

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release



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Date: March 21, 2025 (6:00 p.m.)

Subject: Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative (NIPCO) March 21 Operations Update

LE MARS, IOWA - Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative (NIPCO) continues its work to restore transmission infrastructure following the March 19 severe winter storm, which caused the most significant damage to the NIPCO system in 34 years.

NIPCO has worked through the day, focusing its efforts on four key areas in western Woodbury, Monona, and Harrison Counties near the communities of Salix, Onawa, and Mondamin. Currently, 43 transmission lineworkers are in the field, comprising eight from NIPCO, eight from East River Electric Power Cooperative, fifteen from Corn Belt Power Cooperative, and twelve from Watts Electric.

In the late afternoon and early evening hours, all required materials have been procured.

Today's operations have transitioned to rebuild efforts. Crews continue to face ongoing challenges accessing certain line sections due to difficult terrain, heavy mud from melting snow, and increasing windy conditions as Friday evening approaches.

As of 6:00 p.m. Friday, March 21, significant progress has been made:

- 150 structures require replacement, down 50 from our noon update
- 13 substations remain offline
- Member outages have decreased to 567, down approximately 150 from our noon report

Affected members include those served by Harrison County REC, Western Iowa Power Cooperative (WIPCO), Western Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative Association (WIMECA), and Woodbury County REC.

NIPCO is grateful for the patience and understanding of our member cooperatives and their consumers during this challenging time. The safety of our crews and western Iowa residents remains our top priority as we work to restore service.

For the latest information on restoration efforts:

- Visit: <https://www.nipco.coop/2025-winter-storm-outage-updates>
- Follow: Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative on Facebook

The next update will be provided by NOON on Saturday, March 22.

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Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative (NIPCO) is a generation and transmission electric cooperative supplying wholesale electric power to 7 distribution cooperatives covering 6,500 square miles in western Iowa. These distribution cooperatives supply retail power to over 33,000 member-consumers. NIPCO serves these customers with over 950 miles of 69kV transmission lines and 82 distribution substations. Incorporated in 1949 and headquartered in Le Mars, Iowa, NIPCO is a Touchstone Energy® electric cooperative and a member of Basin Electric Power Cooperative.