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MLGW: Last power outages to be restored by Sunday



Credit: MIKE BROWN

July 23, 2015 -Crews inspect MLGW's electric substation #4 located at Front and Jackson following a large power outage that affected most of downtown Memphis. (Mike Brown/The Commercial Appeal)

By Kelly Fisher

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Less than 1,000 Memphis Light Gas and Water customers are still without power as of Saturday morning, but officials predict full restoration by midnight Sunday.

The utility, which announced the outage number in a tweet Friday afternoon, reported nearly 68,000 customers in Memphis and Shelby County lost power during Wednesday's storms.

According to MLGW's most recent news release, approximately 61,000 customers have restored power, despite more severe weather Friday morning. MLGW called in 26 outside crews-- four of which started Friday afternoon-- to assist in restoration efforts. Two are from Jackson, Tennessee and others from as far as East Tennessee and Kentucky.

Many of the outages are attributed to tree limbs falling on power lines and taking down poles.

Stacey Ewell, assistant to the city administrator in Germantown, said Thursday that the city experienced a traffic backup due to traffic lights being out, and heard a report of a tree being on fire and falling.

TOP

Bartlett Director of Public Works Bill Yearwood said Thursday the suburb had no major problems because of the storms.

However, MLGW reported that Wednesday's storms caused "significantly more damage than the storms that moved through Shelby County on July 14, impacting twice as many customers."

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