



## News Release

### Puget Sound Energy Bringing in All Available Crews to Help with Restoration Efforts; 6:30 p.m., Dec. 27, 2002, Update

BELLEVUE, Wash.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Dec. 27, 2002--Puget Sound Energy is bringing in all available crews, reaching as far away as Oregon, to restore power to customers following today's strong winds that left more than 200,000 PSE customers without electricity earlier this afternoon.

By 6:30 p.m. this afternoon, more than 50,000 Puget Sound Energy customers in areas of King, Pierce and Thurston counties had their power restored. Although the brunt of the storm was felt in these counties, smaller outages occurred in parts of Kitsap, Skagit and Whatcom counties. The effort to restore service to all customers is expected to go into Monday, Dec. 30.

"As this restoration work moves forward, we urge everyone to stay away from all downed lines as well as anything the lines contact," said Gary Swofford, Puget Sound Energy senior vice president and Chief Operating Officer. "At this stage when there are lots of downed or hanging power lines, safety to the public is of paramount concern," added Swofford. "Everyone needs to use extreme caution."

To report downed power lines or other emergencies, Puget Sound Energy customers are asked to call 911 or Puget Sound Energy at 1-888-225-5773.

Puget Sound Energy crews are working throughout Friday evening and the weekend to restore power.

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