

78K Still Without Power in PA After Glaze

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Feb. 7, 2014: Linesmen work to restore electrical power in Downingtown, Pa. (AP)

PHILADELPHIA –Utility crews restored power to thousands of Pennsylvania homes Saturday, but some customers in the dark for days after a tree-snapping ice storm may not regain power until early next week.

About 78,000 customers in Pennsylvania and Maryland remained without power early Sunday, and faced the prospect of yet another day without electric heat or light.

The majority of them are in the Philadelphia area, with utility PECO reporting about 77,500 outages, as of 1 a.m., down from about 155,000 earlier Saturday.

The latest outages include nearly 39,000 customers in hard-hit Chester County, or more than one in five customers.

Montgomery County had about 19,000 customers without electricity, while Bucks County had less than 16,000.

PECO spokesman Greg Smore says weakened trees and limbs continue to fall, creating new obstacles. The company expects to restore power to everyone by Monday.

Maryland officials reported 500 outages.

More than 1 million customers lost power at the storm's peak.