

BPA NEWS

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BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION
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BPA system capable of providing electricity to all points of delivery

Five out-of-district crews descended on area to assist with line and equipment repairs

Eugene, Ore. – At approximately 11 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 18, the Bonneville Power Administration restored the ability to provide electricity to all points of delivery in the Eugene, Oregon area. Full delivery of wholesale electricity is contingent on the condition of local utilities' systems.

“Our crews stepped up and answered the call,” said Richard Shaheen, senior vice president of Transmission Services. “Transmission linemen traveled from across the Northwest to Eugene to help our local crew with repairs.”

Earlier this week during the storm's peak, 10 points of delivery at which BPA provides electricity to multiple customer utilities in the area were out of service. As of last Thursday night, BPA was able to restore electricity to those points.

“We really appreciate the help we got from our other districts,” said Dale Coulombe, Eugene district operations and maintenance manager. “Their willingness to leave their families and work safely in poor conditions, especially during the second wave of inclement weather we faced made all the difference.”

While delivery of power across the federal transmission system is possible, there are still several BPA transmission lines out of service. BPA crews continue to make repairs in the area and bring the system back to full capacity. BPA has also offered assistance to customer utilities in the area. On Thursday, BPA provided 7 wood poles and other equipment to Eugene Water and Electric Board to aid in its restoration efforts and BPA linemen continue to help EWEB crews with additional repairs to its system.

(MORE)



“A majority of our crews are dedicated to the effort upriver today and with BPA’s transmission system up we have a clear path to restoration for circuits and customers that did not suffer extreme damage,” said Tyler Nice, EWEB electric operations manager. “Now it is a matter of grinding through the work with full horsepower.”

About BPA

The Bonneville Power Administration, headquartered in Portland, Oregon, is a nonprofit federal power marketer that sells wholesale, carbon-free hydropower from 31 federal dams in the Columbia River Basin. It also markets the output of the region’s only nuclear plant. BPA delivers this power to more than 140 Northwest electric utilities, serving millions of consumers and businesses in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, western Montana and parts of California, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming. BPA also owns and operates more than 15,000 circuit miles of high-voltage power lines and 261 substations, and provides transmission service to more than 300 customers. In all, BPA provides nearly a third of the power generated in the Northwest. To mitigate the impacts of the federal dams, BPA implements a fish and wildlife program that includes working with its partners to make the federal dams safer for fish passage. It also pursues cost-effective energy savings and operational solutions that help maintain safe, affordable, reliable electric power for the Northwest. www.bpa.gov

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