SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION	PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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TULSA, OK – One of the last major segments of Southwestern's transmission system still out of service following a major ice storm in January was restored to power Friday, February 20, 2009.

The 21-mile stretch of transmission line running from Malden, Missouri, to Piggott, Arkansas, was fully restored and energized after being out of service for nearly a month. Southwestern and contractor crews have been working from daylight till dusk removing destroyed poles, installing new ones, and replacing damaged electrical conductor in this especially hard-hit area of southeast Missouri and northeast Arkansas.

According to maintenance reports, Malden took a voluntary outage Saturday night, and successfully switched over from a temporary connection to the electrical grid through a neighboring utility back to a permanent connection through Southwestern.

Only two line segments –New Madrid to Malden and New Madrid to Kennett – remain out of service.

Length of Line Restored		
Line Segment	**Voltage**	**Length (miles)**
Malden to Piggott	**69-kV**	**21.0**
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	**240.3**

Length of Line Out of Service		
Line Segment	**Voltage**	**Length (miles)**
New Madrid to Malden	69-kV	22.5
New Madrid to Kennett	161-kV	37.2
	Total	**59.7**

Please see the next update on Southwestern's restoration efforts on Monday, March 2, 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.