

## **Storm pummels metropolitan area**

August 29, 2008

Hurricane-force winds, almost constant lightning, hail and driving rain concentrated their damaging power primarily on the eastern portion of the Phoenix metropolitan area last night.

The storm left numerous trees, power lines and poles down from Tempe to downtown Phoenix. At the storm's peak, approximately 80,000 APS customers were without power. Crews worked through the night to repair the damage and restore service. By early this morning, the number of customers affected had been reduced to 32,000, and that number continues to decline as crews keep working.

Crews from as far away as Snowflake are on their way to the metropolitan area to assist with the repairs. Due to the extent of the damage and the wide area it covers, however, it is difficult to estimate when all affected customers will be back in service.