



A FORTIS COMPANY

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BEL Works to Restore Power Following Lightning Damage to Electrical Supply System

Earlier today, Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) lost power supply to those areas on the Northern Highway between Ladyville and Crooked Tree Village including Rancho Dolores and other villages along the Old Northern Highway and on the Western Highway between Mile 8 and Mile 30. The power outage resulted from lightning damage to distribution lines and substation equipment.

While inclement weather severely hampered service restoration works, BEL was able to restore power to all affected areas at 3:26 p.m. except Burrell Boom up to Rancho Dolores. BEL crews continue to work in these areas to restore service.

The Company advises that some customers in Belize City may be experiencing power outages caused by lightning damage to transformers and other system equipment.

As inclement weather conditions prevail, BEL advises customers that they may experience intermittent power outages. The Company also advises customers to take the following safety precautions in the event of flooding:

- Turn off the main breaker if the water level rises near or above outlets.
- Avoid using a corded telephone or any electrical appliance.
- Do not walk into any area or water that may be connected to an electrical source.
- Keep away from fallen power lines. Assume all wires on the ground are electrically charged. This includes cable TV feeds.

- Remove standing water, wet carpets and furnishings. Air-dry your home before restoring power.
- Equipment located in flooded areas pose a potentially deadly threat and should be inspected by a licensed electrician as it may have been affected by moisture.

For more information regarding electrical safety, call 0-800-BEL-CARE OR 0-800-235-2273.

END