

Storm topples poles, knocks out power to three Western Ariz. communities

September 10, 2008

A late evening storm yesterday swept through the Western Arizona communities of Bouse, Quartzite and Vicksburg. It left 15 downed 69-kilovolt poles in its wake, as well as isolated damage to the distribution system in those areas.

As of mid-morning, close to 1,800 customers were without power. In addition, other areas experienced outages ranging from 30 minutes to several hours.

Repairs to the transmission system by our system crews are under way. However, power isn't expected to be restored to all customers until late today.

As of 9 a.m., the La Paz-area district servicemen were continuing to troubleshoot isolated outages. They are patrolling distribution lines in the outage areas to identify problems and make repairs prior to transmission service being restored. In addition, local line crews already have replaced two distribution poles and completed other minor repairs on the distribution system.

Overnight, the Hauling Department delivered dry ice to the affected areas. APS employees from Parker and Yuma started distributing it to our customers early this morning. The first supply for Quartzite was exhausted by 8:30 a.m. but more is expected to be delivered around 1 p.m.