



NEWS

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ATC restarting electric system in Michigan's Upper Peninsula

PEWAUKEE, WI -- American Transmission Co., owner and operator of the electric transmission system in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, is working to bring the transmission grid in the UP back on line following an apparent lightning strike to two key 138,000-volt transmission lines at approximately 3:30 this morning between Oconto County, Wis. and Dickinson County, Mich. As a result, the western two-thirds of the UP experienced an electrical system outage as a 345,000-volt transmission line that also serves the UP was out of service for a planned outage. Subsequently, the instability of the system triggered the automatic shutdown of Presque Isle Power Plant in Marquette, Mich., to protect the system.

ATC and local utilities have been coordinating the methodical restart of the electric system today including restoring the transmission system and bringing generating units at Presque Isle Power Plant back on line. ATC expects the transmission system to be fully operational by early this afternoon, which will enable local utilities to return electric service to customers. Some customers already have had service restored.

ATC continues to conduct helicopter and foot patrols to inspect the transmission lines.

ATC owns, operates, builds and maintains the high-voltage electric transmission system serving portions of Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and Illinois. Formed in 2001 as the nation's first multi-state transmission-only utility, ATC has invested \$2.5 billion to improve the adequacy and reliability of its infrastructure. ATC now is a \$2.9 billion company with 9,440 miles of transmission lines and 515 substations. The company is a member of the Midwest ISO regional transmission organization, and provides nondiscriminatory service to all customers, supporting effective competition in energy markets without favoring any market participant. For more information, visit our website at www.atcllc.com.

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