

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release



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Date: March 20, 2025 (8:00 a.m.)

Subject: Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative (NIPCO) Works to Bring Western Iowa Communities Back Online

LE MARS, IOWA — Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative (NIPCO) is currently focusing on restoring power following yesterday's severe winter storm that caused significant damage across western Iowa.

Crews have been mobilized to priority areas to remove damaged electric infrastructure and begin repairs. NIPCO has secured mutual aid from neighboring transmission cooperatives in Iowa and South Dakota to assist with restoration efforts, though many transmission lines are down in difficult-to-access areas.

Early this morning, crews were dispatched to the hardest-hit locations, with concentrated efforts in Monona County near Onawa. Thanks to overnight work by NIPCO operations teams and member distribution cooperatives, power has been restored to some communities, though significant challenges remain.

Current situation assessment:

- Approximately 18 miles of downed transmission lines
- 18 substations currently offline
- Approximately 1,700 member-consumers still without power

These outages are affecting members of Harrison County REC, Nishnabotna Valley REC, Western Iowa Power Cooperative (WIPCO), Western Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative Association (WIMECA), and Woodbury County REC.

NIPCO is maintaining close communication with member cooperatives and will continue to coordinate restoration efforts. Regular updates will be provided as the situation develops.

We sincerely appreciate the patience and understanding of our member cooperatives and their consumers during this challenging time. The safety of our crews and western Iowans remain our top priority as we work diligently 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 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 20.

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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.