JDEC Reports Progress after Weekend Efforts

For Immediate Release

Addie Armato

225-933-6723
aarmato@alec.coop

JENNINGS (October 18, 2020) – After more than 50 days and taking the brunt of Hurricane Laura and Hurricane Delta, Jefferson Davis Electric Co-op consumer-members in the Johnson Bayou area of Cameron Parish started receiving safe and reliable power on Saturday.

JDEC brought in portable generators to bring the Johnson Bayou substation online Saturday. The co-op is still building transmission and distribution lines to Holly Beach that will take one to two weeks to complete, according to Mike Heinen JDEC general manager.

“We are very excited to begin restoration in Johnson Bayou. This will be the first time since August 27 our consumer-members will have power in that area,” Heinen said. “We know it has been a long, long time, but we are happy to get lights and life back to Johnson Bayou.”

JDEC members in the area have survived the storms and outages, but they are ready for reliable power to return to their homes, businesses and lives.

“I can almost not remember what it is like (to not have reliable power), it has been so long,” said David Pettifield, JDEC consumer-member. “Now, being without power for well over a month, it really changes your mind about how you live and what you want to do.”

Pettifield has been using a portable generator for his home, but the long trips to get gasoline and conducting routine maintenance are getting tiresome and expensive.

“It is horrible to have to go get gas. The prices are horrible down here in the area, and you can only transport so much which causes it to be overpriced,” Pettifield said. “Sometimes we are having to drive 60 miles, one way, to get gas. I can’t wait to have power here again. I am not going to miss having to get up at 3 a.m. to fill the generator, that is for sure.”

System Restoration Update:

- Tupper substation (Allen Parish) is restored 100%, 639 meters. North to Coushatta Tribe, east Fuselier Cove; west from Elton Elementary School.
- Compton substation (Jeff Davis Parish) is restored 100%, 1764 meters. North to Litteral Road; east into Fuselier Cove; west towards Welsh; east to Hathaway/N. Jennings.
- Derouen substation (Jeff Davis Parish) is restored 100%, 719 meters. North to Iowa/Lacassine; south towards Bell City; at Harris Road; north to train yard/Zagis/KOA RV park.
- Charlie substation (Calcasieu Parish) is restored 100%, 673 meters. East to Manchester Road; south to McCowan Road; south to Highway 14; west to Morganfield.
- Manchester substation (Calcasieu Parish) is restored 100%, 954 meters. West to Earl Daughenbaugh Rd; south to Helms Rd, east to Hwy. 14 East; east on Amoco Rd, east on Nick Martone.
- Hackett substation (Cameron Parish) is restored 98%, 1,670 meters. The substation is being powered by 12 mobile generators. Target date for full restoration extended to Monday.
- Klondike substation (Vermillion Parish) is restored 98%, 704 meters. Target date for full restoration extended to Tuesday.
• Robbie substation (Jeff Davis Parish) is restored 98%, 893 meters. Target date for full restoration is Monday night.
• Potter substation (Jeff Davis Parish) is restored 98%; 400 meters. Target date for full restoration is Monday night.
• Johnson Bayou substation (Cameron Parish) is restored 30%, 224 meters. Restoration is on the west end only. The east side will be restored as transmission lines are reconstructed. It is too early to determine restoration dates at this time.

There is only a 1 % increase compared to the large jumps in restoration we have experienced earlier in the week. To date, approximately 8,635 meters are restored.

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