



Public Power Ready

LOCAL SERVICE WITH NATIONAL STRENGTH

AN OVERVIEW OF THE MUTUAL AID PROGRAM



How are public power utilities ready?

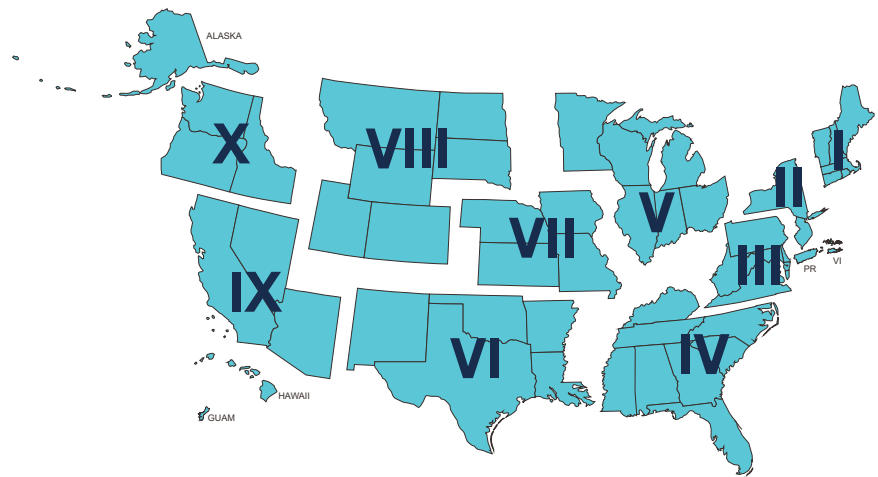
Just as firefighters, police officers, and other emergency responders combine forces to help rebuild communities devastated by natural disasters, lineworkers and other electric utility personnel come together in an emergency to turn the lights back on.

This commitment was never more evident than in October 2012, when Superstorm Sandy caused widespread damage—affecting states all along the eastern seaboard as well as several inland. The response of public power utilities was immediate and far-reaching. After Sandy made landfall, more than 1,000 electric crews, with 3–4 individuals on each crew, came from as far away as California to help rebuild the electric system in the mid-Atlantic area. Individuals from more than 20 states spent weeks working long hours to ensure that devastated communities could begin to rebuild quickly and safely.

Public Power’s Mutual Aid Network

A national mutual aid agreement signed by more than 2,000 public power and rural electric cooperatives links utilities so they can help each other in times of need. Some public power utilities may also have other local, state, and regional contracts and agreements in place to render mutual aid.

One of the most important elements of the Mutual Aid Program is the American Public Power Association’s *Mutual Aid Playbook*, or MAP. The MAP is segmented into the nation’s ten public power mutual aid regions, which are based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency regions. The playbook ensures a coordinated response with state and federal government officials and lists roles and responsibilities of utilities, network coordinators, and national coordinators. The MAP also provides resources such as sample mutual aid agreements, damage assessment templates, and resource request and approval forms to help utilities before, during, and after an event.



*American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands, Republic of Marshall Islands, and Federated States of Micronesia are not shown.

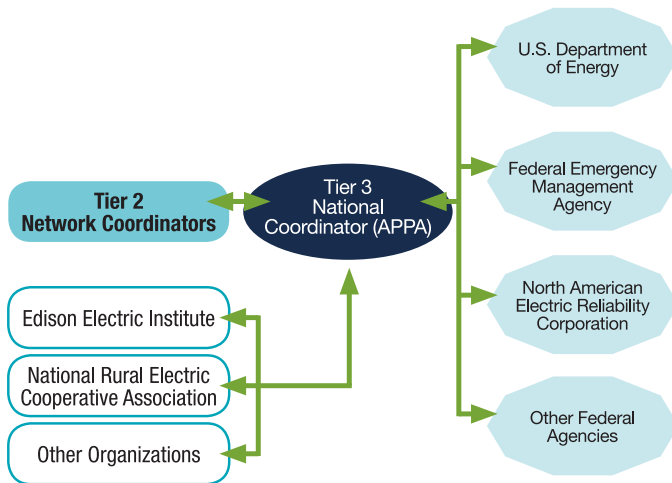
How Mutual Aid Coordination Works

Here is an overview of the roles and responsibilities of utility, network, and national coordinators during a large-scale event. As the severity of the event increases, so does the coordination at each tier.

Level	Tier 1: Utility Coordinator	Tier 2: Network Coordinator	Tier 3: National Coordinator (American Public Power Association)
Steady State			
0 No outages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update contact and resources lists and communicate periodically with network coordinator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compile contact and resources lists from utilities within network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain mutual aid playbook and listserv
1 Isolated event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess need, respond to event, and determine if escalation is needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None generally, but may assist with information as requested 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain mutual aid playbook and listserv
Local/State Mutual Aid Activated			
2 Local/state event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate needs and available resources to network coordinator and update periodically Manage response within their utility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor response May assist identifying available resources Inform APPA of response, potential needs, and if preemptive call is needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor conditions for possible escalation Monitor response to inform federal agencies
Regional Mutual Aid Activated			
3 Regional event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate needs and available resources to network coordinator Periodic updates of needs and resources as response proceeds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist identification of available resources May work with other network coordinators to mobilize needed resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host preemptive call with affected network coordinators Monitor response to inform federal agencies
National Mutual Aid Activated			
4 National event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate needs and available resources to network coordinator Multiple daily updates of needs and resources as response proceeds Manage local response 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist identification of available resources Work with other network coordinators and APPA to mobilize needed resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available to coordinate response Inform federal agencies

Industry Coordination for Mutual Aid

The figure below shows the coordination that the American Public Power Association will engage in during a level 4 event. APPA coordinates with network coordinators from the affected regions; the Edison Electric Institute, the trade association for investor-owned electric utilities; the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the trade association for the cooperative electric utilities; and other organizations such as the National Emergency Management Association, to ensure a smooth response. Government partners play a vital role in improving the recovery process by providing access to fuel for trucks, housing for emergency responders, and other resources.



Mutual Aid Network Membership

To learn more about the APPA Mutual Aid Network and become a member, email MutualAid@PublicPower.org, call 202-467-2900, or visit www.PublicPower.org/MutualAid.

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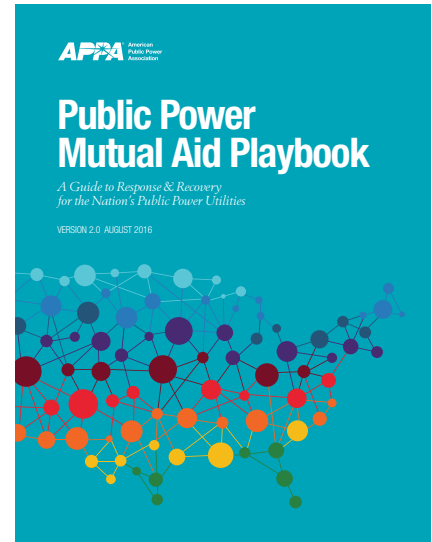
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Download APPA's Mutual Aid Playbook

APPA's *Mutual Aid Playbook* (MAP) is a handy guide to response and recovery for public power utilities. It provides a practical protocol to coordinate dialogue and actions between local, regional and national mutual aid coordination networks.

All public power utilities are encouraged to download a copy by visiting publicpower.org/MutualAid.

About Public Power

The American Public Power Association represents more than 2,000 not-for-profit, community-owned electric utilities providing reliable electric service to over 47 million Americans.

Community-owned and operated public power utilities light up homes, businesses, and streets in more than 2,000 cities and towns in the United States. Some of the nation's largest cities—including Los Angeles, San Antonio, Seattle and Orlando—operate public power electric utilities. However, most public power utilities serve 3,000 or fewer customers.

All public power utilities share a commitment to provide reliable electricity safely, securely, and at the lowest cost possible, while protecting the environment.

More at PublicPower.org.