

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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TULSA, OK – One of the final two segments of Southwestern Power Administration’s (Southwestern) transmission system remaining out of service following a major ice storm in January was energized at 9:46 a.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2009. The 37.2-mile, 161-kilovolt (kV) transmission line from Kennett, Missouri, to New Madrid, Missouri, was fully restored by Southwestern and contractor crews.

Crews from TESSCO, North Houston Pole Line, and Western Area Power Administration returned home as of March 21, 2009, after providing five weeks of invaluable assistance to Southwestern replacing damaged poles and electrical conductor in the especially hard-hit areas of southeast Missouri and northeast Arkansas.

Southwestern maintenance staff reports that restoration of the final line segment from New Madrid, Missouri, to Malden, Missouri, should be completed during the second quarter of 2009 following receipt of new electrical conductor and other supplies.

Length of Line Restored		
Line Segment	Voltage	Length (miles)
New Madrid to Kennett	161-kV	37.2
Malden to Piggott	69-kV	21.0
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	307.5

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

Please see the next update on Southwestern’s restoration efforts on Monday, May 4, 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.