

NEWS



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Date: November 18, 2019 | For Immediate Release:

TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT WILL MAINTAIN RELIABILITY FOR FIRELANDS ELECTRIC CO-OP MEMBERS

(NEW LONDON, OH) — In order to provide continued reliable service for its members, Firelands Electric Cooperative is replacing two older utility poles and equipment in deteriorating condition, which support the 69KV transmission line that feeds Firelands' New London substation. This part of the cooperative's distribution system delivers power to member-consumers located in and around the Village of New London in Huron County.

This transmission line maintenance work is necessary to avoid unforeseen equipment failure that would result in a lengthier outage in the future. This work is also necessary before the onset of extremely cold winter temperatures.

A planned power outage is scheduled to begin around 9AM on Sunday, Nov. 24. Firelands Electric estimates the repairs will take approximately 6 to 8 hours. The planned outage will only affect about 1,300 members that have been mailed a postcard, who will receive a phone call, and/or sent a text/email notification to inform they will be without power.

To minimize the number of outages, Firelands Electric is planning to backfeed power from the cooperative's Fitchville substation to about 425 members located in portions of the Village and on the west side of New London. Those members who will receive backfeed power during the transmission work have been mailed a notification postcard and *should not* experience an interruption of power. Unfortunately, the distribution grid cannot accommodate backfeeding additional members during the work.

This transmission line project will be completed by New River Electrical Corporation, an electrical contractor specializing in overhead transmission and high voltage distribution services. New River has the necessary equipment for this transmission work in unstable terrain, and their crews will aid in reducing the duration of this outage. Several days prior to Nov. 24, line crews are planning to begin work on portions of the transmission project that can safely be completed while the line is still energized.

"This work will help to keep dependable electricity flowing to our cooperative members, and we are making every attempt to provide sufficient notice so our members can make the necessary arrangements for their comfort and medical needs," said Firelands' General Manager Dan McNaull. "Firelands Electric apologizes for this inconvenience and we would like to thank our membership for their patience and understanding. We urge members with medical issues to make arrangements for backup power during this project," McNaull added.

Members affected by the outage need to make sure cell phones, tablets, and other electronic devices are fully charged prior to the outage in order to access the latest information. The cooperative encourages members with sensitive electronic equipment and computers to shut off their devices prior to the scheduled outage and have some type of surge protection or battery backup in place.

Firelands Electric Cooperative will make every effort to communicate updates regarding this project on its website, www.FirelandsEC.com, [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter feed](#).

Firelands Electric Cooperative, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, is a member-owned, not-for-profit electric utility serving more than 9,100 homes and businesses in rural areas of Ashland, Huron, Lorain and Richland counties ranks among the highest energy utilities in the country for customer satisfaction.