



RELEASED

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Cooperative passes 50,000 meters plateau in power restoration efforts

LIVINGSTON – Sam Houston Electric Cooperative continues restoration efforts in its 10-county service territory. With more than 1,200 linemen and tree removal workers from across the United States assisting, Sam Houston EC has restored electricity to Montgomery, Walker, Trinity, San Jacinto, Angelina and Polk counties. Many crews that had been working in those counties have been relocated into Hardin, Tyler and Liberty counties.

Monday, Sam Houston EC was able to provide power to some members in Tyler and Hardin counties for the first time since the landfall of Hurricane Rita Sept. 24. As of 8 am Wednesday, 321 members' homes near the Woodville area are lit up while 225 members around Kountze are receiving power as well.

With more than 500 line technicians and tree trimmers stationed in Woodville along with Entergy Texas restoring transmission services to the area, Sam Houston EC expects to continue making steady progress in Tyler County and Hardin County.

Overall, Sam Houston has restored power to 51,418 of its 64,573 meters since the hurricane's landfall, which is 80 percent of its distribution system

At the height of the storm, all 64,000 of Sam Houston EC's meters were without power. Additionally, more than 5,000 poles were broken and 1,500 miles of distribution line were on the ground. Sam Houston EC has fully or partially energized 28 of its 34 substations and metering points. Currently, there are 13,155 meters with out power, mostly in Hardin, Tyler, Liberty and Jasper counties.

In Texas, an estimated 1.5 million customers in 47 counties were without power at the after Rita. These 47 counties have a total population of 7 million people and are served by 14 investor-owned utilities and electric cooperatives. There are now less than 175,000 customers in the Lone Star State without power.

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

Cooperative employees have begun the task of calling members to confirm power restoration in Angelina, San Jacinto, Walker, Montgomery and Trinity counties, along with most members in Polk County. However, if your power remains off after electricity returned 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.

Hardin County 225 of 4119 have been restored

The Kountze metering point was restored Tuesday afternoon.

Lines are being 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.

Many of the people working to restore power in Hardin County are based in nearby Woodville at a 500-person base camp.

Liberty 6952 of 9712 have been restored

As of Tuesday, power has been restored to all or parts of Kenefick, Trinity River Lake Estates, Woodland Hills, Dayton Lakes, Moss Hill, Hull and Daisetta.

Lines are being rebuilt as the tree removal process progresses. Feeders from the Tarkington, Rye, Long John (Dayton area) and Hightower (Cleveland area) substations are energized.

There are still pockets of outages in these areas that crew are working to repair as well as some individual outage cases. Service crews have been dedicated to this task.

Polk 18,137 of 19,481 have been restored

Cooperative restoration efforts have focused on Corrigan, Camden, Indian Village, Indian Springs and Menard over the past few days. Load has been rapidly added near Corrigan, Camden, Indian Village and Indian Springs, with the Corrigan and Indian substations carrying near full loads, while transmission issues near Menard in south Polk County have been resolved.

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

Tyler 321 of 5446 have been restored

Sam Houston EC continues to add load to its Deer substation, which serves the area surrounding Woodville to the west and north. Although there is much construction to do, the Cooperative has a staff of 500 people in the area to facilitate this job.

Sam Houston EC serves in the areas of Hillister, Woodville, Chester, Ivanhoe, Fork Creek, Beech Creek and Spurger. 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.