

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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TULSA, OK – Restoration efforts continue for Southwestern Power Administration (Southwestern), an agency of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), following a January 26-27, 2009 ice storm that damaged Southwestern’s transmission system in Arkansas and Missouri.

Over two-thirds of Southwestern’s damaged transmission system has already been repaired, thanks to non-stop work by Southwestern crews as well as crews contracted from North Houston Pole Line, Tescosco, and Western Area Power Administration.

The only lines that remain out of service are those connecting municipalities in southeast Missouri and northeast Arkansas. New Madrid and Kennett, Missouri, are connected to the electrical grid through another Southwestern transmission line, while Malden, Missouri, has obtained a temporary interconnection with Ameren, a neighboring utility. Southwestern expects Piggott, Arkansas, to be energized by late Saturday, February 14, 2009.

| Length of Line Restored | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Line Segment | Voltage | Length (miles) |
| Malden to Piggott | 69-kV | 6.0 |
| Kennett to Piggott | 69-kV | 11.6 |
| Sikeston to New Madrid | 161-kV | 22.6 |
| Jonesboro to Water Valley | 161-kV | 35.4 |
| Kennett to Paragould | 161-kV | 28.1 |
| Paragould to Center Hill | 161-kV | 5.2 |
| Bull Shoals Dam to Hilltop | 161-kV | 34.4 |
| Dardanelle Dam to Hilltop | 161-kV | 63.6 |
| Viola to China | 69-kV | 18.4 |
| | Total | 225.3 |

| Length of Line Out of Service | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Line Segment | Voltage | Length (miles) |
| Malden to Piggott | 69-kV | 15.0 |
| New Madrid to Malden | 69-kV | 22.5 |
| New Madrid to Kennett | 161-kV | 37.2 |
| | Total | 74.7 |

Please see the next update on Southwestern’s restoration efforts on Tuesday, February 17, 2009.

Southwestern Power Administration is an agency of the U.S. Department of Energy. Its mission is to market and reliably deliver Federal hydroelectric power with preference to public bodies and cooperatives. This is accomplished by maximizing the use of Federal assets to repay the Federal investment and participating with other water resource users in an effort to balance their diverse interests with power needs within broad parameters set by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and implementing public policy.