



Late-Afternoon Storm Causes Power Outages Throughout Con Edison's Service Area

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NEW YORK, NY, May 16, 2007 (MARKET WIRE via COMTEX News Network) -- Fast-moving storms that raced through the area this afternoon have resulted in power outages to approximately 30,000 customers in Westchester County as of 6:30 p.m. Among the hardest-hit areas are the Towns of Cortlandt, New Castle, and Bedford/Mount Kisco; Villages of Ossining and Croton; and the City of Mount Vernon.

Heavy rain, accompanied by high winds, toppled trees and took down power lines. Con Edison crews are responding to the affected areas, assessing damage and restoring service. Scattered outages also have occurred in New York City.

The company urges customers to report power interruptions or service problems online at www.conEd.com, or by calling Con Edison's toll-free customer service number 1-800-75-CON ED (1-800-752-6633). When reporting an outage, customers should have their Con Edison account number available, if possible, and report whether their neighbors have also lost power.

In the event of severe outages, primary distribution feeders will be restored first, with the highest priority given to lines that supply the most customers out of service. Next, the crews will restore secondary facilities, such as transformers and secondary cables, again with highest priority given to lines supplying the most customers out of service. Individual services, lines serving a single home, will be restored as crews become available.

The company offers the following safety tips for its customers:

- If you see downed electrical wires, do not go near them. Treat all downed wires as if they are live. Never attempt to move or touch them with any object. Be mindful that downed wires can be hidden from view by tree limbs, leaves or water.
- Report all downed wires to Con Edison and your local police department immediately. If a power line falls on your car while you're in it, stay inside the vehicle and wait for emergency personnel.
- If your power goes out, turn off all lights and appliances to prevent overloaded circuits when power is restored. Leave at least one light switch in the on position to alert you when power has been restored.
- Avoid opening your freezer to see if food is still frozen. Every time you open the door, room-temperature air enters and speeds the thawing process. Most fully loaded freezers will keep food frozen for approximately 36 to 48 hours; half-full freezers will keep food frozen for approximately 24 hours.

The company will maintain close contact with the New York City Office of Emergency Management and the Westchester County Department of Emergency Services to coordinate storm response as necessary.

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SOURCE: Con Edison Co. of NY Inc.