

## Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas Ice Storm Restoration Update

**Little Rock, Ark.** – Feb. 12, 2009 – 9 a.m. – The Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas report that approximately 15,243 cooperative members remain without electric service, however more than 4,200 line workers remain steadfast in their efforts to restore service to the members.

“The cooperative personnel that are working to restore power are to be commended,” said Doug White, vice president of systems services for the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas. “In a period of weeks crews have basically rebuilt large portions of electric distribution infrastructure that took decades to construct.”

White said that in addition to line workers, office personnel at the cooperatives have worked around the clock to ensure that phones are answered and the line crews are supported.

At the peak of the outages, the cooperatives estimate that more than 210,300 members were without electric service and more than 32,000 poles were destroyed.

The Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas urges cooperative members to use caution both within and outside their homes. Candles, lanterns, and temporary heating devices can pose a fire hazard. Home generators should be properly vented to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning, and they should be connected to home wiring through appropriate protective devices to prevent power from feeding back onto the utility’s wires.

The cooperatives with outages include: Carroll Electric Cooperative, Berryville; Clay County Electric Cooperative, Corning; Craighead Electric Cooperative, Jonesboro; Mississippi County Electric Cooperative, Blytheville; North Arkansas Electric Cooperative, Salem; Ozarks Electric Cooperative, Fayetteville; and Petit Jean Electric Cooperative, Clinton. **(A chart is attached for outages by cooperative)**

The public is cautioned to avoid any downed power lines and to report them immediately to local authorities.

The Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas comprise 17 electric distribution cooperatives; Arkansas Electric Cooperatives Inc. (AECI), a Little Rock-based cooperative that provides various services to the distribution cooperatives; and Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corp. (AECC), a generation and transmission cooperative. The distribution cooperatives provide electricity to approximately 490,000 members, or customers, in Arkansas and surrounding states.

To see how your local electric cooperative typically goes about the task of restoring electric services go to: <http://www.aecc.com/content.cfm?id=2210>

## January 2009 Ice Storm Outage Report

<i>Updated 9:00 a.m. Feb. 12, 2009</i>				
<b>Electric Cooperative</b>	<b>Current Member Outages (est.)</b>	<b>Storm Peak Outages (est.)</b>	<b>Storm Total Broken Poles (est.)</b>	<b>Current Broken Poles (est.)</b>
Arkansas Valley	0	4,400	100	0
Carroll	10	57,500	1900	500
Clay	5,100	12,000	15,000	9,800
Craighead	4,500	25,000	8,000	5,000
Farmers	0	3,500	500	50
First	0	8,300	225	0
Mississippi County	210	3,000	1,000	200
North Arkansas	3,500	30,500	2,500	650
Ozarks*	723	51,000	1,600	450
Petit Jean	1,200	13,000	2,000	650
Rich Mountain	0	800	0	0
Woodruff	0	1300	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>15,243</b>	<b>210,300</b>	<b>32,825</b>	<b>17,300</b>