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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 9, 2025 | 10:00 AM

Big Country Electric Cooperative Activates Emergency Operations Plan Following Severe Storm Damage

ROBY, TX — Big Country Electric Cooperative (BCEC) has activated its Emergency Operations Plan as of 8:53 AM today, June 9, 2025, due to extensive storm damage and widespread power outages across its service territory— specifically in Fisher, Jones, Shackelford, Haskell, Kent, and Stonewall counties.

Severe storms that moved through the area overnight on Sunday, June 8, caused significant damage to BCEC's electric infrastructure. As of 11:30 AM on June 9, approximately 1,700 meters remain without power, and crews have confirmed between 90 and 100 downed poles, with more damage expected as daylight reveals additional issues.

At this time, BCEC crews are still actively patrolling lines and assessing damage across the system. This line inspection process is essential to determine the full scope of damage and to prioritize restoration efforts as efficiently and safely as possible. Due to widespread flooding in several parts of the service area, many locations remain difficult to access, which adds time to the assessment process. Members should be aware that this phase will likely take the majority of the day. If additional rain or severe weather continues this week, it may further delay restoration efforts.

Crews worked through the night and remain in the field this morning, continuing to assess damage and begin restoration where it is safe to do so. In line with our Emergency Operations Plan, and to ensure the safety and effectiveness of our workforce, all available BCEC line crews will be sent to rest at 4:00 PM today. Restoration work will resume at 6:00 AM on Tuesday and continue daily from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM until all outages are restored. This rest period is necessary to prevent exhaustion and ensure continued safety. Damage assessment efforts, however, will continue throughout the afternoon and evening as other employees ride out line and gather updated information.

"We understand how challenging extended outages can be — especially during the summer," said Krysha Burleson, Communications Specialist for BCEC. "Our crews worked through the night and are continuing restoration efforts today. While some will take a much-needed break this afternoon, others will remain in the field assessing damage and preparing for the next phase. They're doing everything they can to restore power safely and efficiently in the face of such extensive damage."

BCEC also notes that in some cases, power restoration is delayed due to damage sustained by transmission providers such as AEP and Oncor, which deliver power to several BCEC substations. In these areas, restoration cannot begin until those upstream issues are resolved.

What Members Can Expect:

- No exact restoration timelines are available at this time. Damage is still being assessed across many parts of the service area.



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- Crews are working in phases, starting with transmission lines and substations, then main feeders, and finally individual service lines.
- Flooded and muddy terrain continues to delay access to certain areas, adding to restoration time.
- Additional contract crews are assisting BCEC with restoration.

Reporting Outages:

If you are currently experiencing an outage, please report it using one of the following methods:

- SmartHub: <https://bigcountry.smarthub.coop/ui>
- Phone: 1-855-940-3872

Safety Reminder:

Please stay away from downed power lines and damaged electrical equipment. Always assume any line is still energized and dangerous.

BCEC will continue providing updates on our website at bigcountry.coop and on our [Facebook page](#) as restoration efforts progress.