



"Because Not All Radio Stations Are Created Equal"

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#### **(Neb)-Nearly All Weekend Outages Restored**

By: John Axtell Posted at: 12/02/2019 03:48 PM  
*Photo courtesy High West Energy*

CHADRON - Electric utilities across the region suffered varying levels of outages Friday and Saturday, but most have restored service to all but a handful of customer.

Hay Springs-based Northwest Rural PPD says all its residential customers again have electricity, but a few scattered lower-priority ag users such as stock wells are still being addressed, primarily in the Crawford and Dawes County table area. Crews are also busy replacing damaged poles.

The Niobrara Electric Association in Lusk, Wyo, says a few customers on both sides of the state line are still out, but the utility hopes to have them all restored by the end of the day.

NPPD and Roosevelt Public Power in Scotts Bluff County both reached full restoration yesterday

The news was not as good for customers of High West Energy Marketing and Communications and Wheat Belt PPD, who both lost at least 100 poles to the storm.

High West Energy Manager Jim East told Rural Radio News that 700 of their members were still without power at noon Monday primarily in the Sidney, Kimball, Potter and Hemingford areas.

East says the storm snapped poles like toothpicks, including a number that had been repaired or replaced in recent years as part of an on-going infrastructure investment plan. He called the loss "not like anything we've seen before," adding that they'd weathered the spring blizzards and storms very well.

Wheat Belt Public Power in the southern Panhandle and Alliance-based PREMA both had customers without service at noon, with Wheat Belt reporting about 300 household without power and more than 100 poles left to repair or replace. As a result, some could still be without electricity overnight.