

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Tri-County Electric Co-op's Ready for Challenge of Winter Storm

ALEDO (February 2, 2022) – Tri-County Electric Cooperative is poised and ready for the winter storm heading into the co-op's service area.

According to the Fort Worth office of the National Weather Service, a winter storm warning takes effect at 3 p.m. Wednesday and continues through Saturday, Feb. 5. The forecast calls for a quarter-inch up to 2-4 inches of snow and ice as temperatures plunge into the teens. They are expected to remain below freezing until Saturday for much of the affected area.

While the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) expects to hit a new winter peak on Friday morning, they anticipate having adequate reserves to meet power needs across the state. Lengthy power outages such as those experienced last February are not expected.

Tri-County Electric Co-op President/CEO Darryl Schriver said the co-op's distribution system is strong.

"We believe our system will stand against the storm," he said. "Our crews are ready for possible weather-related outages due to ice accumulation. We will respond quickly to get power back on to our members."

All of Tri-County Electric Co-op's employees are staged in shifts to work around the clock if weather-related outages occur.

Schriver warned the public to always assume a downed power line is electrified, stay away from downed lines and report them immediately by calling 9-1-1.

Co-op members who experience power outages are asked submit tickets online via the website if possible, leaving phone lines open for emergencies. Visit the co-op's Facebook page (@TCECTexas) or tcectexas.com/alert for information related to the winter storm.

Members are also asked to conserve energy, setting thermostats no higher than 68 degrees and using fireplaces to warm their homes. Other ways to save include preparing meals using small appliances rather than an oven, and holding off on laundry cycles until the weekend.

In particular, do not use generators or grills indoors to warm your home: without proper ventilation, those heat sources release gases that can be fatal in a closed space.

Additional energy-saving tips are available at tcectexas.com/seasonal-tips.

Tri-County Electric Cooperative provides electricity to more than 125,600 meters on 9,600 miles of distribution lines. Tri-County Electric Co-op strives to enhance the quality of life in our diverse communities by providing safe, reliable and competitive electric and customer service to our member-owners as good stewards of the environment. The co-op, established in 1939, is a distribution electric cooperative that serves more than 99,800 members in 16 counties in the north Texas region.

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