory, they are joining others already in Tyler County to speed the process of recovery.

**Walker                      4042 of 4042 have been restored**

As of Sunday, power has been restored to most Sam Houston EC Walker County members. Crews are now repairing service to the remaining locations. Please report any further outages to 800-458-0381.