

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release — 4-14-19 at 2 p.m. — Storm restoration update #10

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All Federated members should be restored with power today!

(JACKSON, MN) – Good news! Federated Rural Electric is down to just 20 outages. Crews are still working and will get those restored today.

If you are a Federated member still without power and do not see crews working nearby, please call Federated's office. The cooperative wants to make sure it has not overlooked anyone with its outage management system.

“While the outage restoration is nearly over, the work is just moving to a different level,” stated Scott Reimer, Federated's general manager. “We still have a lot of storm clean up to do and will do a line patrol to re-inspect our lines. We temporarily stubbed poles broken at the base into a new hole; we have many leaning poles that will need to be straightened and reinforced with rock, especially with spring planting around the corner. Restoring our system back to the level it was will probably take us over a year. We will likely hire contractors to rebuild some sections of line.

“I especially want to thank our Federated members for their patience,” Reimer added. “Next, thank you employees for your long days and hard work. We appreciate the 56 linemen who traveled up to four hours and worked diligently for us. Line crews commented ‘how nice Federated members were’ in offering them food in the field. In addition, we are amazed by the generosity of businesses and organizations who offered or donated food, by the restaurants who provided meals for the crews on short notice and yes, our farmers, who helped pull line trucks out of the wet, muddy fields and ditches. What a team effort!”

Outages started April 10 due to the ice, wind and then snow. At the peak of the outages, 2,700 members or 40 percent were without power.

Federated is a Touchstone Energy Cooperative serving 6,700 members in Jackson and Martin Counties.

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