



U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Electricity Delivery & Energy Reliability

Northeast Blizzard Situation Report # 3
February 9, 2013 (3:00 PM EST)

http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/emergency_sit_rpt.aspx

Highlights:

- On Friday, February 8, 2013, a winter storm began impacting the Northeast U.S., bringing snow, heavy winds, and possible coastal flooding to the region. The National Weather Service has predicted that the strongest winds and heaviest snow is expected to taper off by tonight.
- A State of Emergency has been declared for Connecticut, **Maine**, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, and Rhode Island.
- **As of 2:00 pm EST February 9, the impacted States report a total of 628,575 customers without power. 36,401 customers have been restored out of the 664,976 combined total peak outages reported in the Situation Reports for all 8 States affected. Utility restoration and preparation activities are reported below.**
- **According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) the Pilgrim nuclear plant (685 MW) in Plymouth, MA experienced an automatic shutdown at 9:17 pm yesterday (February 8) when it lost off-site power. The NRC stated that the plant is stable, all safety systems responded as designed, and backup generators are powering plant equipment.**
- **There are no known impacts to major petroleum and natural gas infrastructure at this time.** Currently, the Energy Information Administration (EIA) reports that distillate stocks (heating oil and diesel fuel) for the East Coast (PADD 1) are below their five year average.

Electricity Outages by State

Electricity				
Impacted State	Current Customer Outages	Percentage of Customers Without Power	Peak Outages Reported in DOE SitReps	Customers Restored Since Peak
Connecticut	38,052	2%	38,052	0
Maine	3,067	< 1%	15,598	12,531
Massachusetts	398,505	13%	402,814	4,309
New Jersey	1,043	< 1%	3,367	2,324
New York	10,073	< 1%	11,186	1,113
Rhode Island	177,835	36%	185,908	8,073
TOTAL:	628,575			

Note: States with fewer than 1,000 outages are not included in the table. Due to a large number of service providers, including investor owned utilities and cooperatives, the number of customer outages reported may not be comprehensive.

Sources: Outages obtained from company web sites and DOE communications. Total State customers are based on 2010 EIA Customer Data.

ESF 12 Actions:

- ESF 12 is staffing FEMA’s National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) in Washington, DC. **ESF 12 has been activated to FEMA’s Region I Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) in Boston, MA.**



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Electric Preparation/Restoration Information

Connecticut

- Connecticut Light & Power (CL&P) reported today (February 9) that, due to hazardous road conditions, its line and tree crews are being delayed. CL&P is working with town officials and the Connecticut Department of Transportation to clear roads to facilitate restoration. The company's 400 line workers are supplemented by hundreds of outside line workers.
- Con Edison, serving New York, announced today (February 9) that it is releasing approximately 300 outside contractors, as well as its own company crews, to assist with storm restorations in Connecticut. The restoration personnel include overhead power line workers and tree clearing crews.
- Norwich Public Utilities stated yesterday (February 8) it has staged crews and assets in preparation for the storm
- United Illuminating reported today (February 9) that it sustained limited damage to its electric distribution system as a result of the storm. Crews were in the field Friday night and restored impacted customers, primarily in Hamden, CT. UI had 398 field personnel in place including line clearance and line construction personnel from Maryland, South Carolina, and Florida.

Maine

- Central Maine Power (CMP) reported today (February 9) that its crews are in the field working to repair damage, focusing on de-energizing downed lines, but that travel and working conditions remain a safety concern for the utility. CMP has lined up 68 additional line crews from Maine and Canada plus 130 tree crews to add to the company's regular contingent of 90 line crews and support personnel.

Massachusetts

- National Grid, serving customers in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, and Rhode Island, stated that the storm has caused significant problems in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The company said this morning (February 9) it will begin its restoration process when conditions are safe and roads are cleared.
- NSTAR reported today (February 9) that its customers in southeastern Massachusetts and on Cape Cod have experienced the worst of this storm, with heavy wet snow, coupled with the heavy winds. Weather conditions are preventing full restoration efforts at this time and currently specific service restoration times are unavailable. Due to these conditions, restoration efforts are expected to take multiple days in some areas. All 3,000 NSTAR employees are assisting in the storm response effort and the company has also secured additional contractor line and tree crews to join forces with its own workers.
- Western Massachusetts Electric Cooperative reported today (February 9) that it is sending lineworkers and tree trimming personnel to New Bedford to work side-by-side with NSTAR crews on what will be a multi-day repair and restoration effort.

New Jersey

- Jersey Central Power & Light, a FirstEnergy Corp. owned utility, reported this morning (February 9) that its system has returned to normal with only a handful of scattered outages remaining. It positioned more than 770 line workers, 500 hazard responders, 480 forestry workers and 600 support personnel to respond to outages.

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- PSEG reported today (February 9) that it sustained very little damage to its system and its crews have restored the system back to normal...
- Orange and Rockland, serving New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, reported today (February 9) that it has restored service to all but a few of its customers affected by the storm. More than 40 mutual aid or contractor crews from as far as Ontario, Kentucky, Ohio and Washington, D.C., came to aid in the repair effort.
- Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative reported yesterday (February 8) that extra line and tree crews are on standby in their service territory and their storm plan is in effect.

New York

- Long Island Power Authority reported today (February 9) that its service territory is experiencing widespread outages. LIPA crews are working to restore power but, in some areas, particularly in Suffolk County, roads have not been cleared and remain inaccessible to crews due to heavy snow accumulations. LIPA is coordinating with state and local officials to assign repair crews as soon as roadways are accessible. LIPA has a workforce of more than 5,000 people responding to the storm.
- National Grid, serving customers in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, and Rhode Island, stated that the storm has caused significant problems in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The company said this morning (February 9) it will begin its restoration process when conditions are safe and roads are cleared.
- Orange and Rockland, serving New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, reported today (February 9) that it has restored service to all but a few of its customers affected by the storm. More than 40 mutual aid or contractor crews from as far as Ontario, Kentucky, Ohio and Washington, D.C., came to aid in the repair effort.
- Con Edison reported today (February 9) that, due to the only minimal disruption in service—few trees have come down and overall damage has not been significant—it is releasing approximately 300 outside contractors, as well as its own company personnel, to assist with storm restorations in Connecticut. The restoration personnel include overhead power line workers and tree clearing crews.

Rhode Island

- National Grid, serving customers in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, and Rhode Island, stated that the storm has caused significant problems in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The company said this morning (February 9) it will begin its restoration process when conditions are safe and roads are cleared.