



**Duquesne Light**

*Our Energy...Your Power*

## **News Release**

**Date** September 24, 2015  
**For Release** Upon Receipt  
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### **Duquesne Light Encourages Customers To Create Emergency Power Outage Plan** *September Is National Preparedness Month*

**PITTSBURGH** – September is National Preparedness Month and Duquesne Light urges customers to develop a plan and know what to do during a power outage. National Preparedness Month, created by FEMA/Ready.gov, is a nation-wide campaign designed to create awareness about emergency, severe weather and disaster readiness. This week focuses on preparing for power outages.

“Having an individual or family preparedness plan in place is critical should an unexpected situation arise,” said Mike Peluso, Manager of Emergency Preparedness at Duquesne Light. “While Duquesne Light makes every effort to restore power as quickly as possible, prolonged outages can occur, particularly during times of bad weather. Preparing for an outage is the best way to keep your family safe.”

Helpful tips to prepare before and during an outage include:

#### **Before a Power Outage**

- Be sure to have flashlights, a battery-powered radio and fresh batteries that are easily accessible.
- Check supplies of non-perishable foods, bottled water and medication. Try to keep a three-day supply on hand.
- Check medications that require refrigeration to be sure you know if they will be affected by a prolonged interruption of power.
- Always have a first-aid kit with current supplies in a convenient location.
- Know how to manually operate your garage door.
- Use surge suppressors to protect sensitive electronic equipment.
- In winter, have an alternate source of heating available, along with extra fuel, such as wood for wood-burning stoves and fireplaces

#### **During a Power Outage**

- Report a power outage or dangerous situation to Duquesne Light by calling **1-888-393-7000**.
- Do not touch downed or hanging power lines or anything touching them.
- Avoid opening the refrigerator or freezer. Food will stay frozen in a fully loaded freezer for 36 to 48 hours if the doors remain closed.
- Disconnect or turn off appliances that were on when the power outage occurred. Leave a light on so you will know when power is restored.

**About Duquesne Light Company**

Duquesne Light Company is a leader in the transmission and distribution of electric energy, offering superior customer service and reliability to more than a half a million customers in southwestern Pennsylvania.

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