



RELEASED

October 5, 2005 8 p.m.

Service restored to 55,000

LIVINGSTON – Hard work by line and tree trimming crews allowed Sam Houston Electric Cooperative to restore 4,000 additional meters Wednesday. With the Menard substation being energized, Polk County has been fully restored. Additionally, progress near Long John (Dayton), Tarkington and Hightower (Cleveland) has reduced the total outages in Liberty County to less than 1,500 meters, which Sam Houston EC expects to restore within the next few days.

As of 7 p.m., service has been restored to 54,739 meters, which is 85 percent of the system. Members in Angelina, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity and Walker counties have had their service restored. However, if are in one of those counties and 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.

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).

Hardin County 595 of 4119 have been restored

All substations and metering points in Hardin County have been energized. The Cooperative restored power to the Kountze area Wednesday morning and added load near Sour Lake later in the day.

Sam Houston EC will continue to add load near Sour Lake while continuing restoration efforts near Batson and Honey Island. The Hardin metering point, which serves Hardin and Liberty counties, has not been energized at this time. Lines are being rebuilt as the tree removal process progresses. Entergy is working to restore transmission services to the area. Many of the people working to restore power in Hardin County are based in nearby Woodville at a 500-person base camp.

Liberty **8280 of 9712 have been restored**

Just 1,432 members remain without power in Liberty County, mainly around the Tarkington and Cleveland area. Crews are working to restore services to these remaining members as soon as possible.

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

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

With the transmission services restored to the Menard substation, Sam Houston EC was able to turn on the last lights out in its Polk County service territory. Service crews are repairing any individual cases that are being reported due to blown fuses or damaged service drops.

Tyler **601 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.

The Spurger and Beech Creek metering points were energized Wednesday while Hillister and Fork Creek remain offline.

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