



NEWS RELEASE – March 5, 2018

Veridian responds to aid assistance request, dispatches crew and utility vehicles to Connecticut to help restore power

Ajax, ON – Veridian Connections (“Veridian”) has responded to an aid assistance request seeking linepersons and utility vehicles to assist with power restoration efforts following last Friday’s nor’easter storm in Connecticut. The damage caused by the storm is extensive and widespread throughout the state, and in some areas crews are having to rebuild portions of the electrical system.

Veridian’s contingent of seven experienced linepersons and three utility vehicles 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.

Eversource is reporting that approximately 174,000 homes and businesses have had their power restored, and they are on track to have the majority of customers still without power back on today.

Veridian has a long tradition of helping other utilities – Canadian and American – during emergency events. Last September, a Veridian crew travelled to Atlanta to assist with power restoration efforts after Hurricane Irma caused extensive flooding and damage to electrical infrastructure. Nearly 4.5 million homes and businesses were without power after the storm made landfall.

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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