



CITY OF KENNER

PRESS RELEASE

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MAYOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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‘MOST’ POWER IN KENNER TO BE RESTORED BY 10 P.M.; SOUTHBOUND LOYOLA DRIVE CLOSED

Kenner, LA. – Approximately 3,100 customers in Kenner remained without power Tuesday morning, as cleanup continued from the severe thunderstorm that knocked down trees and power lines throughout the city. An Entergy spokesman estimated that “most customers” in the city will have their power restored by 10 p.m.

The National Weather Service confirmed that a tornado touched down near West Esplanade Avenue/Loyola Drive with maximum winds estimated at 90 mph. The tornado, rated an EF-1 – the second weakest on a scale from 0 to 5 - damaged power poles and trees and lifted the roof from a home on Tulane Drive.

While power outages were scattered throughout the city as of Tuesday morning, the heaviest damage was in the general area surrounding West Esplanade and Loyola Drive, according to Public Works Director Jose Gonzalez.

He urged motorists to exercise caution in the area because southbound Loyola was closed to accommodate Entergy work crews. Northbound Loyola remained open Tuesday morning. In addition, a number of traffic signals were knocked out by the storm in that area. Gonzalez said portable stop signs have been put up in those locations.

“The good news is we have no reports of any injuries,” Kenner Mayor Michael Yenni said. “But a number of homeowners had significant damage. I urge all residents to be particularly careful operating portable generators.”

For more information on generator safety, go to <http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/power-outage/safe-generator-use/>.

Entergy spokesman Greg Fenn said Tuesday that “crews were working all over Kenner.” He said Entergy crews were working on the three biggest outages in the Chateau Lakefront area, West Loyola Drive and the 200 block of West Esplanade.

Fenn said all critical city services have power. He said it’s possible there will be some “isolated cases” in which some customers will not have their power restored until Wednesday. Also, Entergy has assigned a

representative to spend the day with Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Doug Dodt to assist with any power-related issues.

Crews from the Public Works department continued to remove trees and other obstructions located on public property. However, property owners are required to handle any cleanup on private property, officials said.

Yenni said any homeowner hiring a contractor for the job should check that the individual or company is both licensed and insured. "Unfortunately, there are people that try to take advantage during these types of situations," Yenni said.

Ramelli Waste officials urged residents to follow guidelines so that all storm debris will be picked up. All debris must:

- Be placed neatly on curb.
- Weigh no more than 75 pounds
- Be no more than 2 feet in diameter
- Be no more than 4 feet in length

Anyone with questions about debris pickup can contact Ramelli at (504) 482-2040.

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