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LIPA Prepared for Hurricane Sandy, Severe Storms

Extra crews and equipment being mobilized as storm approaches

Customers encouraged to prepare for the possibility of extended outages lasting 7-10 days

Uniondale, NY - The Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) and National Grid continue to prepare for Hurricane Sandy as the storm moves northward. Severe weather including heavy rain, flooding and damaging sustained winds is expected to impact LIPA's service territory Sunday with the full brunt of the storm hitting the area on Monday and Tuesday.

LIPA urges customers to prepare and plan for power outages which based on the current track could last between 7-10 days. Storm safety tips, power outage information, and preparedness tips are available for our customers at <http://www.lipower.org/stormcenter>. An informational video and guidance on LIPA and National Grid's approach to storm restoration is also available on LIPA's Storm Center at: <http://www.lipower.org/stormcenter>.

Proactive outreach efforts continue to be made to critical care and special needs customers as the storm approaches.

While customers may not see restoration crews working specifically in their neighborhoods following the storm, crews will perform damage surveys as soon as possible during and after the weather-related incidents following established safety guidelines.

Customers are encouraged to pre-register their cell phones in order to report outages and receive restoration updates via text. To register, please text **REG** to 695472 (myLIPA). After registration, to report an outage please text **OUT** to 695472 (myLIPA).

Customers without power can also call 1-800-490-0075. Always report an outage to LIPA. By reporting your outage, you will be able to receive timely information regarding the status of your outage and estimated restoration times.

In order for all employees to support restoration efforts, LIPA's walk-in customer service centers will be closed Monday and Tuesday and may be closed through the end of the week. Customers should call 1-800-490-0025 to check the status of the centers to make sure they are open.

LIPA would like to remind customers to be alert. Please drive carefully, as there will be repair crews throughout the

Island working as safely and quickly as conditions allows. Expect delays and exercise caution when driving near any of the repair crews working to restore your power. If you see downed wires assume it is live and do not go near it. Report it immediately to 1-800-490-0075.

Storm Preparations Plans:

How LIPA and National Grid are preparing:

- Closely monitoring the storm's progress on and around-the-clock.
- Coordinating preparation efforts with state, New York City, county and local emergency management organizations.
- Communicating preparations and restoration procedures with public officials.
- Ensuring that all LIPA and National Grid personnel are ready to respond.
- Securing additional utility and tree trim crews to supplement our existing workforce.
- Reinforcing all communication and information technology systems necessary to support our restoration efforts.
- Ensuring that all supply inventories and equipment are fully stocked to support restoration efforts.

Steps Customers Can Take

As the storm approaches, customers should take the following steps to prepare:

- Never touch or go near fallen wires, even if you think they are safe. Parents can use this opportunity to remind children that wires are dangerous. If you are in a vehicle that comes in contact with a downed wire, stay in your vehicle until help arrives.
- Make sure you have a working, battery powered radio or TV and a good supply of fresh replacement batteries.
- Have flashlights available for all family members.
- If an electric pump supplies your water, fill spare food-grade containers with water for cooking and washing in anticipation of a possible power interruption.
- Make sure all motor driven equipment, such as garage door openers, can be operated manually.
- When using a portable generator, make sure all LIPA-powered equipment is disconnected. This will avoid severe hazards when reconnecting the power to your home or business.
- Have a first aid kit at home and check its contents to make sure they are complete and up to date. If you have family members with special medical needs, such as insulin or other prescription drugs, check to make sure you have an adequate supply.
- Do not use charcoal to cook indoors; deadly carbon monoxide gas can accumulate in your home.
- If you have an elderly neighbor, be a Good Samaritan and check on his or her status. Even a quick telephone call during a storm can provide much appreciated assurance that help is nearby if needed.
- Should an electric power interruption occur, all sensitive equipment, such as computers and TVs should be disconnected until service is restored.

LIPA, a non-profit municipal electric provider, owns the retail electric Transmission and Distribution System on Long Island and provides electric service to more than 1.1 million customers in Nassau and Suffolk counties and the Rockaway Peninsula in Queens. LIPA is the 2nd largest municipal electric utility in the nation in terms of electric revenues, 3rd largest in terms of customers served and the 7th largest in terms of electricity delivered. In 2011, LIPA outperformed all other overhead electric utilities in New York State for frequency and duration of service interruptions. LIPA does not provide natural gas service or own any on-island generating assets. More information about LIPA can be found online at <http://www.lipower.org>.