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## For Immediate Release

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### **BEMC prepared for remaining impacts of Hurricane Ian, closing offices to members on Friday, September 30**

**SUPPLY, N.C. (September 29, 2022)** – The Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation (BEMC) team is tracking the path of Hurricane Ian as it makes its way up the coast and is ready to respond to the storm’s remaining impact.

BEMC has strategically located equipment throughout the system and ensured its inventory of poles, wire and related equipment to make repairs and restore power, as needed. Additionally, BEMC’s system is designed for resilience, facilitating faster restoration times when outages occur. The co-op conducts an industry leading right-of-way maintenance program in order to minimize damage to lines from fallen trees and limbs, and well more than half of its 7,000 miles of line are buried underground, which speeds post-storm restoration across the service territory.

“We want our members to know that restoring service after a storm is something we prepare for year-round; we are storm-tested, and we always put the full strength of our resources behind restoration efforts,” said Josh Winslow, CEO. “Our employees are dedicated experts and our system is intentionally robust because we know how important minimizing outages is to our membership.”

For the safety of its members and employees, all Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation (BEMC) offices will be closed to members on Friday, September 30. Offices are planned to re-open for all member services on Monday, October 3.

Depending on the track and intensity of the storm, downed power lines could occur. BEMC reminds everyone to steer clear of these dangers and to not approach a downed line under any circumstances. BEMC members are encouraged to visit <https://www.bemc.org/storm-checklist/> for information on how to prepare for severe weather.

Visit bemc.org and follow BEMC on Facebook for storm updates.

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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 100,000 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.***