

MEDIA CONTACTS:
Corporate Communications
Peter Main (479) 973-2526
Carey Sullivan (318) 673-3458



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SWEPCO implements emergency controlled outages as extreme winter weather impacts regional electric system

SHREVEPORT, La. Feb. 15, 2021 – Southwestern Electric Power Co. (SWEPCO) has begun temporarily interrupting power to parts of its service territory in an emergency procedure prompted by extreme winter temperatures.

The controlled outages are being implemented by utilities across multiple states as part of emergency procedures to reduce load on the electric system and prevent wider area outages. The action was taken at the direction of the Southwest Power Pool (SPP), the regional organization that manages the electric grid across 17 central and western U.S. states.

SWEPCO is rotating the areas affected by the controlled outages so customers are not without service for more than a few hours whenever possible. The amount of time required to restore service could be delayed in some cases due to system and weather conditions. The temporary outages should not affect critical public health and public safety facilities.

All efforts are under way to return service to normal as quickly as possible.

Customers should be prepared for electric service outages as the emergency continues in the next few days.

For customers who have service, please continue to conserve energy. Use energy needed for personal safety and to protect against property damage. Minor adjustments to thermostats, plus reduced use of lighting and appliances, can make a significant difference to the overall electric system.

At the request of SPP, SWEPCO on Sunday issued a public appeal to conserve energy Monday and Tuesday. However, conditions across the SPP system worsened and controlled outages were implemented amid persistent, widespread and extreme cold.

SWEPCO will provide updates through the news media, on SWEPCO.com, and on the company's Facebook and Twitter pages.

SPP is a regional transmission organization: a not-for-profit corporation mandated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to ensure reliable supplies of power, adequate transmission infrastructure and competitive wholesale electricity prices on behalf of its members. SPP manages the electric grid across 17 central and western U.S. states and provides energy services on a contract basis to customers in both the Eastern and Western Interconnections. The company's headquarters are in Little Rock, Arkansas. Learn more at SPP.org.

[NOTE: SWEPCO customers in East Texas and the Panhandle also may hear advisories from neighboring grid operator Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), which serves much of the rest of the state and is a separate reliability grid from SPP. SWEPCO is not part of ERCOT.]

About Southwestern Electric Power Co. (SWEPCO)

SWEPCO, an American Electric Power (Nasdaq: AEP) company, serves more than 543,000 customers in northwest and central Louisiana, northeast Texas and the Texas Panhandle, and western Arkansas. SWEPCO's headquarters are in Shreveport, La. News releases and other information about SWEPCO can be found at SWEPCO.com. Connect with us at Facebook.com/SWEPCO, Twitter.com/SWEPCOnews, Instagram.com/swepco, Youtube.com/SWEPCOtv and LinkedIn.com/company/swepco.

About American Electric Power (AEP)

American Electric Power, based in Columbus, Ohio, is focused on building a smarter energy infrastructure and delivering new technologies and custom energy solutions to our customers. AEP's approximately 17,000 employees operate and maintain the nation's largest electricity transmission system and more than 221,000 miles of distribution lines to efficiently deliver safe,

reliable power to nearly 5.5 million regulated customers in 11 states. AEP also is one of the nation's largest electricity producers with approximately 30,000 megawatts of diverse generating capacity, including more than 5,300 megawatts of renewable energy. AEP's family of companies includes utilities AEP Ohio, AEP Texas, Appalachian Power (in Virginia and West Virginia), AEP Appalachian Power (in Tennessee), Indiana Michigan Power, Kentucky Power, Public Service Company of Oklahoma, and Southwestern Electric Power Company (in Arkansas, Louisiana, east Texas and the Texas Panhandle). AEP also owns AEP Energy, AEP Energy Partners, AEP OnSite Partners, and AEP Renewables, which provide innovative competitive energy solutions nationwide. For more information, visit aep.com.

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