

November 2015 Windstorm Overview – Docket No. UE-160056

March 24th, 2016

Windstorm 2015



Peak gusts in Spokane on Nov. 17, 2015 were recorded at 71 mph. Near hurricane force winds devastated our region leaving in its wake the worst outage we've dealt within in our 126-year history.



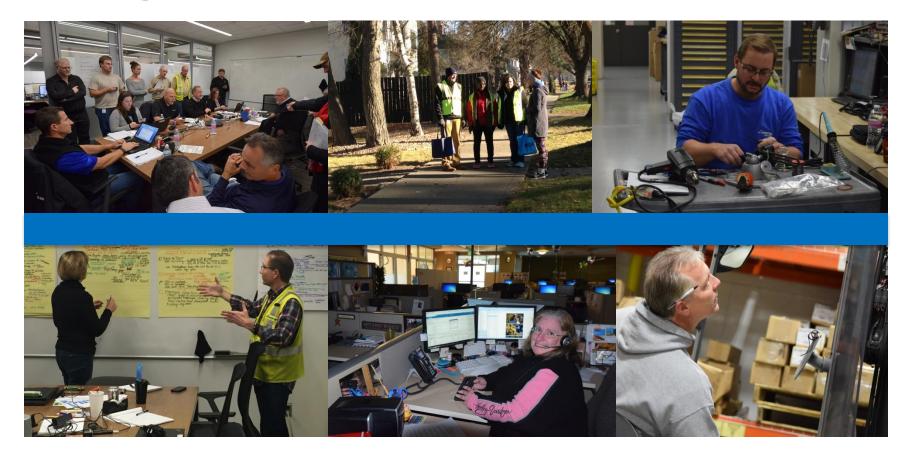
Nearly 180,000 customers lost power



Restoration = 10 days



Organizational strengths and leadership during the event





Prior to storm, emergency operations were declared to enable rapid response

Preplanning

Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

Incident Command
Structure

EOC Briefing

Pre storm assessment

Damage assessment

Local contractor resources

Western Regional Mutual Assistance Group Section Meetings
County & city Liaisons

Critical services

External



Emergency Operations Center Activation

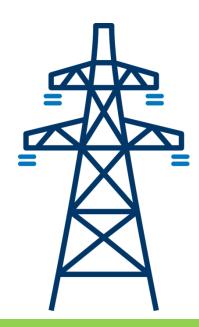


- Periodic briefing
- Incident Command Structure unit activation and role assignment
- Common operating picture
- Problem identification
- Next operating period goals



Damages from the windstorm

At the height of the storm, we lost **29 Major** Transmission lines and **40 substations**.

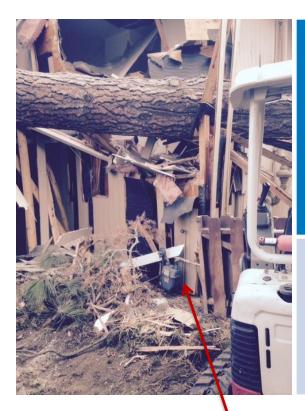


All 40 substations were restored by Nov. 19





Gas operations during the height of the storm



73

Gas operations in Coeur d'Alene and Spokane responded to 73 total trouble orders in a 12-hour period. The Spokane district responded to more blowing gas odors in Spokane in one night than the entire month of November in 2014.

30

30 Employees between Spokane and Coeur d'Alene responded during the storm and worked through the night to secure Avista's system and ensure the safety of our customers and the public.

Gas meter



Western Regional Mutual Assistance Group activation with multiple waves



132 Avista, contract and mutual aid crews from six western states and Canada worked 16 hour rotating shifts for 10 days.

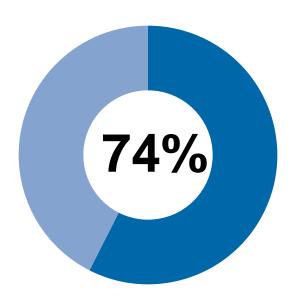




Customer service highlights

Information reflects Nov. 17 through Nov. 27





Answered 74 percent of calls within 60 seconds

55,900

148,768

24/7 staffing

The number of calls taken. That's 35,100 more calls than normal!

Number of calls handled by the Interactive Voice Response system. That's 91,000 more calls than normal!

Reps did a fantastic job!





All restoration activities were completed without injury.

Storm Safety Focus

- ☐ Contractor Safety On-boarding
- □ V-Watch
- Safety led EOC briefings
- Safety Field Observations
- Public safety

Real time adjustments

- ☐ 2nd Dispatch Center
- Feeder circuit restoration focus.

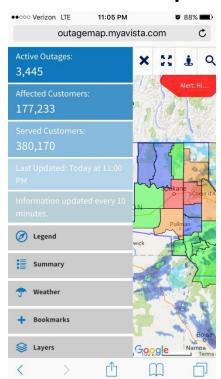


Remarkable efforts from across the community

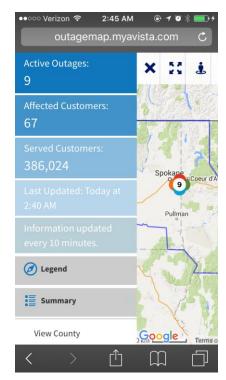
Out of the nearly 180,000 customers without power from the Nov. 17 storm, all customers were restored by 3:45 a.m. on Nov. 27.



Nov. 17 at 11:05 p.m.



Nov. 27 at 2:45 a.m.





External Communications Critical Success Factors

Community in Crisis

- EntireCommunityImpacted
- Joint NewsConferences
- #Inland Strong

Transparent & Timely Info

- Magnitude of damage
- Approach to restoring power
- Demonstrate progress

Consistent Messages

- Scott Morris
- News Media
- Social Media
- Web
- Call Center



External Communications Cross-Community Focus



Scott Morris on the frontline



- Anticipation, preparation and clear roles/responsibilities prior to incident
- Provide a united communications front with elected officials, emergency responders and agencies
- #InlandStrong
- Scott Morris took the lead as Avista's key spokesperson
- Proactive dissemination of information



External Communications: Media Relations



PG&E crews safely arrive in Spokane, WA to support Avista Utilities in storm recovery efforts. Today, the focus is to restore distribution lines: http://ow.ly/UTNIU



30,652 Views

KHQ Cynthia Johnson November 20, 2015 - (A) ili Like Page

Transparent & Tim	iely	Into
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174	Number of Media Inquiries Avista responded to
15	Media Alerts issued
6	Joint News Conferences conducted
4	Proactive Video Opportunities

- Magnitude of damage
- Restoration approach
- Progress being made



External Communications Connecting Directly with Customers

Demonstrating Progress

Avista Utilities added 2 new photos.

November 19, 2015 · 🔞

Crews have been making progress in the field. In less than 48 hours, 86,000 customers have been restored. This is nearly half of all those who were without power at the height of the storm. We will continue to work around the clock until all customers are restored. Thank you for your continued patience.

Setting Expectations



The Spokesman-Review
November 21, 2015

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Avista Utilities still hopes to have most customers back on line by Monday, but as the work gets more time and labor intensive, CEO Scott Morris cautioned that it may be mid-week before everyone has power again.

"We continue to dedicate every resource at our disposal," he said. "Restoring power to the remaining 30 percent of customers is really challenging."



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75	Facebook Posts
8,100	Direct messages with 94 percent responded to within 13 minutes or less
1 Million	Twitter accounts reached
12.7 M	Unique Twitter impressions created
837,000	Visits to Outage Map
607,000	Visits to avistautilities.com



This was shared by MeLissa's Nails on Facebook:

An Avista crew member saw an elderly man in his car today, asked the gentleman if he was Okay, the man replied "I'm just trying to get warm. I have lots of wood but not strong enough to carry it in".

That (Avista) crew member carried, stacked and even started the fire! I felt it needed to be shared. Thank you!





Community Outreach Highlights

More than 100

Reached out to nursing home, assisted living and other adult care housing facilities

Helped secure and connect emergency generators for critical customers, including several assisted living homes

More than \$94,000

Contributed to fund shelters, warming centers, emergency food and services, extend school warming center days and food







Behind the Scenes Support





At least 50

Avista volunteers in non-critical operation positions worked with City volunteers to go door-to-door checking on vulnerable customers

More than **300**

Employees volunteered to help in any capacity during the storm



Post Storm Debriefings

- Objective
 - Recognize successes
 - Identify opportunities to continually strengthen emergency response program
- Conducted 17 debriefing meetings
- Conducted post-storm survey with 396 respondents
- Engaged 3rd party to review storm response



Post Storm Debriefings: Successes



No Safety Incidents



Avista Employees



Visibility of Avista Leadership



Communications



EOP Incident Command Structure



Logistics



Generators



Community Coordination and Collaboration



iFactor, Compass, IVR



Post Storm Debriefings: Opportunities for Improvement



EOP Incident
Management Structure



EOP Support Staff Roles



Damage Assessment Strategy Documentation



Critical Customers and Services



Training and Mock-Exercise Program



Restoration Strategy



Estimated Restoration Times (ERT)



Communication Processes



Thank You!

