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# NEWS

## Minnesota Power prepared for first winter storm of the season

Duluth, Minn.— With line crews and equipment positioned across its service territory, Minnesota Power is prepared for heavy, wet snow and high winds predicted for Friday and Friday night in northern Minnesota.

Such strong early winter storms often can cause power outages. An early forecast from the National Weather Service allowed timely preparations to ensure power will be restored as quickly and safely as possible if outages occur.

A potential danger in this storm will be the many trees weakened by the past summer's storms. Our vegetation management crews have been working hard this fall to clear as many of those trees as possible to reduce the possibility of trees and limbs falling on power lines. Customers are urged to stay away from any such trees that appear to threaten power lines to their homes, and instead contact Minnesota Power at (800) 228-4966 to report any problems.

We remind customers to visit our online Outage Center at [www.mnpower.com/OutageCenter](http://www.mnpower.com/OutageCenter) to report an outage, view the outage map, and/or download the outage app on your smartphone to check on the status of power restoration times. Following Minnesota Power on Twitter and/or Facebook is another way to get timely updates on power outages.

Here are some tips to help customers weather a winter storm:

- Keep a "Lights Out" kit in an accessible place with at least one flashlight, a battery-powered radio and extra batteries.
- Use candles or camping lanterns with caution.
- If you have a fireplace, keep matches and firewood handy so you're prepared to build a fire to keep warm.
- Turn off televisions, stoves, microwave ovens, stereo equipment and other appliances except your refrigerator and freezer.
- Leave on at least one light so you'll know when power has been restored.
- Please do not go near any low or downed wires as injury or death could occur.

For more "Lights Out" tips, visit: [www.mnpower.com/OutageCenter/WhatToDoIfLightsGoOut](http://www.mnpower.com/OutageCenter/WhatToDoIfLightsGoOut)

Minnesota Power provides electric service within a 26,000-square-mile area in northeastern Minnesota, supporting comfort, security and quality of life for 145,000 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). ALE ENRG

*The statements contained in this release and statements that ALLETE may make orally in connection with this release that are not historical facts, are forward-looking statements. Actual results may differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties and investors are directed to the risks discussed in documents filed by ALLETE with the Securities and Exchange Commission.*

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