



News Release

PSE Crews Tackle Power Restoration Work As Severe Winds Create New Outages; 2:15 p.m. Dec. 27, 2002, Update

BELLEVUE, Wash.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Dec. 27, 2002--This morning's strong winds have left more than 150,000 Puget Sound Energy customers without power.

As the winds move through the region this afternoon, additional outages are occurring. Greater King County, primarily in parts of Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond, Newcastle, Woodinville and Issaquah, has received the most damage in terms of the greatest number of customers without power.

Outages also have occurred in parts of Pierce and Thurston counties.

Currently, 30 substations and 125 local distribution lines are out of service.

More than 60 crews are responding to restore power. Puget Sound Energy expects the restoration work to continue through the weekend.

Note:

Puget Sound Energy's phone center is experiencing sporadic interruptions of service. The utility is working to resolve the telephone problem as quickly as possible.

Puget Sound Energy serves electricity to more than 940,000 customers in a nine-county area, mostly in western Washington.

Puget Sound Energy urges customers to stay away from all downed power lines as well as anything the lines contact. Customers are asked to call 1-888-225-5773 to report downed power lines.

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