



By Tim Stewart, CEO/Manager

GRID RESILIENCY AND POWER RESTORATION

As we are in the middle of summer storm season, I would like to focus on power restoration and grid resiliency. Resiliency of the grid is one of the most popular concepts being talked about in the electric industry today. Resiliency is many things—it’s reliability in your electric service, it’s our ability to efficiently restore your power, it’s being able to meet the demands of new technology, and it’s how we serve you with various generation sources without skipping a beat. Ultimately, resilience is how we deliver on our promise to improve the quality of life for our member-owners.

Having a resilient electric grid begins with a system that is designed and built to withstand high winds, powerful storms, cybersecurity threats, and other disruptions that could result in outages. A resilient grid is also flexible and adaptable by allowing different types of generation—such as wind, solar, coal, and hydro—to seamlessly work together to provide

In the dictionary, resilience is defined as “the ability to bounce back, recover quickly and go back into shape or position after being stretched.” When it comes to providing our member-owners with resilient service, this is what we work toward—day in and day out!

you with safe and reliable power. The way our systems react to advancements in technology—from demand response investments to serving the needs of electric vehicles—all factor into the resilience of our grid.

Resiliency is a 24/7, 365-days-a-year task. Whether it’s the power lines, substations, or generation facilities on our grid, it takes proactive maintenance and investment to keep them running smoothly. Consider Texas: Lack of weatherization preparedness contributed to the events of February 2021. Similar to how we maintain our vehicles with regular oil changes, inspections, and tire rotations, a grid must also be properly maintained. Throughout the year, we regularly conduct pole and line inspections and perform a host of maintenance programs like breaker maintenance and vegetation management. Our goal is to find a problem before it becomes one. For example, if we find a weak pole that has damage, we replace that pole. Doing so ensures that pole is as strong—or as resilient—as it can be.

Living in Wisconsin, we know that significant power

outages can occur, especially during the summer storm season. We know things can and do occur; however, we have confidence in the resiliency of our system to recover from the situation with as little disruption as possible.

Outage Restoration Priority

I would like to review how power is restored after a widespread storm. This can also be found on our website at www.cecoop.com. Damage can occur to transmission lines, substations, distribution lines, and your secondary service lines despite our best efforts. When this happens, our priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

Transmission lines are handled first. These lines transmit power to distribution substations. If the substation can come back on, power can be restored to thousands at one time.



Next, crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there, or if there could be an issue down the line. If the source of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to hundreds of members.

Next, crews check the distribution feeder lines that deliver power to homes and businesses. There are three-phase lines that deliver power to various line sections. Once these are repaired, power is then restored to even more people. If you continue to experience an outage, there may be damage to a line section or tap line. This is a line that comes off the three-phase feeder line that energizes your transformer.

If you still don’t have power, the service line between a transformer and your home or business may need to be repaired. Always call to report a power outage, which helps our line crews isolate these individuals.

Please remember, that in general terms the lines that will get the most services energized will be repaired first.

Outage Text Messaging & Notifications

Clark Electric is pleased to offer an outage text messaging/notification program. The goal is to help keep you informed via text messaging to your mobile device regarding an outage status and other information. It is FREE and easy to do. Signing up for text messaging takes just six easy steps:

1. On our website, under Outage and then Report an Outage, you will see a link that says outage text

messaging and notifications—sign up here. Click that link.

2. This will take you to the sign-up page. You can watch a tutorial on how to sign up (**strongly recommended**) or you can start the process by clicking Introducing Outage Notifications.
3. End user terms and conditions of use comes up. Click Accept to continue.
4. The site will then ask you for your account and mobile phone number. Input those. **IMPORTANT:** Your phone number must be on file in order to sign up. If your phone number is not on file you will NOT be able to continue. You can email, call, or send us that information.
5. A verification code will be sent to your phone. Input that code.
6. Once inside the portal will bring up account summary. Click the blue pencil beside your account and follow instructions.

Once you're signed up for the service, just text Outage to 55050 to report your outage. Once your outage is restored, you will receive a text.

If you have any questions please contact our office at 715-267-6188.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Did you know ceiling fans can make a room feel 4 degrees cooler? To save energy through ceiling fan use, remember to raise your thermostat a few degrees while fans are turned on. Ceiling fans can help improve comfort year-round. In the summer, operate ceiling fans in a counterclockwise direction. Reverse the direction to clockwise during winter months and set fans on a low speed so warm air can circulate from the ceiling to the lower levels of the room. Remember, ceiling fans cool people, not spaces. Be sure to turn them off when you leave the room.

Source: Dept. of Energy



POSTING ITEMS TO UTILITY POLES CREATES SAFETY RISKS

Signs, balloons, and other materials on utilities' poles are more than just an unpleasant neighborhood eyesore; they can be dangerous—even life threatening—to the professionals who maintain our vital lines of electricity, communication, and other services. Safe Electricity urges everyone to help keep utility poles free of such materials.

The clamped safety boots used by line workers to climb power poles are vulnerable to becoming snagged on staples and nails embedded in posts. Foreign objects can also tear utility workers' protective clothing, which is the first line of protection from an electric shock. These objects can also injure workers despite the safety gear they wear to avoid contact with rough surfaces.

Posting items to power poles can also be a public safety hazard. The materials posted on the poles not only distract people as they drive, but they also degrade the quality, effectiveness, and stability of the wood. Posting items to utility poles is usually a violation of local ordinances as well.

It is also just as important to avoid tampering with or disrupting the guy wires that surround utility poles. Please inform children not to play or swing on them, and maintain your distance when performing yard work. If you see the poles or guy wires are disrupted in some way, please call your electric cooperative immediately.—*Safeelectricity.org*



MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY

A FREE Pancake, Egg & Sausage Breakfast
Activities for kids of all ages

Saturday, September 23

7 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the
Clark Electric headquarters,
just west of Greenwood on CTH G



Clark Electric Cooperative

1209 W. Dall-Berg Rd. P.O. Box 190, Greenwood, WI 54437
715-267-6188 • 800-272-6188

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

River Country Co-op

331 Industrial Ave.
Owen, WI 54460
715-229-4613

“Take Back” Initiative **7–11 a.m.**



Bring your unused, controlled, non-controlled, and over-the counter medications in their original containers to be dropped off—free, with no questions asked. Questions? Clark County Sheriff's Department at 715-743-3157.

Food Drive for **Local Food Pantries**



Help us demonstrate the 7th Cooperative Principle, Commitment to Community, by bringing a non-perishable, non-expired food item to be donated to your local food pantry.

Pumpkins • Crafts for Kids **Giant Inflatables**



Greenwood Fire & EMS

will provide free blood pressure testing.



Marshfield Medical Center & Clark County Health Department

will be here to provide community health information. — free of charge.

LINEMEN PRESENT HOTLINE SAFETY DEMONSTRATION

Clark Electric Linemen Jeff Fellenz and Jared Jensen conducted a hotline safety demonstration and talked about farming safety around power lines with FFA students from the Loyal and Greenwood High Schools at a Tractor Safety Course held at the Loyal High School.

Farming is among the more dangerous occupations for several reasons, including potential for encounters with electrical hazards. Before taking to the fields, Clark Electric urges farm workers to be aware



of overhead power lines and to keep equipment and extensions far away from them.

If you are on equipment that contacts a power line, do not exit the equipment. When you step off the equipment, you become the electricity's path to ground

and receive a potentially fatal shock. Wait until utility workers have de-energized the line and confirmed it is safe for you to exit the vehicle. If the vehicle is on fire and you must exit, jump clear of the vehicle with both feet together. Hop as far from the vehicle as you can with your feet together. Keep your feet together to prevent current flow through your body, which could be deadly.

Clark Electric conducts safety demonstrations for local schools and community clubs throughout the year. This is one of the ways Clark incorporates the 7th Cooperative Principle, Concern for Community, into the surrounding communities. If you would like a demonstration for your group, just call our office at 715-267-6188 and ask for Tanya.



Tim Stewart, CEO/Manager

1209 West Dall-Berg Road
P.O. Box 190, Greenwood, WI 54437
email us at info@cecoop.com or tnelson01@cecoop.com
www.cecoop.com



**Clark Electric
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.