
**Mor-Gran-Sou
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To: Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Members
From: Donald A. Franklund, Co-Manager
Clayton Hoffman, Co-Manager
Date: February 11, 2010
RE: **Storm Update**

Many thanks are due to countless individuals, businesses, and organizations that helped Mor-Gran-Sou Electric recover from the inclement weather conditions that began with heavy frost on Jan. 20.

We apologize for any inconvenience that may have resulted from the extended outages.

No one that we have visited with can remember a worse outage situation. It covered such a large region in North and South Dakota: 160 miles wide by 300 miles long. Major damage was caused at nine electric cooperatives.

The weather conditions were severe for many days and moving snow to get to the downed lines was an enormous task.

Contractors had to be called in from states as far away as Colorado and Missouri in order to restore power as quickly as possible.

The storm broke more than 1,000 poles at Mor-Gran-Sou Electric and caused a countless number of wire breaks. The damage was so severe that nearly 6,000 of the cooperative's 7,500 consumers lost power. That is about 80 percent of our total membership. Collectively, North Dakota electric co-ops lost more than 4,000 utility poles.

The worst aspect of this storm or any storm of this magnitude is that the damage resulted in extended power outages for thousands of member-consumers. Extended power outages are a serious hardship for some folks and a major inconvenience for others. That is frustrating for the cooperative's management, directors, staff, and employees, as we always wish we could safely fix everything that gets broken, faster than is humanly possible.

What does help us restore power as quickly and safely as possible is cooperation among every cooperative. Several cooperatives offered their personnel and equipment to assist us to get the power flowing as quickly as possible.

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Members

Storm Update

February 11, 2010

When storms knock out power for days, it is a brutal reminder of the fact that 24/7 electric service 365 days of the year is not possible. In spite of decades of building the electric system to meet rigid construction standards as well as performing stringent routine maintenance, we are still at the mercy of the weather.

Some important considerations for all of our members to be aware of during the next few months:

- We have restored power to all of our residents, but to get our system back to normal operating standards will take us the rest of the year.
 - There will be more outages than usual.
 - Well services will not be worked on until the rest of the system is restored. Members may want to consider other options until we can restore service.
- Landowners will be allowed to begin clean-up on their land at their convenience.
 - Before you begin, make sure there are no live wires near the area you are working. If there are any broken wires or low hanging lines, **CALL OUR OFFICE.**
 - If you are taking the damaged poles, please take the whole pole that is remaining on the ground. Any metal pieces you do not want, please lay by the remaining pole butts.
 - Do not try to salvage any power line conductors or pole butts.
- A lot of generators were hooked up during the storm outages. Please call our office if you need a transfer switch or if you may need an electrician to make sure the generator is properly wired.

On behalf of the staff and board of directors of Mor-Gran-Sou Electric, thank you for your cooperation, support and patience, as we worked to restore electricity during and after the storm.