

Shreveport, La., (Aug. 25, 2020) – As Hurricane Laura approaches, Southwestern Electric Power Co. (SWEPCO) advises customers to prepare now for the storm. Customers who are on life support systems or need uninterrupted electric service for health reasons should make alternate arrangements in preparation for potential power outages.

“Restoring power after the hurricane passes could take multiple days,” said Drew Seidel, SWEPCO vice president of Distribution Region Operations. “We will make every effort to get the lights back on as soon as possible, and we want our customers to be prepared.”

SWEPCO has secured more than 1,000 line and tree personnel to assist company crews in responding to power outages that may be caused by Hurricane Laura across the company’s three-state service territory. SWEPCO will position crews to safely restore power to customers as quickly as possible.

Customers should ALWAYS assume that any downed utility line is energized. Stay away and keep children and pets away from downed lines.

If you use a portable or RV generator, do not plug the generator into your circuit box. Portable generators can "backfeed" electricity up the line and risk the lives of repair workers and the public. Follow the manufacturers' instructions carefully, and plug essential appliances directly into the generator.

More information on what do to prepare for an outage may be found at SWEPCO.com/Outages.