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Serving Electric, Water & Wastewater Since 1886

## News Release Stoughton Utilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 31, 2012 Contact: Sean O Grady, Stoughton Utilities, (608) 877-7416

## **Stoughton Utilities responds to Hurricane Sandy**

On Tuesday October 30, Stoughton Utilities joined other Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin (MEUW) members, as well as responders from throughout the Midwest, in providing mutual aid to the millions of electric customers without power due to Hurricane Sandy.

Stoughton Utilities is sending one crew to assist in restoration efforts in Pennsylvania. Restoration efforts include clearing downed power lines and trees, replacing damaged power poles, and rebuilding the overhead electric distribution system.

Municipal utilities across Wisconsin received a call for mutual aid on Monday afternoon, and lineworkers had just 24 hours to prepare. Stoughton Utilities joins fellow MEUW members Sun Prairie, Marshfield, Rice Lake, Oconomowoc, Shawano, Kaukauna, Menasha, and Cedarburg, which combined are sending a total of 21 linemen.

Stoughton Utilities employees have been assigned to assist restoration efforts in Allentown, PA in Lehigh County, which currently has over 102,000 customers without power.

Allentown, PA is in PPL Electric Utilities service territory, which currently has 283,000 customers without power.

"There is an immediate need for overhead infrastructure restoration, and our crew is expected to be working in the impacted zone for up to ten days" said Sean Grady, Stoughton Utilities Operations Superintendent. "Approximately 20,000 linemen from across the country have been requested to respond to the emergency."

Shown leaving for Pennsylvania are Journeyman Linemen John McLain and Brian Scheel, who drove an electric hybrid bucket truck over 800 miles. They arrived at the staging area Tuesday night, and will begin restoration efforts on Wednesday morning.

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Founded in 1886, Stoughton Utilities is the publically owned and operated utility for Stoughton, WI and the surrounding area, providing electric, water, and wastewater service to more than 8,500 customers.

