

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Date: 03/04/09	Contacts: Beth Nielsen William Hiller	Phone: 918-595-6762 918-595-6697	Email: elizabeth.nielsen@swpa.gov william.hiller@swpa.gov
--------------------------	--	---	---

TULSA, OK – Southwestern Power Administration (Southwestern) is advising of the necessity to coordinate a short-term outage with the cities of Piggott, Arkansas, and Malden, Missouri, following a static wire failure on the Kennett, Missouri, to Piggott, Arkansas, 69-kilovolt transmission line, which was restored in mid-February following the January ice storm.

Southwestern operations staff reported early today that the static wire, which is positioned above the three electrical phases of the conductor at the top of the transmission poles, broke free and was hanging between the phases. Southwestern crews have secured the wire, but the cities have been advised that a two- to three-hour outage will be necessary to reposition the wire.

To lessen the impact to the citizens of Piggott and Malden, Southwestern and the two cities have scheduled the outage to occur today in the late afternoon, from approximately 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., after school has been dismissed and before the evening peak energy use hours.

Southwestern has been advised by the cities that critical loads, such as hospitals, emergency response centers, and water treatment plants will not be interrupted during the outage because they will be served by the cities’ own internal generation.

Temporary Outage – March 4, 2009		
Line Segment	Voltage	Length (miles)
Kennett to Piggott	69-kV	11.6
	Total	11.6

Length of Line Restored		
Line Segment	Voltage	Length (miles)
New Madrid to Kennett	161-kV	10.0
Malden to Piggott	69-kV	21.0
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	238.7

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	27.2
	Total	49.7

Please see the next update on Southwestern’s restoration efforts on Monday, March 9, 2009.

**SOUTHWESTERN
POWER ADMINISTRATION**

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Date: 03/04/09	Contacts: Beth Nielsen William Hiller	Phone: 918-595-6762 918-595-6697	Email: elizabeth.nielsen@swpa.gov william.hiller@swpa.gov
--------------------------	--	---	---

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.