



AN ALLETE COMPANY

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# Media advisory

## Minnesota Power ready to respond to holiday winter storm

Duluth, Minn.— Minnesota Power always is ready to respond to power outages caused by bad weather, and the winter storm predicted for Christmas Day is no exception.

Our line crews are ready to respond at any time, including holidays, because our customers rely on their electricity 24/7 every day of the year. We have prepared to restore power safely and quickly by positioning crews and equipment across our service territory in advance of this storm.

A potential danger in this type of winter storm that could include freezing rain will be trees and limbs contacting power lines. Customers are urged to stay away from trees that appear to threaten power lines to their homes, and instead contact Minnesota Power at (800) 228-4966 to report problems.

### Stay informed

Our online Outage Center at [www.mnpower.com/OutageCenter](http://www.mnpower.com/OutageCenter) is the best place for customers to stay informed during a power outage. There, they can report an outage, view the outage map and learn how to download the smartphone outage app. Customers can get the following information through the outage map and outage app:

- Outages throughout our system
- A summary of outages by neighborhood or city
- Estimated restoration times
- Number of customers affected

Customers also can report outages by calling our Lights-Out phone line at (800) 307-6937. Following Minnesota Power on Twitter and/or Facebook is another way to get timely updates on power outage restoration efforts.

### To be safe, be prepared

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.
- 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.
- Portable generators should be connected to appliances and not to home electric services to avoid potential injury to lineworkers, homeowners or the public.

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

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and some of the largest industrial customers in the United States. More information can be found at [www.mnpower.com](http://www.mnpower.com).

*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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