

Upper Peninsula Power Company

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UPPER PENINSULA POWER COMPANY

CONTINUES ITS RESPONSE TO THE WINTER ICE STORM

Marquette - Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) crews and contractors worked through the night responding to the ice storm that hit parts of the Upper Peninsula on Monday. Nearly 5,800 customers have been affected by yesterday's storm. Approximately 100 customers were still without power as of Tuesday morning. Those numbers are expected to change as additional adverse weather conditions develop through the end of the week.

"We greatly appreciate everyone's patience as we restore power as quickly and safely as possible," said Brett French, Vice President of Business Development and Communications for the company. "Our crews and contractors will be working throughout the day to address unsafe conditions and restore service to our customers. Tree trimming crews will also be working to remove ice-covered trees and tree branches that may affect the power lines in anticipation of the winter storm that is now being forecasted for Thursday."

UPPCO is encouraging people to report all downed electric power lines or unsafe conditions that may have resulted from the winter storm that hit the area on Monday. People are reminded to turn off all appliances whenever an outage occurs and to confirm their service equipment is securely attached to their home, business or outbuilding. Electrical equipment that has become detached presents a safety or fire hazard to utility workers, emergency responders or the public.

"People should never approach or make contact with any utility equipment," said French. "Customers who are aware of any downed power lines or unsafe conditions are being asked to call our Customer Contact Center in Ishpeming at (906) 449-2011 or (800) 562-7809. Customers can also report an outage through our <u>Online Customer Portal</u>."

Outage updates are routinely posted to UPPCO's Outage Map and Twitter feed OUPPCO.

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