



NEWS RELEASE – September 13, 2017

Veridian crew heading to Atlanta to assist with power restoration efforts

Ajax, ON – Early this morning Veridian Connections (“Veridian”) dispatched a crew of nine experienced linepersons and five of its utility vehicles to Atlanta to assist with power restoration efforts currently underway in the southern U.S. after Hurricane Irma caused extensive flooding and damage to infrastructure. Nearly 4.5 million homes and businesses lost power in the storm that made landfall on Sunday.

According to Peter Petriw, Veridian’s Vice President of Engineering, “The crew is expected to cross into the U.S. this afternoon and make their way to Atlanta where they will receive direction from Sparks Energy – an Alabama-based company that provides storm response and energy restoration services – to help restore power to the estimated 650,000 customers currently without power in the state of Georgia.”

Veridian joins a growing number of utilities from Ontario that are, or will soon be, assisting with power restoration in the southern U.S. The utility has a long tradition of helping other utilities – Canadian and American – during catastrophic events.

Veridian Connections, serving more than 121,000 residential and business customers, is the fifth largest municipally owned electric utility in Ontario. The City of Pickering, the Town of Ajax, the Municipality of Clarington and the City of Belleville jointly own Veridian Corporation, the parent company to Veridian Connections. The utility has a successful history of effective growth through two mergers and five acquisitions, and now serves nine communities east and north of Toronto more efficiently than any other large non-contiguous utility in Ontario. Veridian has a keen focus on reliability, customer communication and helping to lower customers’ electricity bills through the delivery of innovative conservation programs and reasonable rates. Veridian not only contributes to local communities through industry leading financial returns, but also helps build stronger communities through the support of youth, health, education, the arts, the environment and many charitable organizations. Industry leading employee programs, public safety and a focus on employee engagement has created an environment that has earned eight consecutive Canada’s Greenest Employer awards, one Top GTA Employer award and the Electricity Distributors Association’s Performance Excellence award. Veridian has now diversified into renewable energy, and will be establishing other value added offerings for its customers.

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