

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release



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Subject: Western Iowa Cooperatives Lend Storm Recovery Help

The rural electric cooperatives of Western Iowa sent linemen and trucks to other cooperatives in the southern counties of the state hit by ice and snow earlier this week.

Six cooperatives sent a total of 30 linemen in 15 trucks, taking with them poles and line hardware needed to make the repairs.

Participating in the reconstruction efforts are:

- North West REC of Orange City, which sent four linemen in two basket trucks to Southwest Iowa REC in Stanton, and two linemen and a digger truck to Clarke Electric Cooperative in Osceola.
- Harrison County REC of Woodbine, which sent four linemen in one basket truck and one digger truck with pole trailer to Southwest Iowa REC in Mount Ayr.
- Woodbury County REC of Merville, which sent four linemen in one basket truck and one digger truck along with a pole trailer to Southwest Iowa REC in Mount Ayr.
- Western Iowa Power Cooperative of Denison, which sent two linemen in a basket truck to Southwest Iowa REC in Mount Ayr.
- Nishnabotna Valley REC in Harlan, which sent two linemen and a truck to Clarke Electric Cooperative, and two linemen and a truck to Pella Cooperative Electric Association in Pella.
- Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative of Estherville, which sent 10 linemen, two basket trucks, three digger trucks and two pole trailers to Southwest Iowa REC in Mount Ayr.

The crews all were expected to work three to four days repairing and replacing downed lines and poles for the cooperatives that suffered damage. Iowa's electric cooperatives have a mutual aid agreement to assist each other during times of crisis. The cooperative which suffered damages pays the cost of the repair work.

The western Iowa cooperatives all are members of Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative of Le Mars. NIPCO, a Touchstone Energy cooperative, is a wholesale electric generation and transmission cooperative owned by six rural electric cooperatives and also by a full-service municipal electric cooperative serving six western Iowa towns. Touchstone Energy is a national alliance of local, consumer-owned electric cooperatives providing high standards of service to customers large and small. More than 640 Touchstone Energy cooperatives in 46 states deliver energy and energy solutions to more than 22 million customers every day. Touchstone Energy cooperatives serve their members with integrity, accountability, innovation and a long-standing commitment to communities.

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