



## Jasper-Newton Electric Cooperative, Inc.

812 South Margaret Avenue  
Kirbyville, Texas 75956-2499  
409-423-2241 1-800-231-9340

Mark Tamplin, General Manager

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# IMMEDIATE NEWS RELEASE

**September 19, 2008**

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Kirbyville, Texas 75956  
409-423-2241

## Status of Electric Power Restoration

Restoration crews from across the state of Texas and other states continue to assist the crews of Jasper-Newton Electric Cooperative to restore power in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike.

As of Friday morning, September 19<sup>th</sup>:

- **JNEC has restored power to 81% of its meters. We will continue working diligently to restore power and are confident that this number will increase daily.**
- **Approximately 550 line workers, including men from 6 sister electric cooperatives, are working to rebuild power lines destroyed by Hurricane Ike.**
- **We are still in the process of restoring larger groups of members. However, we will soon shift our focus to isolated outages. If your neighbors' lights have been restored and yours have not, please contact JNEC at 409-423-2241 or 800-231-9340.**
- ***If your meter has been removed from its socket, please put the meter next to the meter can location to facilitate our restoration process.***

**We want to thank the numerous electric cooperatives and contractors who are working to rebuild the power lines and utility poles destroyed by Hurricane Ike.**

**We also want to thank our members for their patience and understanding during this difficult time.**

## **CAUTION**

**If you are using a generator, be sure that it has been correctly connected to your facilities to isolate the generator from the electric system. If it is not correctly connected, it can “back feed” through your transformer and raise the voltage to 7,200 or 14,400 volts, a level that can injure or kill a lineman trying to restore your electric service. In addition, when the power is restored, it may cause an electrical fire and/or destroy the generator.**

**The safest method of using the generator is to plug your appliances directly into the generator. Because of the extreme circumstances now facing our members because of Hurricane Ike, you may cut the meter seal and pull your meter to insure the safety of line-workers and the general public if you have, or intend to, connect a generator directly into your house wiring, place the meter in a protected location near the meter base. After power has been restored to your area, you must contact Jasper-Newton Electric Cooperative to safely reset and reseal your meter.**

**Please observe caution when traveling. We have a lot of men working all over our service area; when you see the crews working close to highways and roads, please slow down and drive carefully. Also, continue to be very careful of downed power lines. Even though power lines may have suffered damage and appear to be disconnected from the power system, there still could be instances where contact with an energized line is made.**

**Consider all downed power lines as “hot” and avoid them.**

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