



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 21, 2010

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Larry Graham, Manager

NIPSCO Public Affairs

260-439-1330

NIPSCO EXPECTS ALL 95,000 CUSTOMERS AFFECTED BY FRIDAY'S SEVERE STORM TO HAVE POWER RESTORED BY TUESDAY EVENING

MERRILLVILLE, Ind. --- NIPSCO crews, with the help of repair crews from neighboring states, are expected to have all customers back in service by Tuesday evening as they address remaining outages caused by Friday night's powerful storms and watch for the possibility of additional storms later tonight and Tuesday.

"We thank our customers for their patience as we complete repairs to individual homes and address smaller outages, often in easements behind homes where tree damage and access has made work difficult," said NIPSCO senior vice president of Energy Delivery Tim Dehring. "We plan to have all but about 1000 customers back in service by Monday night with the remainder, primarily individual service problems in our hardest hit areas of Gary, La Porte and Goshen, by Tuesday evening."

"Short of additional storms causing a significant number of new outages our restoration efforts should stay on schedule."

The Friday evening storms that swept across Northern Indiana cut service to more than 95,000 NIPSCO customers and caused outages in every county served by NIPSCO from the Illinois to the Ohio state lines. The widespread nature of the damage triggered a full activation of NIPSCO's storm response plan, which includes securing the support of additional skilled response teams to safely restore service as quickly as possible. "By Saturday we had additional crews from neighboring states working with our NIPSCO crews to address the widespread damage we had experienced," said Dehring.

-- more --

Page 2 of 2
Storm Update – Power Restoration

Dehring also thanked local emergency responders and community officials throughout the company's service territory for their assistance in coordinating restoration and customer assistance activities. He noted that NIPSCO worked with several local communities to establish cooling centers to help residents cope with high temperatures over the weekend.

“Dealing with extreme weather situations creates unique challenges for customers, communities and our employee teams, which is why we continually strive to enhance our response procedures, coordinate closely with local officials and emergency responders, and provide as much accurate and timely information about the status of repairs as possible,” said Dehring. “While in a large storm with extensive damage it can take 24 to 48 hours to completely assess damage to determine estimated restoration times, we made it a priority to help our customers in dealing with their individual outage situations.”

NIPSCO's storm outage updates, provided via the company's on-line Storm Center at www.NIPSCO.com and via Customer Service phone lines, provided restoration estimates by community to assist customers in making decisions based on their estimated outage times. With the summer storm season still continuing, NIPSCO's web site also includes helpful information about storm preparedness.

Customers whose homes have a damaged electric entrance, which includes the electric meter box and steel conduit pipe that extends up from the electric box where the electric service wire enters at the top, must first have it repaired by a qualified electrician before NIPSCO can restore power to the home.

NIPSCO, with headquarters in Merrillville, Ind., is one of the 10 energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI). With over 712,000 natural gas customers and 457,000 electric customers across the northern third of Indiana, NIPSCO is the largest natural gas distribution company, and the second largest electric distribution company, in the state. NiSource distribution companies serve 3.8 million natural gas and electric customers primarily in seven states. More information about NIPSCO is available at www.nipSCO.com.