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News Release

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AUB PLANS SHORT POWER OUTAGE IN NIOTA THIS SUNDAY

ATHENS, Tenn. – Athens Utilities Board (AUB) customers in Niota will be without electric power for a short period of time this Sunday morning.

AUB spokesman Wayne Scarbrough said that the outage is necessary to allow crews to replace utility hardware that was damaged by lightning in a recent storm.

One lane of traffic will be under traffic control during the repairs. “Crews will be working in the curve just north of where Highway 11 transitions from four lanes to two lanes. We ask that travelers be on the lookout for our safety-flagging crews, and we appreciate everyone’s patience.”

Scarbrough said that power crews will begin the work at 7 a.m. on Sunday morning and hope to be finished in about an hour, weather dependent. “Unfortunately, we’ll have to de-energize the Niota circuit. We cannot work this ‘hot’ due to the nature of the repairs and necessary safety measures we must take to protect workers,” he said.

“There simply isn’t a good time for a power outage and we understand that,” Scarbrough said. “We’re planning this one for the early morning because we need daylight for safety and we want to finish well before people head to church and get into the full swing of the day.”

“The quick outage is an investment of sorts,” he explained. “By taking an hour early Sunday morning to replace this damaged hardware, we can avoid an outage that eventually would come at some unknown time and could last considerably longer.”

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