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Crews work around the clock to restore power after pre-Thanksgiving storm

DULUTH, Minn. - Minnesota Power crews worked around the clock to restore power after the first snowstorm of the season hit the region Tuesday and Wednesday.

By late Wednesday afternoon crews had restored power to the majority of customers from a peak of about 5,000 late Wednesday morning. Crews are working through the evening to restore power to the 100 remaining customers.

Among the hardest hit areas were Little Falls, Carlton, Cloquet and the Lakeside neighborhood in Duluth. Ice, heavy snow and high winds brought down trees and power lines and poles. Multiple sections of line were down in several areas and additional crews were called in to help.

Customers are reminded that if the electric service meter or mast attached to their home has been damaged, they will need to contact an electrician to make repairs before their power can be restored.

The safety of our crews and customers is our top priority during this outage response. Stay away from any and all downed power lines and do not attempt to remove tree branches that may have fallen on lines. Always assume that downed wires are energized. Please give crews the space they need to work safely along roads and streets and slow down when driving near them.

Stay informed through app, websites

We encourage customers to download our mobile app to be able to report an outage, view the outage map and check power restoration times. To download the app for Apple iOS or Android, go to the Minnesota Power app webpage at https://www.mnpower.com/MobileApp and click on the App Store or Google Play button in the banner at the top of the page. You will then be linked to the webpage where the app can be installed on your device.

Our online Outage Center at www.mnpower.com/OutageCenter also includes outage maps and information on power restoration times. Following Minnesota Power on Twitter or Facebook is another way to get timely updates on power outages.

About Minnesota Power

Minnesota Power provides electric service within a 26,000-square-mile area in northeastern Minnesota, supporting comfort, security and quality of life for 150,000 customers, 14 municipalities and some of the largest industrial customers in the United States. More information can be found at www.mnpower.com.

About ALLETE, Inc.

ALLETE, Inc. is an energy company headquartered in Duluth, Minnesota. In addition to its regulated utilities, Minnesota Power and Superior Water, Light and Power of Wisconsin, ALLETE owns ALLETE Clean Energy, based in Duluth, Minnesota; BNI Energy in Bismarck, North Dakota; and New Energy Equity, headquartered in Annapolis, Maryland; and has an 8% equity interest in the American Transmission Co. More information about ALLETE is available at www.allete.com. ALE-CORP

ALLETE calculates and reports carbon emissions based on the GHG Protocol. Details in ALLETE's Corporate Sustainability Report.

The statements contained in this release and statements that ALLETE may make orally in connection with this release that are not historical facts, are forward-looking statements. Actual results may differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties and investors are directed to the risks discussed in documents filed by ALLETE with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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