



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Oct. 25, 2010

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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**NIPSCO Preparing For Tuesday's Potential Storm-Related Outages**

**MERRILLVILLE, Ind.** – Northern Indiana Public Service Company's (NIPSCO) personnel and electric distribution system are prepared to meet any potential challenges posed by the forecasted severe weather for early tomorrow (Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2010) across northern Indiana.

The company has taken specific measures to ensure its preparation, including:

- Opening the company's emergency operations center in Merrillville, Ind.
- Scheduling extra work crews to handle any system problems.
- Postponing scheduled work that would require equipment to be out of service.
- Putting work crews out in the field to monitor the system and respond quickly to any problems.

As always, NIPSCO will remain in contact with area public officials in the event potential problems arise.

If customers experience an outage or have any questions about their NIPSCO service, they are urged to visit NIPSCO's Storm Center at [www.nipSCO.com/stormcenter](http://www.nipSCO.com/stormcenter) or call 1-800-4-NIPSCO (1-800-464-7726) 24 hours a day for restoration information.

Lightning, wind and fallen tree limbs can interrupt electric service. For your safety, please stay away from any downed power lines. Always presume the downed power line is live and extremely dangerous. **DO NOT TOUCH THE LINES.**

**Prepare Your Home For A Potential Storm-Related Outage**

- Life support equipment – If someone in your family requires life support equipment, make prior arrangements for a back-up power supply.
- Stay informed – know what kind of weather is expected
- Clean drains – Remove any debris from storm drains around your home or yard.
- Automatic garage door – Learn how to open and close your door manually without power.
- Emergency kit – Prepare a simple emergency kit to include flash lights, first aid kit, supply of non-perishable food items, three-day supply of bottled water, and a cellular phone.

*NIPSCO, with headquarters in Merrillville, Ind., is one of the nine energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI). With more than 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](http://www.nipSCO.com).*