

CITY OF KENNER PRESS RELEASE

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KENNER OUTAGE TOTALS UP TO 10,000 CUSTOMERS; KENNER DISCOVERY SCHOOL LETTING PARENTS PICK UP CHILDREN

Kenner, **LA.** – More than 10,000 customers in Kenner were without power as of 11:15 a.m. as a result of the severe thunderstorm that knocked down power lines and trees throughout the city, officials said.

The bulk of the wind damage was reported in west-central areas of the city, including University City, the Ochsner Medical Center-Kenner and the Wal Mart store, said Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Doug Dodt.

Power was lost at about 10:45 a.m. at the Kenner Discovery Health Sciences Academy, 2504 Maine Ave., officials said. At 11:50 a.m. school officials announced that parents could pick up their children at the horseshoe. School buses also are arriving and bus riders will be the last to leave campus.

Other outages were also reported in southwest Kenner, near the Pontchartrain Center in Laketown and in the Westgate subdivision, officials said. The storm dropped up to 1 ½ inches of rain in about an hour in most of Kenner, causing some scattered street flooding, Dodt said.

According to officials with the Public Service Commission, the storm knocked out power to more than 26,000 customers in Jefferson Parish, with the significant percentage of the outages centered in Kenner. A total of 17 parishes reported outages due to the storm with only East Baton Rouge – with more than 36,000 customers without power – reporting more than Jefferson.

Dodt said city officials turned over a report of a roof blown off a house on Tulane Drive to the National Weather Service. However, he said there had been no reports in Kenner of any funnel clouds.

"We have a number of power poles and trees knocked down and that accounts for the bulk of the power outages," he said. "In some cases, the trees and poles are blocking streets and workers are heading to those areas."

All reports of power outages have been forwarded to Entergy, but anyone wishing to report an outage for a friend or relative can call 1-800-9OUTAGE. To view outages in the area go to the Entergy outage map online at www.etrviewoutage.com.