

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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TULSA, OK – Southwestern Power Administration (Southwestern) is advising of the necessity to coordinate a short-term outage with the city of Malden, Missouri, following failure of a crossarm on the transmission line between the cities of Malden, Missouri, and Piggott, Arkansas. The crossarm will have to be replaced to ensure safe operation of Southwestern’s transmission system.

Southwestern operations staff reported yesterday that an outage has been scheduled with Malden on Wednesday, March 11, 2009, from approximately 3:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. As with an earlier scheduled outage of Southwestern’s system in the same area, the outage has been set to occur immediately following the dismissal of school but before peak energy use begins in the evening.

Southwestern crews and contractors continue to make steady progress repairing ice-damaged transmission lines connecting New Madrid, Missouri, to Malden, Missouri, and New Madrid to Kennett, Missouri. Nearly all poles have been replaced, and crews are now working on the support structures necessary to install new electrical conductor and static wire.

Temporary Outage – March 11, 2009		
Line Segment	Voltage	Length (miles)
Malden to Piggott	69-kV	21.0
	Total	21.0

Length of Line Restored		
Line Segment	Voltage	Length (miles)
New Madrid to Malden	69-kV	10.0
New Madrid to Kennett	161-kV	20.0
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	249.3

Length of Line Out of Service		
Line Segment	Voltage	Length (miles)
New Madrid to Malden	69-kV	12.5
New Madrid to Kennett	161-kV	17.2
	Total	29.7

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.