



RELEASE

Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation, PO Box 826, Shallotte, N.C., 28459

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Heather Holbrook
910.269.7538
heather.holbrook@bemc.org

BRUNSWICK ELECTRIC BEGINS MAKING POWER RESTORATION PROGRESS

SUPPLY, N.C. (Sept. 15, 2018, 8:00 p.m.) – Currently 25% of Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation’s (BEMC) members have power after a full day of restoration efforts by crews battling the remaining elements of Hurricane Florence.

Most of the 70,000 members without power, primarily in Brunswick County, will continue to be without power until storm damage to Duke Power’s transmission infrastructure is repaired. Duke delivers electricity to BEMC substations, and then BEMC distribution lines deliver power to members in rural and coastal communities within the 1,500 square mile territory that the electric cooperative serves in southeastern N.C.

“Our goal is to work around the clock to get every member’s power back on as quickly as possible,” said Heather Holbrook, spokesperson for BEMC. “Repairs began today on our end, and we’re ready to restore power to a majority of our folks as soon as Duke restores power to BEMC.”

Today more than 80 crews including those from Alabama, Indiana and Minnesota are working through continuous bands of rain accompanied by strong wind gusts to restore what power they can. Restoration efforts include assessing storm damage to circuits and BEMC’s distribution lines as well as cleaning up and removing branches from lines.

“When you see trucks working in your community, know that they are making repairs that will affect everyone, but you may not see your power restored immediately,” said Don Hughes, BEMC’s General Manager and CEO. “Restoration must be done step by step and that is a very complex process that may continue for several days.”

The Co-op puts safety first and encourages you to also. Never go near downed or sagging power lines and be aware that fallen lines could be hidden by debris or high water. Always assume power lines are energized and report damage as well as outages to (800) 682-5309.

Stay tuned to BEMC news at bemc.org for the outage map, all storm press releases and safety information, and follow Brunswick Electric on Facebook and Twitter.

###

BEMC is a locally owned and operated not-for-profit corporation. It is the second largest electric cooperative in North Carolina and serves nearly 97,000 member locations in Brunswick, Columbus, and parts of Bladen and Robeson counties. Founded in 1939, BEMC has a longstanding commitment to the communities it serves, providing support for a wide variety of activities that contribute to the quality of life for all citizens.