



September 10, 2020

## Hurricane Laura Recovery Efforts

On Aug. 27, 2020, Hurricane Laura, a Category 4 storm at landfall, passed to the west of Alexandria. National Weather Service estimates show the storm was at Category 2 strength when it passed Alexandria. Locally we received winds in excess of 80 mph.

The storm knocked out the main transmission lines to the City of Alexandria, resulting in 100 percent of our electric utility customers losing power that morning.

Our electrical crews were able to restore the main transmission lines that day, and by the end of the day Aug. 27 we were able to restore power to approximately 6,200 customers, or roughly 25 percent of the total base.

By the end of the day Friday, Aug. 28, crews had restored power to 12,700 customers, or 50 percent of the total. By end of day Saturday, Aug. 29, we had restored power to 17,200 customers representing approximately 69 percent of the total. By the end of the day Sunday, Aug. 30, all of the city's main electrical circuits were restored and 21,000 customers were back online, or 82 percent of customers.

Progress slowed Monday as crews worked to restore smaller lines and individual areas that were the hardest hit. By end of day Monday, Aug. 31, 22,000 customers representing 86 percent of the total were reenergized. By the end of the night Tuesday, Sept. 1, 97 percent of customers were reconnected, leaving approximately 750 customers remaining without service.

By the end of the next day, Wednesday, Sept. 2, electricity was restored to all city customers who were able to receive power. Customers with damage to their meter box or the building's electrical system were advised to have a licensed electrician make the necessary repairs. Upon completion of repairs and inspection, the city utility department will reconnect those locations.