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BECi Energizes First Meters in Hard Hit Calcasieu Parish *Continues to energize southern substations*

DeRidder — BECi has energized its first meter in the hard hit area of Calcasieu Parish. The co-op’s power provider was able to supply power to the co-op’s substation in the DeQuincy area, restoring 450 meters in the parish.

“We were able to bring additional members back online in a parish that has seen devastating damage. It’s always gratifying to see the house lights come on, but it’s the grunt work – days spent cutting trees from the right-of-way, replacing hundreds of power poles and restringing miles of new distribution line – that make it possible,” said Kevin Turner, BECi General Manager.

Beauregard Electric Cooperative, Inc. (BECi) continues to make steady progress in its effort to rebuild the electric grid in the wake of Hurricane Laura. The co-op has restored power to 70 percent of its substations, which means 28 percent of our members have had their power restored.

More than 1,200 utility workers from across the nation are aiding Beauregard Electric’s rebuilding and restoration efforts. “The progress we’ve made would not be possible without the support of our sister co-ops. These guys are spending every daylight hour out in our communities, helping us pick our system up off the ground. At night they sleep in tents out at the airstrip and down south along Hwy. 12 and in the morning wake up to go at it again. It is the very definition of cooperative spirit and an effort that should make every member of Beauregard Electric very proud,” said Turner.

Safety is always the top priority in any restoration effort. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, crews are following additional protocols designed to keep them safe and healthy. These protocols add an additional layer of complexity to the restoration process. Members are urged not to approach crews and to remember the importance of social distancing so these mission-essential workers can continue to work safely.

As of September 11, 12:00 PM, here are the current outage totals.

Parish	Members Served	Total Number of Members Without Power	Total Number of Members Restored to Date	Percentage of Parish Still Out	Percentage of Parish Restored
Allen	5509	3528	1981	64%	36%
Beauregard	14943	10685	4258	71%	29%
Calcasieu	12402	11951	451	96%	4%

Evangeline	50	24	26	48%	52%
Jeff Davis	336	325	11	96%	4%
Rapides	1487	1255	232	84%	16%
Vernon	8172	3470	4702	42%	58%
Total	42899	31238	11661	72%	28%

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