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N E W S R E L E A S E

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Cherokee County Electric Co-op Repairing Lines Downed by Hurricane Ike

RUSK – As of 10:00 a.m. today, 57 percent of members in the four counties served by Cherokee County Electric Co-op are without service. A full staff of service crews and contractors working around the clock are in the field working to restore power.

With today's weather on their side, crews are making good headway. At this point, maximum restoration time is estimated at seven days as crews face obstacles from blocked roads, downed trees and poles, and mainline and secondary lines on the ground. In some areas, lines are being rebuilt from the ground up.

Outage breakdown by county:

Cherokee County, 7,046

Rusk County, 192

Nacogdoches County, 481

Smith County, 2,710

Cherokee County Electric Cooperative services 18,218 meters in Cherokee, Smith, Rusk and Nacogdoches counties. See Hurricane Ike updates on Texas Electric Cooperatives' website, www.texas-ec.org.