



Statement regarding planned outage June 8 in Conifer

Some IREA customers in the Conifer district who will be affected by the June 8 planned power outage have inquired as to why IREA has not posted more information via social media and our website in advance regarding the outage. IREA has sent letters directly to all customers who will potentially be affected. Those customers will also receive automated calls on Monday, June 6, reminding them of the outage. Customers who have not received a letter or do not receive an automated phone call are not expected to be affected by the outage.

IREA has deliberately tried not to advertise to the general public which specific areas will be without power so as not to attract the attention of those who would capitalize on such knowledge for nefarious purposes. As such, while some may see this information as helpful, posting this information on social media or our website in advance could pose a risk to our customers who will be affected.

We realize there is no good time for a planned outage. The timing may inconvenience customers and affect local businesses, and we apologize for that. This necessary work will, however, mitigate future unplanned outages that likely could be even more inconvenient and prolonged.

This outage will allow for the replacement of an Xcel Energy transmission pole and repair of several other poles and infrastructure in the area. A daytime outage is necessary in order to safely perform the required work and minimize the duration of the outage. Attempting to perform this work at night would present myriad safety issues and certainly lengthen the amount of time our customers are without power.

We have worked with Xcel to set the date and time for the outage in a manner that best allows them to do the necessary work in communication with IREA so that we have the opportunity to make our customers aware in advance. While the timing of the outage may present difficulties for some, consideration was given to the school district schedule to ensure the work was done after the completion of the spring semester, and at a time of day that would allow for power to be restored before affected residential customers returned home from work to start their evening. Scheduling the outage for a weekend would have presented a larger set of challenges, as many businesses are still in operation and much of the rest of the workforce would be home without power.

Again, we realize there is no good time for a planned outage. Our hope is that through advanced notice such as the letters sent to customers and the automated calls scheduled shortly before the outage, those affected can plan appropriately to minimize the impact the outage has on their home or business.