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For Immediate Release

September 2, 2008

Contact: J. Patrick Kerr

441-0837 or 1-800-633-4044

Jackson Purchase Energy will send four line workers to Louisiana later this morning to help restore power to those affected by the devastation of Hurricane Gustav.

The Louisiana Association of Electric Cooperatives has requested assistance from other electric cooperatives throughout the southeast. JPEC crews will be working at Southern Louisiana Electric Cooperative in Houma, LA. Houma was the costal city where the eye of Gustav made landfall on Monday, Sep. 1.

Assistance from JPEC will include line workers Shane Humphrey, Darryl Johnson, Joe Rupke and Greg Vied. The line workers will arrive late this evening and begin with restoration efforts first thing tomorrow. They are expected to work 16 to 18 hour days, 7 days a week for two weeks or more. After two weeks, JPEC will evaluate progress and determine if a “fresh” crew should be sent to replace this one.

Southern Louisiana Electric Cooperative serves about 20,000 customers, all of who were without power after the storm.

Tracy Bensley, Vice President of Engineering and Operations said, “We knew we would be sending folks to help out just as soon as the storm passed through the area. In cases like this, we wait for those affected to determine the extent of the damage and how much help they need, then we act accordingly.”

JPEC is on a “willing to assist” list at the Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives. The KAEC has coordinated the relief effort with the Louisiana Statewide Association.

Johnson said, “It will be hard work and I will miss my family here at home, but I know those folks down there have had it rough and whatever we can do to help, I’m ready to do.”

The crewmembers going to Louisiana all volunteered for the duty.

*(continued page two)*

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The host utility pays all expenses for assistance and therefore, JPEC will not incur any costs other than lacking four line workers here at home.

Humphrey said, "We've had some pretty bad ice storms here in the past and have had to call in help. I know what a relief it is to see fresh crews pull up."

The line crews will operate just like they do here with one man serving as the liaison with the local utility. He will receive work assignments and then distribute those assignments to the crews. This set up ensures that JPEC's help is really a help and not a hindrance. By having one point of contact it means that JPEC's crews do not have to be supervised by the local utility.

G. Kelly Nuckols, JPEC President and CEO said, "It's important to remember that while the crews that are going to Louisiana will be working hard, the remaining line workers here at home will have to pick up the extra slack."

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Media outlets desiring an interview with line workers traveling to Louisiana may contact J. Patrick Kerr using the information above. Interviews will be arranged via cell phone while crews are traveling.