



NEWS RELEASE – March 12, 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 to Connecticut on March 2nd to help restore power after a powerful storm left thousands of customers without power is still providing assistance after a second nor'easter hit the area on Thursday.

The crew is part of Eversource's massive, around-the-clock power restoration efforts. Working in challenging conditions for the last several days, utility workers have restored power to more than 243,000 customers, replaced hundreds of poles and strung more than 110 miles of new overhead powerlines.

Veridian is in constant contact with the crew's supervisor, receiving daily updates on their status. "The weather and working conditions have been extremely challenging but the crew is in good spirits, and working hard to restore power as quickly and as safe as possible," said Peter Petriw, Veridian's Vice President of Engineering. "The crew's safety and well-being is our top priority, and I feel very confident in their ability to work in the conditions Mother Nature has thrown at them."

Eversource officials are keeping a close eye on a third storm that's expected to hit the area tomorrow morning, bringing with it more snow and high winds.

Veridian's crew arrived in Hartford, Connecticut on March 3rd 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.

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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