



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BRUNSWICK ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

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SUPPLY, N.C. (Aug. 5, 2020) – Around 39,000 Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation (BEMC) members have had their power restored following Hurricane Isaias. Teams comprised of line workers, tree trimmers and safety specialists set out early this morning to bring back power to 4,300 cooperative members still impacted by Isaias.

The remaining outages are primarily in the hardest-hit parts of BEMC's service area. Crews will continue their efforts today, clearing downed trees and debris and repairing and replacing damaged poles and lines until power is restored to all members whose homes can receive electric service. Amid these challenging conditions, and with additional, pandemic-related safety measures in place, cooperative officials urge members to keep safety top of mind.

Safety:

- If you are without power and are planning to use a portable generator, it is important to strictly follow the manufacturer's specifications and recommendations. Never connect a portable generator directly to a home's wiring. Instead, use an extension cord to plug lights and appliances into the generator.
- Only use generators and charcoal grills in well-ventilated outdoor areas; a garage is not a well-ventilated area.
- Use caution near work areas to keep line restoration crews safe and allow them to focus on power restoration efforts. When driving, if you see crews on the side of the road, slow down and move over.
- Please remember to never touch a downed power line; fallen lines can remain energized and pose serious dangers. Do not try to cut or clear limbs from power lines.

BEMC appreciates members' patience and many kind words as crews and co-op staff have worked to repair damage and restore service after Hurricane Isaias.

Real-time outage information from BEMC is available at <https://outage-maps.bemc.org/>.

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BEMC is a locally owned and operated not-for-profit corporation. It is the second largest electric cooperative in North Carolina and serves more than 98,000 meter 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.