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## **LACLEDE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE SENDS CREWS TO ASSIST IN HURRICANE IDA RESTORATION EFFORT**

Responding to a hurricane-battered Louisiana utility request, Laclede Electric Cooperative mobilized eight linemen, a digger truck, two material handling basket trucks, and Skid Steer, leaving August 31, 2021.

They will assist in restoring electric power to DEMCO members who lost power after hurricane IDA made landfall Sunday. According to their website, over 90,000 of their 112,000 locations are without power.

"Hurricane Ida made landfall and gained intensity with winds of 150 mph which wreaked havoc for this system headquartered in Greenwell Springs, Louisiana. It has caused extensive damage and knocked power out to over 80 percent of DEMCO's system," said David Archer, Laclede Electric Cooperative's Manager of Operations. "We are pleased to offer assistance to DEMCO. Our crews are planning to remain for ten days to assist in the restoration efforts left by this hurricane."

Laclede Electric Cooperative is involved in the mutual aid network and has assisted sister utilities throughout the country in responding to significant events, such as hurricanes, tornados, and ice storms. "This is the least we can do, as we were so appreciative to the many systems which assisted us in our time of need in the past," continued Archer.