nationalgrid

Jennifer Brooks Hutchinson
Senior Counsel

June 7, 2013

VIA HAND DELIVERY & ELECTRONIC MAIL

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Boulevard
Warwick, RI 02888

RE: Docket 2509 - Storm Contingency Fund
September 18, 2012 Storm Summary Report

Dear Ms. Massaro:

In accordance with Order No. 15360 (August 19, 1997) in Docket 2509 and paragraph 4(b) of the Settlement approved by the Commission in that docket, I have enclosed one original and ten (10) copies of National Grid's[1] summary report on the planning and restoration activities associated with the September 18, 2012 storm (the "September 2012 Storm" or the "storm"), which may qualify for inclusion in the Company's Storm Contingency Fund. Paragraph 4(b) of the Settlement requires the Company to file with the Commission within 90 days after the storm a report providing a description of the storm along with a summary of the extent of the damage to the Company's system, including the number of outages and length of the outages.

The Company is currently still reviewing costs to determine whether this storm did, in fact, meet the storm threshold. However, the Company is filing the enclosed summary report in the event that the Company determines, after completion of its cost review, that the storm met the threshold and, therefore, qualifies for inclusion in the Storm Fund.

A supplemental report detailing the incremental restoration costs caused by the September 2012 Storm will be submitted to the Commission once the total costs have been accumulated by the Company, and final accounting of storm costs has been completed. In the event that the Company determines that the costs associated with the September 2012 Storm did not meet the storm threshold, the Company will notify the Commission at the time that it files its calendar year-end report.

Thank you for your attention to this transmittal. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (401) 784-7288.

Very truly yours,

Jennifer Brooks Hutchinson

Enclosures
cc: Docket 2509 Service List
Leo Wold, Esq.
Steve Scialabba, Division

[1] The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (the "Company").

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the cover letter and/or any materials accompanying this certificate were electronically transmitted and sent via U.S. Mail to the individuals listed below. Copies of this filing were hand delivered to the RI Public Utilities Commission.

_____ June 7, 2013

Docket No. 2509 – National Grid – Storm Fund
Service List as of 9/11/12

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File an original & 10 copies w/: Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk Public Utilities Commission 89 Jefferson Blvd. Warwick, RI 02888	Lmassaro@puc.state.ri.us Anault@puc.state.ri.us Nucci@puc.state.ri.us Adalessandro@puc.state.ri.us Dshah@puc.state.ri.us	401-780-2107

National Grid

The Narragansett Electric Company

Report on September 18, 2012 Event, Damage Assessment, and Service Restoration Efforts

June 7, 2013

Docket No. 2509

Submitted to:
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission

Submitted by:

nationalgrid

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REPORT ON BEHALF OF
THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a NATIONAL GRID
ON THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 STORM PREPAREDNESS, DAMAGE ASSESSMENT, AND SERVICE RESTORATION EFFORTS

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid ("National Grid" or the "Company") presents the following report on the planning and restoration activities associated with the September 18, 2012 storm (the "September 2012 Storm" or "storm") that affected Rhode Island and the rest of southern New England. The September 2012 Storm brought rain and wind, and caused power interruptions to approximately 27,400 (approximately 10,500 at peak) of the Company's customers. Overall, approximately 82 percent (31 communities) of the Company's 38 communities in Rhode Island experienced outages. In Cumberland, almost 30 percent of customers lost power, and in Westerly and Glocester, almost 20 percent of the customers lost power (see Figure 2).

The Company began preparing for the September 2012 Storm on Tuesday, September 18, with its first system and divisional storm anticipation calls. The Company followed its Emergency Response Plan ("ERP"), and mobilized employees and contractors for the restoration using a damage forecast based on its experience in previous storms. As part of its preparation efforts, the Company also contacted contractors from outside the Company's service territory to secure resources to help with restoration, and contacted other utilities to request additional resources. Using its own crews and contractor resources, the Company restored power to 90 percent of its Rhode Island customers by approximately 6:45 a.m. on Wednesday, September 19.

The Company is grateful for the support of customers, employees, state and local officials, and public safety officials, who experienced the effects of the September 2012 Storm, and were an integral part of the Company's restoration efforts.

II. INCIDENT ANTICIPATION

A. Determination of Incident Classification

The Regional Emergency Operations Center ("EOC") was located in Worcester, MA and was opened on Tuesday, September 18 at approximately 3:00 p.m. The Regional Incident Commander was primarily responsible for establishing the projected and actual Incident Classification level for the storm. There was no System-level EOC opened for this event.

Factors considered in initially establishing or revising the expected incident classification level included:

- Expected number of customers without service;
- Expected duration of the restoration event;
- Recommendations of the Planning Section Chief, Transmission and Distribution Control Centers, and other key staff;
- Current operational situation (number of outages, resources, supplies, etc.);
- Current weather conditions;
- Damage appraisals;
- Forecasted weather conditions;
- Restoration priorities;
- Forecasted resource requirements; and
- Forecasted scheduling and the pace of restoration work crews.

The Regional Incident Commander communicated the incident classification to Company leadership and organizations that were expected to participate in restoration or support activities via the system and operations storm conference calls. A Branch Director in charge of Rhode Island restoration was located in Providence.

B. Activation of Incident Command System ("ICS")

In the days leading up to the storm, prior to activation of the ICS, several operational calls were held among operations management personnel to discuss the weather forecast and planning efforts for the possibility of an as yet unclassified storm event. As a result of these calls, the Company determined that a storm room would be opened in Providence, RI at approximately 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 18 to support Rhode Island restoration.

In accordance with the Company's ERP and System Incident Command System, National Grid activated the New England Regional Incident Commander and Branch Director on Tuesday, September 18 at approximately 3:00 p.m. Thereafter, the Regional Incident Commander activated a number of positions at her discretion and in consideration of the level of response likely required for the event. Throughout the day on Tuesday, September 18 and throughout the restoration effort, the Company activated additional ICS positions as operating conditions changed.

C. Determination of Crew Needs and Pre-Staging

Given the potential magnitude of the September 2012 Storm, the Company secured crews in advance from its alliance vendors and other outside contractors in order to support restoration efforts for all of New England as part of its regional preparation for the storm, consistent with its ERP. The Company had approximately 45 Rhode Island distribution line crews working in the late afternoon and evening of Tuesday, September 18, and approximately 30 distribution line crews working overnight into the morning of Wednesday, September 19. By 6:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 19, the Company had deployed 60 internal line crews, which was the peak number of internal line crews for this event. The Company pre-positioned 126 distribution

line contractor crews in various locations in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, ready to respond to the hardest hit areas. The Company also deployed 35 contractor tree crews in Rhode Island. Transmission line crews were available for the entire New England region and ultimately one internal transmission line crew was deployed in Rhode Island during the storm.

III. THE STORM AND ITS IMPACT

A. Forecast

Sunday, September 16, 2012

On Sunday, September 16, the forecast predicted showers to develop late Tuesday morning. A cold front was expected to move through the area Tuesday night into Wednesday morning, with a change to heavier rain and some thunderstorms. Wind was expected to pick up considerably by Tuesday afternoon, with sustained winds of up to 15-25 mph and gusts of up to 35-40 mph.

Monday, September 17, 2012

On Monday, September 17, there was increased confidence regarding the potential intensity of the cold front. The forecast predicted showers to develop late Tuesday afternoon. The cold front was expected to move through the area Tuesday night into Wednesday morning with heavy rain and thunderstorms. Some of these thunderstorms were expected to be severe. Wind was expected to pick up considerably by Tuesday afternoon, with sustained winds of up to 18-28 mph and gusts of up to 35-50 mph.

Tuesday, September 18, 2012

On Tuesday, September 18, the forecast for the timing of the cold front was similar to the previous day. Thunderstorm-related wind gusts were expected to be closer to 50-55 mph in Rhode Island. A coastal flood advisory was issued, and total rainfall was expected in the one- to two-inch range.

B. Impact

The September 2012 Storm had the potential to be a significant event for Rhode Island and all of southern New England. The strong cold front was forecasted to bring some heavy rains to Rhode Island, with the potential for very strong wind and severe thunderstorms.

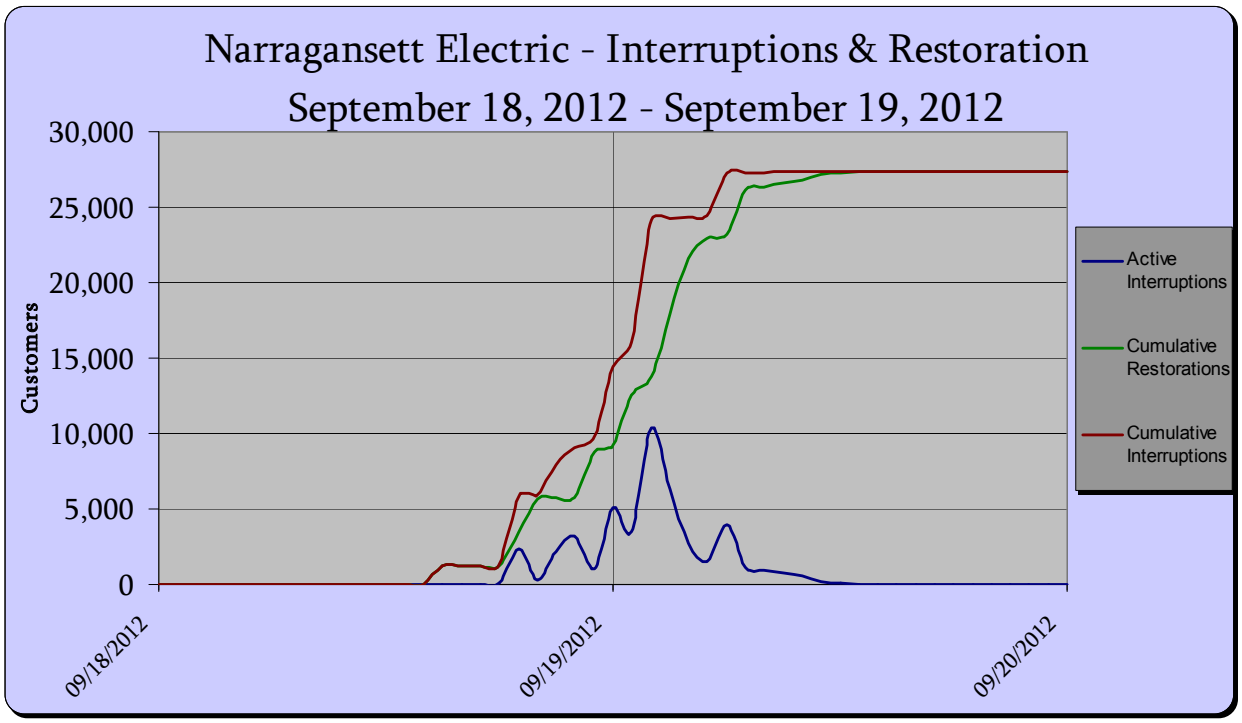
The cold front reached the Rhode Island service territory late Tuesday night into Wednesday morning. As a result of the cold front, thunderstorms produced some pockets of heavy rain and moderate winds. Some of the strongest wind gusts in the region occurred in Providence, with 52 mph maximum gusts recorded and sustained winds of 38 mph. Pawtucket recorded approximately 1.5 inches of rain.

The storm impacted a total of approximately 27,400 customers in the Company's service territory (approximately 10,500 customers at its peak), which occurred on Wednesday, September 19 at approximately 2:00 a.m. Ninety percent of all outages were restored by Wednesday, September 19 at approximately 6:45 a.m. The final customer was restored that evening at approximately 6:00 p.m.

By approximately 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 19, the Providence storm room was transitioned back to normal operations and control was back in Northborough.

Figure 1 below shows the customers interrupted and restored, by hour, from Tuesday, September 18 to Wednesday, September 19.

Figure 1



The Company experienced interruptions in 31 of the 38 communities it serves in Rhode Island. The storm had very little effect on the transmission and sub-transmission system; there were no transmission or sub-transmission lockouts during the storm. The storm caused five feeder lockouts and overall affected 69 distribution feeders. Wind, rain, and subsequent tree damage did have an impact on the electrical system with the damage primarily to the Company's distribution system in the form of wires-down, including primary, secondary, and services.

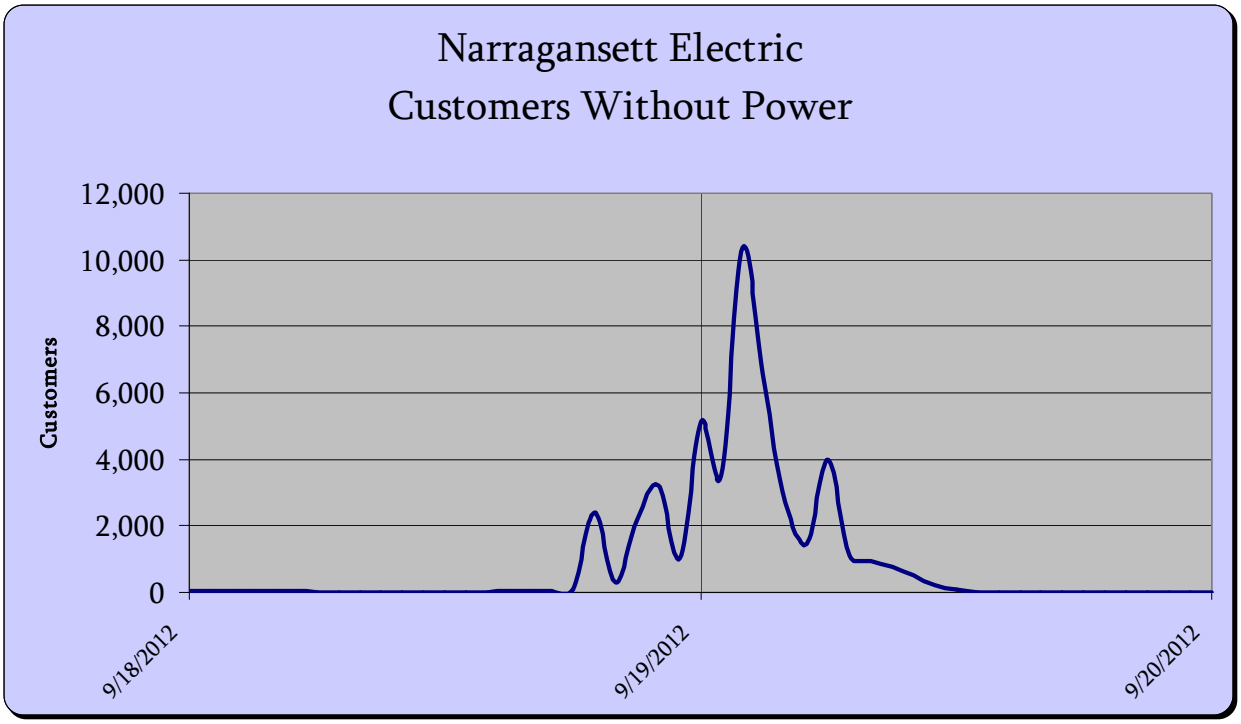
All towns that had interruptions are shown in Figure 2 below.

Figure 2

Town	Customers Served	Total Customers Interrupted	Percent of Customers Interrupted
PAWTUCKET	32,555	4,305	13%
CUMBERLAND	14,928	4,029	27%
WESTERLY	14,272	2,768	19%
EAST PROVIDENCE	21,961	2,733	12%
COVENTRY	15,245	1,669	11%
CRANSTON	35,344	1,304	4%
NORTH KINGSTOWN	13,053	1,213	9%
WOONSOCKET	18,425	1,188	6%
JOHNSTON	13,235	960	7%
PROVIDENCE	69,423	908	1%
LINCOLN	9,875	902	9%
WEST WARWICK	14,820	833	6%
GLOCESTER	4,508	808	18%
NORTH SMITHFIELD	5,697	475	8%
WARWICK	40,655	299	1%
SOUTH KINGSTOWN	14,415	265	2%
SCITUATE	4,620	222	5%
FOSTER	2,019	164	8%
EAST GREENWICH	6,010	143	2%
BURRILLVILLE	2,587	125	5%
EXETER	2,937	123	4%
SMITHFIELD	8,669	101	1%
BARRINGTON	6,818	79	1%
RICHMOND	3,295	20	1%
NARRAGANSETT	10,515	18	0%
NORTH PROVIDENCE	15,914	18	0%
CHARLESTOWN	5,732	14	0%
WEST GREENWICH	2,679	5	0%
HOPKINTON	3,852	5	0%
TIVERTON	8,144	4	0%
WARREN	5,711	1	0%

Figure 3 below shows a timeline of the number of customers without power from Tuesday, September 18 to Wednesday, September 19.

Figure 3



The following sections contain additional details and context regarding the Company's storm restoration efforts.

IV. RESTORATION

A. Timing and Priority of Service

The Company implemented the system of prioritization for restoration found in the ERP, focusing first on public safety and then with the overall goal of maximizing customer restoration when lines were energized. The Company gave priority and consideration to critical facilities, and made efforts to restore service to its life support customers as quickly as conditions warranted, also as set forth in the ERP.

B. Restoration Coordination

The Company dispatched outages out of the Providence storm room beginning on Tuesday, September 18 at approximately 3:00 p.m. and continuing until the end of the storm. The Company activated police and fire coordinators for the event. These employees reported to the storm room leads and were responsible for communicating the ETA's on all police and fire calls with a standby condition noted.

In preparation for the storm, the Providence wires-down room was mobilized on Tuesday, September 18 at 3:00 p.m. with approximately 26 crews at peak (including wires-down appraisers, and cut and clear crews). Due to the lack of any significant wires-down activity, the room was de-mobilized at approximately 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 19.

C. Personnel Resources

Early in the week, when it was evident a storm event was possible, the Company began preparations to secure supplemental contractor crews who would be strategically placed throughout New England. The deployment plan allowed for the greatest degree of flexibility to move the resources to where they were needed, even if the September 2012 Storm's track or intensity changed. Pre-staging crews and equipment in key locations throughout the region enabled the Company to restore service to customers as quickly and safely as possible. The Company's peak resources working in Rhode Island during the storm are provided in Attachment 1.

At peak, approximately 175 field crews[1] were used to restore power to customers, including approximately 75 external crews and 100 internal crews. This peak number of crews includes transmission and distribution line, vegetation management, wires-down, damage appraisal, and substation personnel.

Work hours were adjusted to have the maximum number of crews available early in the morning on Thursday, September 19. In addition, a small percentage of Company crews were scheduled to work though the night on Wednesday, September 18 to respond to police, fire and wires-down issues. All management employees were instructed to report to their assigned locations at approximately 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 19.

D. Safe Work Practices

Safety is always at the forefront of Company operations, including and especially during activities associated with storm restoration. Both the System and Regional ICS structure designate a lead position for a Safety, Health, and Environment Officer. Safety messages are delivered on all calls to heighten awareness during pre-storm preparation.

As with any storm, prior to the September 2012 Storm's arrival, National Grid assembled a safety team with area responsibilities, established the reporting hierarchy, and prepared and communicated organization charts. The safety team prepared safety notices and delivered them Company-wide to all employees through corporate communications. Safety personnel were deployed to assist in specific geographic areas and delivered on-site safety orientations to National Grid workers and contractors prior to the start of each day. During the September 2012 Storm, safety personnel were regularly assigned to work sites to advise Company personnel and contractors of safety issues and practices. In addition, prior to the start of each new job, the work was reviewed by assigned crews, with a focus on safe working conditions for the specific job.

[1] Crews are typically two or three-person, although there are some one-person crews in damage assessment, wires down (appraisers), and distribution line (troubleshooters). The transmission crews are typically six to ten people.

V. COMMUNICATIONS DURING AND AFTER THE EVENT

A. Communication Regarding Estimated Times for Restoration ("ETR")

The Company posted ETRs on its website during the September 2012 Storm, using Outage Central which provided real time ETR updates approximately every 15 minutes.

As ETR's changed, the updated restoration information was entered into the system and reflected on Outage Central. Throughout the event, the ETR's for each outage were revised to show the most accurate restoration information.

B. Intra-Company

System-level storm calls were held daily beginning on Tuesday, September 18 at 9:00 a.m. through the end of restoration. The final system-level call was held on Wednesday, September 19 at 9:00 a.m. The divisional storm calls were also held daily, starting on Tuesday, September 18 at 8:00 a.m., with the final call held on Wednesday, September 19 at 1:00 p.m.

Communications were issued each day to field crews with both restoration and safety information.

C. Public Officials

1. Governor's Office

In preparation for the September 18, 2012 storm, the Company's Vice President of Government Affairs in Rhode Island initiated communications to the Governor's Chief of Staff, Rhode Island legislators, and local offices for the Congressional Delegation. The Company informed the Governor's office of its pre-event preparation and planning.

2. Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission ("Commission"), Division of Public Utilities and Carriers ("Division"), and Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency ("RIEMA")

The Company's Jurisdiction President spoke directly with the Commission and the Company's Regulatory contact reached out to the Division regarding the Company's storm preparation.

A National Grid representative was in contact with RIEMA on Tuesday, September 18. RIEMA never officially opened an operations center for this storm, but remained in a monitoring mode throughout the storm. National Grid communicated with RIEMA directors and posted information through their web-EOC.

3. Municipalities

The Company communicated its storm preparations and planning to the municipalities on Tuesday, September 18 through e-mail. The Company advised municipalities that its Community and Customer Management team was available to respond to inquiries and concerns. The Company did not open any municipal rooms for this storm.

D. Customers

The Company notified life support customers regarding possible outages through its Call Center. On Tuesday, September 18, the Company made outbound calls to all life support customers. The Company secured additional staffing for the Call Center to handle potential incoming calls from customers affected by the storm.

E. Media

The Company began media relations activities in support of its restoration efforts on Tuesday, September 18. The Company's Media Relations department issued one storm preparation news release on the same day.

Media Relations only received two calls from the Rhode Island news media, both related to its news release and the Company's preparation work.

VII. CONCLUSION

Although the September 2012 Storm was not a severe event, it, nonetheless, caused interruptions to thousands of Rhode Island customers, mostly as a result of wires-down, including primary, secondary, and services. However, the Company mobilized consistent with its ERP and consistent with its communications with state agencies regarding restoration expectations. The Company was prepared, having secured all necessary crews and other outside contractors and resources to aid in the restoration effort. The Company successfully used its own distribution line resources, contractor distribution and transmission line crews, and contractor tree crews to restore service to its customers after the September 2012 Storm in a safe and expeditious manner.

Attachment 1

September 2012 Storm - Rhode Island Resources

Resource Type	Peak Crews Working
Number of Company Line Crews (1)	60
Number of Company Tree Crews (2)	-
Number of Company Wire Down Crews (3)	26
Number of Company Damage Appraiser Crews (4)	-
Number of Company Substation Crews (5)	12
Number of Company Transmission Crews (6)	1
Total Company	**99**
Number of Contractor Line Crews (2)	38
Number of Contractor Tree Crews (2)	35
Number of Contractor Wire Down Crews (3)	-
Number of Contractor Damage Appraiser Crews (4)	-
Number of Contractor Substation Crews (5)	-
Number of Contractor Transmission Crews (6)	-
Total Contractor	**73**
Number of In-State Mutual Aid Line Crews (2)	-
Number of In-State Mutual Aid Tree Crews (2)	-
Number of In-State Mutual Aid Wire Down Crews (3)	-
Number of In-State Mutual Aid Damage Appraiser Crews (4)	-
Number of In-State Mutual Aid Substation Crews (5)	-
Number of In-State Mutual Aid Transmission Crews (6)	-
Total In-State Mutual Aid	**-**
Number of Out-of-State Mutual Aid Line Crews (2)	-
Number of Out-of-State Mutual Aid Tree Crews (2)	-
Number of Out-of-State Mutual Aid Wire Down Crews (3)	-
Number of Out-of-State Mutual Aid Damage Appraiser Crews (4)	-
Number of Out-of- State Mutual Aid Substation Crews (5)	-
Number of Out-of- State Mutual Aid Transmission Crews (6)	-
Total Out-of-State Mutual Aid	**-**
Peak Number of Crews Working	**172**

Note: All resources are reported as crews
(1) Typically 2-person crews , but also include single troubleshooters
(2) Typically 2-person crews , but may also include some 3-person crews
(3) Wire Appraisers are 1-person crews, Cut and Clear are 2-person crews
(4) Typically 2-person crews, but may also include some 1-person crews
(5) Typically 2-person crews
(6) Typically 6-10 person crews