



FOR RELEASE: Feb. 18, 2026

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Minnesota Power crews make progress restoring power during severe winter storm

DULUTH, Minn. – Minnesota Power is responding safely and as quickly as possible to restore power to customers as a winter storm continues to pummel northern Minnesota today.

Crews worked throughout Tuesday night when the wind and snow kicked in with about 6,500 customers without power at the peak of the storm. About 1,600 customers remained without power at 10 a.m. today.

The hardest-hit areas include Duluth, Cloquet and Carlton, where the combination of strong winds and heavy, wet snow brought down numerous trees and branches onto power lines. Most of the outages are the result of trees on wires and the ongoing high winds and poor road conditions continue to challenge restoration efforts. Minnesota Power has called in extra line and tree crews.

The safety of our crews and customers is of top priority during this outage response. Stay clear of downed power lines, poles and wires. Keep pets and children away from those areas. Do not attempt to touch or lift any wire with poles or sticks. Do not get out of your vehicle on or near wires. All power lines should be considered energized and dangerous.

Our customers' patience is appreciated as we recognize the inconvenience caused by the outages.

Stay informed through app, website, social media

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 <https://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.

Customers are reminded that they can call Minnesota Power at 1-800-307-6937 to report a downed wire or outage.

Tips to weather a storm

- Keep a “Lights Out” kit in an accessible place with at least one flashlight, a battery-powered radio and extra batteries.
- Use candles or camping lanterns with caution.
- Turn off televisions, stoves, microwave ovens, stereo equipment and other appliances except your refrigerator and freezer.
- Leave at least one light on so you'll know when power has been restored.
- Do not go near any low or downed wires as injury or death could occur. Always assume downed power lines are energized.

For more “Lights Out” tips, visit: <https://www.mnpower.com/OutageCenter/WhatToDoIfLightsGoOut>.

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 electric 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.

ALLETE calculates and reports carbon emissions based on the GHG Protocol. Details in ALLETE's [Corporate Sustainability Report](#).

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