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# NEWS

## Minnesota Power crews respond to outages and assess damage after latest round of severe storms

Duluth, Minn. — Minnesota Power line crews are responding to power outages throughout the company's service territory and assessing damage after severe storms hit the region Thursday morning.

About 4,400 customers are without power in scattered outages across Minnesota Power's service territory. The hardest-hit areas are near Menahga, East Gull Lake, Nisswa and Round Lake, affecting about 4,200 customers. All available resources have been dispatched to this area to respond to reports of downed trees and power lines. Crews estimate more than 20 power poles were damaged and will need to be replaced in that area. Early assessments indicate the damage is not as severe or widespread as the 2015 storm in the Brainerd Lakes area, with most outages fairly localized.

Near Duluth, about 500 customers were without power in the Pike Lake and Saginaw areas until 10 a.m., when crews responding to several reports of power lines and trees down restored power.

Scattered outages also hit the Cloquet area, with the largest affecting 122 customers in Barnum. Several crews are working in the area, with other support currently working in Duluth available later today.

Reports from the majority of outage areas indicate Minnesota Power's system is quickly repairable, and power is expected to be restored to most customers today. But given the damage to the Menahga and East Gull Lake/Nisswa areas customers may experience a multiday outage.

Customers are strongly warned to stay away from downed power lines and to expect the lines are energized. Energized lines pose an extreme hazard. Keep pets and children away from those areas.

For more outage updates and information go to [www.mnpower.com](http://www.mnpower.com) or follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

Minnesota Power provides electric service within a 26,000-square-mile area in northeastern Minnesota, supporting comfort, security and quality of life for 144,000 customers, 16 municipalities and some of the largest industrial customers in the United States. More information can be found at [www.mnpower.com](http://www.mnpower.com).

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