

Pierce Pepin crews restore power

Ellsworth, Wis. – Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services experienced extensive power outages as a result of the July 5 storm that rolled through the region. At the height of the storm, approximately 1900 consumers were without power.

The storm, with damaging winds, rain and five confirmed tornadoes across western Wisconsin, hit Pierce County in the early evening on July 5. By 11 o'clock that evening, PPCS declared an emergency and began calling in crews from neighboring cooperatives to assist in the restoration of power. Power outages were widespread across the entire PPCS system that includes Pierce and Pepin counties, and portions of St. Croix and Buffalo counties. Affected townships were Clifton, River Falls, Trimble, Trenton, Diamond Bluff, Ellsworth, Hartland, El Paso, Salem, Maiden Rock and Stockholm in Pierce County, and Pepin, Frankfort, Waubeek, Durand and Waterville in Pepin County.

Linemen from three Wisconsin cooperatives—Polk Burnett Electric Cooperative, St. Croix Electric Cooperative and Eau Claire Energy Cooperative—assisted PPCS crews with restoration. Crews from Zielie's Tree Service were also called in to clear downed trees and brush, allowing the linemen to get into affected areas.

"We are very grateful for the assistance we received from our neighboring cooperatives and Zielie's Tree Service, and the excellent work they did," said Brad Ristow, vice president, electric operations. "With their assistance, we were able to get power back to our members in a timely manner. We are also very appreciative of the patience our members demonstrated."

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About Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services

Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services is an energy services cooperative located in Ellsworth, Wisconsin, offering electric utility services to homes and businesses. As a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services is committed to excellence, innovation and integrity, and is dedicated to helping its communities live better. For more information, call 1-800-924-2133 or visit www.piercepepin.com.