## PPL Electric Utilities Reassures Customers as Hurricane Approaches; Company's Planning Effort Will Enable It to Act Quickly and Decisively

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The president of PPL Electric Utilities reassured customers today (9/17) that the company is well prepared for Hurricane Isabel and ready for whatever level of effort may be needed to repair storm-damaged equipment and restore electric service to customers.

"With this hurricane approaching our area, we want our customers to know that PPL Electric Utilities is hoping for the best while preparing for the worst," John F. Sipics told reporters at the company's East Mountain Business Center near Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

"This planning effort will enable us to act quickly and decisively to assess any damage Isabel may cause, get people and equipment where they are needed and address human needs if there are extensive outages," he said.

Sipics said PPL began preparing for the storm last Friday and continues to work with other utilities, contractors and emergency management agencies in preparation for the hurricane.

The company is committed to keeping its customers, community officials and emergency agencies informed if outages occur and will provide regular updates on the company's progress in restoring service, he said.

"We're prepared to work around the clock for as long as it may take to repair and rebuild poles, lines and equipment that may be damaged by the storm," Sipics added. "We have an experienced, dedicated workforce that will handle whatever Isabel throws at us."

PPL's planning is focused on three areas:

- -- Having sufficient people available to repair or rebuild damaged lines and equipment and handle calls both to and from customers.
- -- Reviewing material and equipment availability to make sure there are adequate supplies of wire, poles, transformers and other supplies.
- -- Addressing logistical needs, including arranging staging areas for visiting line crews and establishing a network of local businesses to supply drinking water and ice to customers who may be without power for more than a day.

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 Corporation is a subsidiary of PPL Corporation (NYSE: PPL). Headquartered in Allentown, Pa., PPL Corporation controls about 11,500 megawatts of generating capacity in the United States, sells energy in key U.S. markets and delivers electricity to customers in Pennsylvania, the United Kingdom and Latin America.

SOURCE: PPL Electric Utilities

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