



U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

2011 Spring Storm Report # 5

April 30, 2011 (10:00am EDT)

http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/emergency_sit_rpt.aspx

Summary

Table with 3 columns: Impacted State, Electric Customer Outages, % of State Out. Rows include Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Tennessee, Virginia, and a TOTAL row.

Note:

States with less than 1,000 outages are not included in the tables.

Due to a large number of service providers, including investor owned utilities and cooperatives, the number of customer outages reported may not be comprehensive.

Sources:

Outages obtained from company web sites and DOE communications.

Total State customers are based on 2008 EIA Customer Data.

Highlights:

- Beginning Wednesday April 27, 2011, severe storms with heavy rain, hail, and tornadoes impacted States in the Mid-Atlantic and Southern regions. As of 9:00 am EDT, April 30, 2011, the impacted States report a total of 494,877 customers without power. This is a decrease from the 621,040 customers reported in yesterday afternoon's Situation Report #4. Restoration efforts by electric utilities are reported below.

ESF 12 Actions:

- ESF-12 is staffing the National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) in Washington, DC. ESF-12 has been activated to the Region IV Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) in Atlanta, GA.

Restoration Activities:

- The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) reported Friday evening (April 29) that 23 transmission lines have been returned to service and power has been restored to more than half of the connections between TVA and its distributor customers. TVA still estimates that full restoration will occur early next week. The company has 4,000 employees and contractors working on power restoration including repairing the over 200 poles or steel structures that were damaged by the storm.



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- The storm caused all three nuclear reactor units at the TVA owned Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant in Alabama to shut down on April 27th. The units were automatically and safely shut down after offsite transmission lines serving the plant were damaged. All three units have achieved cold shutdown. **TVA continues to power the plant using onsite diesel generators and one 161 kV transmission line.**
- **Huntsville Utilities in Alabama has over 450 of its employees and 15 electric crews from Florida, Tennessee, and South Alabama in the field working to restore power. The company estimated that it may take until Monday (May 2) until a significant amount of power would come back into its system.** The utility reported yesterday (April 29) that it may take 4-6 days to complete full restoration for all of its customers.
- **Georgia Power expects to have customers in Bartow and Floyd counties restored by this evening (April 30) and the remaining customers restored by Sunday (May 1).**
- **EPB Chattanooga reports that it might not be able to restore power to all of its customers until Thursday (May 5).**
- **Entergy estimates most of its customers in Mississippi will be restored today (April 30) and some isolated cases will not be restored until tomorrow (May 1). In Mississippi the storm damaged 170 poles, 80 transformers, and 115 cross arms.**
- **AEP Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO), which serves Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas, estimates that 95 percent of its customers will be restored by tonight (April 30).**
- Alabama Power estimates that 95 percent of their customers will be restored by Wednesday (May 4). The company reports that the storm damaged 3,000 poles and 100 transmission structures and destroyed five substations. Company crews continue to work to restore power along with mutual assistance crews from eighteen States.
- The Alabama Rural Electric Cooperative reports that 300 line workers from cooperatives in southern Alabama which were not as hard hit, have joined the restoration efforts. Additionally, crews from cooperatives in Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina have come to assist in the restoration.