

PPL Electric Utilities Sets Summer Demand Record

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The current heat wave pushed electricity demand to a new summer record level for PPL Electric Utilities on Wednesday afternoon (7/25).

(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/19981015/PHTH025>)

Between 1 and 2 p.m., PPL Electric Utilities delivered 6,394 megawatt- hours of electricity to its 1.3 million customers. That surpassed the existing summer record of 6,387 megawatt-hours set on July 19, 1999.

The all-time demand for PPL Electric Utilities remains 6,928 megawatt- hours set on Jan. 17, 2000.

"Throughout this heat wave, we have maintained reliable service because of the work we do all year to make sure our system can handle extremely high demand for electricity," said Robert M. Geneczko, vice president of Power Delivery for PPL Electric Utilities.

At the request of PJM Interconnection, the independent regional organization that coordinates electric delivery for 22 million people in five Mid-Atlantic states, PPL Electric Utilities asked a group of about 80 large industrial customers to reduce their electricity use Wednesday afternoon.

Those customers have special contracts with PPL Electric Utilities that enable them to buy power at a lower price in exchange for agreeing to reduce their usage temporarily when needed to help preserve reliability.

PPL Electric Utilities has not had to take any other emergency measures to meet the increased demand caused by the hot weather.

"As always, we encourage customers to use energy wisely during this hot weather," Geneczko said. "But we also want to assure them that when they need the power for air conditioners, fans and other appliances, they will have it."

PPL Electric Utilities provides electric delivery service to 1.3 million homes and businesses in 29 counties of eastern and central Pennsylvania.

PPL Electric Utilities is a subsidiary of PPL Corporation (NYSE: PPL). Headquartered in Allentown, Pa., PPL Corporation generates electricity at power plants in Pennsylvania, Maine and Montana; markets wholesale or retail energy in 42 U.S. states and Canada; and delivers electricity to nearly 6 million customers in Pennsylvania, the United Kingdom and Latin America.

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