



## **NEWS RELEASE – March 7, 2018**

### **Veridian provides status update on crew dispatched to Connecticut to help restore power following powerful storm**

**Ajax, ON** – A Veridian crew of seven experienced linepersons that were dispatched last Friday following an aid assistance request after a powerful storm left thousands of customers in Connecticut without power continues their power restoration efforts alongside local and out-of-state crews.

In a statement released by Eversource’s Vice President of Electric Operations in Connecticut, Michael Hayhurst said “Our employees and out-of-state crews continue doing a tremendous job repairing extensive damage and restoring power after this destructive storm. Thanks to the team effort of these crews and support personnel working hard behind the scenes, we have achieved our goal of restoring power to the vast majority of customers.”

Veridian’s crew arrived in Hartford, Connecticut Saturday morning for a briefing with local officials, and were then sent to assist Eversource – New England’s largest energy company with approximately 3.7 million electric and natural gas customers in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

While crews have replaced more than 550 utility poles and strung more than 100 miles of new overhead lines, work continues around-the-clock making the necessary repairs to get every customer back on line. Another storm is expected to hit the region today, bringing more snow, rain and high winds.

Peter Petriw, Veridian’s Vice President of Engineering, was quick to recognize staff who here at home continue to provide a high level of system reliability and service for customers. “While providing support to Eversource, we are not jeopardizing local service in the process and for this, the staff that have stayed behind need to be recognized as well.”

*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.*

-30-

**For more information, contact:**

Chris Mace  
Corporate Communications Representative  
Veridian Connections Inc.  
905-427-9870, extension 2218  
Follow us on Twitter: [@VeridianTweets](https://twitter.com/VeridianTweets)