

Strong Thunderstorms Cause Damage and Power Outages

(KLZA)-- Around 1,000 people are without power in Atchison County, Missouri following strong thunderstorms that packed straight line winds estimated at up to 100 miles per hour. There have been no reports of injuries.

Atchison County Emergency Management Deputy Director Mark Manchester reported just before 10 a-m that KCP&L customers accounted for most of the outages. Around 600 of the outages were reported in Fairfax where major tree damage occurred and two grain elevators suffered major damage to storage bins. Power outages have also been reported in Westboro, Rock Port, Tarkio and Watson. Manchester also reported a large number of trees snapped off along the levee along the Nishnabotna River. A number of outbuildings on farmsteads have been damaged.

In Nemaha County Nebraska, straight line winds are blamed for damages to crops, outbuildings and trees. Tree damage has been reported in Auburn and Nemaha as well as in the western part of the county according to Nemaha County Emergency Management Director Renee Critser.

Meanwhile, about 50,000 customers of Kansas City Power and Light were without power in the Kansas City area after overnight storms downed power lines and trees.

In Kansas, Westar Energy says numerous outages have also been reported, largely in the Topeka area.