Rhode Island Energy prepared for Thanksgiving storm

PROVIDENCE, R.I. ***(November 24, 2026)*** – Rhode Island Energy (RIE) is closely monitoring forecasts calling for stormy weather expected to impact the region Thursday through Friday, bringing gusting winds and heavy rain.

The primary concerns associated with this storm include potentially hazardous wind gusts along with heavy rainfall that could cause flooding in low lying areas. Elevated wind gusts can damage trees and bring down power lines, causing outages in affected areas. Inclement weather is forecasted through Friday evening, with calmer weather anticipated on Saturday.



“We have been tracking this storm for several days and have secured additional crews and personnel who stand ready to respond to any impacts the weather may bring,” said Joe Curley, Vice President of Electric Operations at RIE. “We know Thanksgiving is an important time for families and communities across Rhode Island, so if outages occur, our crews and support teams will be working around the clock to restore service as quickly and safely as conditions allow.”

As part of the company’s emergency response operations and preparedness activities, RIE has mobilized additional resources. This includes overhead and underground line workers for distribution and transmission restoration, tree-trimming crews, wires-down personnel, and substation workers. RIE is also preparing its natural gas operations for the storm, with personnel ready to respond to any gas-related emergencies and to help ensure the gas system continues to operate safely and reliably. As forecasts evolve, the company will continue to assess resource needs and communicate with local officials, first responders, and life support customers.

As always, the safety of customers, communities, first responders, and employees is RIE’s top priority during any power restoration process. Crews will begin the restoration process when it is deemed safe to conduct work. For example, it is not safe to work in an elevated bucket during periods of increased wind gusts.

RIE offers the following tips and reminders:

Customers should stay connected:

- Report power outages at **RIEnergy.com/outage** or call the RIE Contact Center at 1-855-743-1101.
- Use your mobile device to report an outage by **texting OUTAGE to 743674** and **text STATUS to 743674** to check on the status of your outage.
- Follow RIE on Facebook, X, and Instagram to stay connected with the latest storm and restoration updates.
- Find restoration updates and view outages in your area by checking the **RIE Outage Map**.
- Learn more about **the restoration process**.

Downed powerline safety:

- Never touch downed power lines and always assume that any fallen lines are live electric wires. If you see one, report it immediately to RIE or your local emergency response organization.

- Stay at least 30 feet away (at least two full pole spans) from all downed wires and keep others from going near them. Never attempt to clear debris, perform maintenance, or try to move downed power lines.
- Never touch a person or an object that is in contact with a downed line, as electricity can pass through to you.
- Take caution when approaching fallen trees, which could have power lines caught in them.
- Remember that water can conduct electricity. If you see a line down in a puddle or flooded area, avoid contact with the water to prevent the risk of shock.
- Make safety your top priority when you see a downed wire.**Call 911 or RIE at 1-855-743-1101** to report it immediately and keep yourself and others away from the scene.

Stay safe:

- Keep generators outdoors and away from your home. Never operate a generator inside a home, garage, basement, shed or other enclosed space. Place generators outside, at least 20 feet from the home, with the exhaust directed away from doors, windows and vents to help prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Power problems can interrupt public water supply systems or disable well pumps, so it's a good idea to keep a supply of bottled drinking water handy, along with some canned food.
- People who depend on electric-powered life support equipment, such as a respirator, should let RIE know. To register as a life support customer, call the RIE Contact Center at **1-855-743-1101.**
- Check on elderly family members, neighbors, and others who may need assistance during an outage.
- If the power is out, use flashlights or other battery-powered lights - do not use candles, which can pose a fire hazard.
- Please use caution when driving near emergency responders and crews restoring power.

Gas safety:

If you suspect a natural gas leak:

- **Get Out** - All occupants should leave the house immediately - do not use the telephone or light switches for any reason.
- **Call Us** - After leaving the house and reaching a safe environment, call the RIE 24-hour gas emergency number for Rhode Island: **1-800-640-1595.**
- **Stay Out** - Do not return to your home until RIE tells you it is safe.

About Rhode Island Energy

Rhode Island Energy provides essential energy services to over 770,000 customers across Rhode Island through the delivery of electricity and natural gas. Our team of more than 1,300 employees is dedicated to helping Rhode Island customers and communities thrive, while supporting the transition to a cleaner energy future. Rhode Island Energy is part of the PPL Corporation (NYSE: PPL) family of companies addressing energy challenges head-on by building smarter, more resilient, and more dynamic power grids and advancing sustainable energy solutions.

For more information visit **www.RIEnergy.com** and stay connected on **Instagram**, **LinkedIn**, **Facebook**, and **X**.

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