



Power outages sukhumi

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SEATTLE -- Power has been restored to the last of the neighborhoods left in the dark by last week's bomb cyclone, but the lingering impacts from the damage have convinced some residents to change their Thanksgiving plans.

Puget Sound Energy said the final repairs were completed overnight Tuesday, so that by Wednesday morning all the areas affected by the Nov. 19 windstorm were back online. The PSE outage map still showed some small pockets of areas where electricity was not available Wednesday afternoon. The utility company said those are newer outages that have been called in in the past day or two.

In an update posted Wednesday morning, PSE President and CEO Mary Kipp said the storm was the "worst we've seen in two decades" and the hurricane-force winds caused "extensive" damage to infrastructure.

Kipp said 418 miles of PSE transmission lines were impacted or damaged in the windstorm and 49 substations were knocked offline. More than 400,000 PSE customers lost power during the peak of the storm, and more than 600,000 total customers were impacted by outages.

For people like Josh Korakis near Maple Valley, it has been quite an ordeal.

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"After firing it we found that it didn't quite power the house," Korakis said. "Although there were a few lights that were on, the fridge had no power to it, so we had to run extension cords from where there was power in the house to get the essentials powered."

Still, the family had no way to cook during the outage and ultimately threw away some of the food that was loaded into their refrigerator.

As for Thanksgiving, Korakis still plans to have the family over for a meal but said this year feels very different.

"Thankfully the power is back on now, so it's not impacted quite as much, but it is going to be impacted because of a little bit less time to get ready, a little bit less time to prepare," he said. "Definitely thankful for having the power back on, regardless of all the hoops we've got to jump through. As long as we're able to have power and celebrate together, should be good."

Dean Kattary and his wife live in the Mirrormont community and are having a very different experience this holiday. They did get the power back on Tuesday night, but things are still far from normal.



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"The internet has been off for a little over a week now, and no sign as to when it's coming back on, which is kind of a problem because I work from home," Kattary said. The Kattarys have also repeatedly changed their Thanksgiving plans due to the ongoing impacts of the storm.

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