



Operations Center
2839 New Beaver Avenue
Pittsburgh PA 15233

July 23, 2021

E-Filed

Secretary Rosemary Chiavetta
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Secretary's Bureau
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg PA 17120

Re: Duquesne Light Company – Docket No. M-2021-3023564

Secretary Rosemary Chiavetta:

Attached is Duquesne Light's 52 PA Code 67.1 written outage report for the storm event that occurred on Wednesday, July 7, 2021.

Should you require additional information, please contact me at 412-393-2897.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason T. Keller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "J" and "K".

Jason T. Keller, P.E.
Director, Operations Center

cc: Dan Searfoorce
Derek Ruhl
John Van Zant

ELECTRIC UTILITY REPORT OF OUTAGE TO
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU
400 NORTH STREET
HARRISBURG, PA 17105-3265

Phone-In Reports: Always call (717) 941-0003
Email RA-PUCPEMA@pa.gov

An original and one copy of this report are to be mailed to the Secretary's Bureau at the address above, even if an electronic copy has been emailed to the address above.

Information Required:

1. Reporting Utility: Duquesne Light Company
Address: 2839 New Beaver Avenue
Pittsburgh PA 15233

2. Name and title of person making report:

<u>Jason Keller</u>	<u>Director, Operations Center</u>
(Name)	(Title)

3. Telephone number: 412-393-2897
(Telephone Number)

4. Date and time initial telephonic report was made to Commission:

Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at approximately 1920 hours and through email at 1927 hours.

5. Interruption or Outage:
 - (a) Number of customers affected:

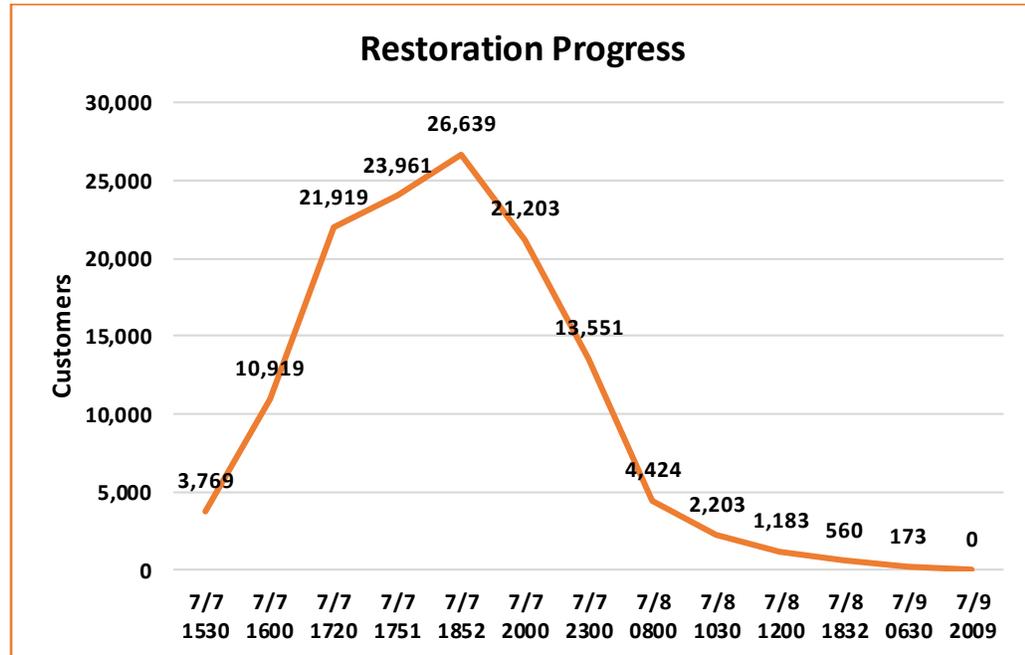
30,312 customers, constituting approximately 5% of the 605,797 customers in Duquesne Light's service territory.

 - (b) Approximate number of outage cases and trouble cases for each county affected during the event:

Allegheny County had a total of 395 troubled locations and Beaver County had a total of 15 troubled locations for a combined total of 410 troubled locations in Duquesne Light's service territory.

(c) Approximate number of outages for each county affected during the event:

Allegheny County had a total of 30,254 customers and Beaver County had a total of 58 customers for a combined total of 30,312 customers affected throughout this storm event.



(d) Approximate number of outage cases exceeding 6 or more hours in duration:

A total of 105 outage cases exceeded 6 or more hours in duration.

(e) A listing of each outage case exceeding 6 or more hours in duration, including the following information:

A listing of each outage case exceeding 6 or more hours in duration is included at the end of this report.

(f) Reason for the interruption or outages:

On Wednesday afternoon, July 7, 2021, severe thunderstorms, with heavy rain, 0.75 inch hail and wind gusts to 58 mph, moved through our service area in Allegheny and Beaver counties, causing downed power lines, fallen trees and damage to our poles and equipment. The most impacted areas due to this storm occurred in eastern and southern Allegheny County.

(g) Projected time of restoration:

The projected time of restoration was set for 2300 hours on Thursday, July 8, 2021 for the majority of customers that experienced service interruptions due to Wednesday's storms.

- (h) The number of utility workers, contract workers and workers received as mutual aid assigned specifically to the repair work by general function, that is linemen, troublemen, tree crew, and the like:

Utility / Company	# of Workers	General Function
Duquesne Light	153	Lineworkers
Duquesne Light	30	Troubleshooters
Duquesne Light	22	Substations
Hazlett – 35 Jaflo – 17 Nelson – 52 Penn Line - 56	160	Tree contractors
Danella – 6 JW Didado – 10 Henkels & McCoy – 25 Pike - 2 Sargent - 49	92	Lineworker contractors

- (i) The date and time of the first information of a service interruption:
Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at approximately 1113 hours.
- (j) The date and time that repair crews were assembled:
Duquesne Light lineworkers and troubleshooters were already on duty at the start of this storm event. Our Storm Restoration Team was activated. Crews worked around the clock under Duquesne Light’s COVID-19 storm plan to restore power to all affected customers.
- (k) The actual time that service was restored to the last affected customer:
Service was restored to the last affected customer by this storm event on Friday, July 9, 2021 at 2009 hours.
- (l) A general description of the physical damage sustained by the utility facilities as a result of the interruption/outage:
During this event, Duquesne Light completed 410 cases of trouble consisting of 135 primary wires, 225 secondary and services, 21 broken poles and 29 transformers.
- (m) If the interruption / outage event was weather-related, the utility’s weather reports, outlooks, or scenarios for the day before and the day of the interruption outage event:
On Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 0456 hours, Duquesne Light’s weather service forecast for Wednesday, July 7, 2021, called for a high temperature of 88

degrees, maximum wind gusts to 20 mph, with a 40% probability of thunderstorms.

On Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at 0455 hours, Duquesne Light's weather service forecast called for a high temperature of 88 degrees, maximum wind gusts to 46 mph, with a 29% probability of thunderstorms. A disturbance and associated cold front would likely bring a round of scattered showers and thunderstorms to the region. Conditions could become favorable for a few strong to severe thunderstorms to develop with frequent lightning, hail, and damaging wind gusts possible. Ongoing activity is expected to weaken during the evening with the loss of daytime heating. Severe thunderstorm warnings were issued for western and eastern Allegheny County until 1600 hours. A severe thunderstorm warning was issued for Beaver County until 1500 hours. A flash flood warning was issued for Pittsburgh, Bethel Park and Monroeville in Allegheny County until 1730 hours.

Additional weather information is included at the end of this report.

- (n) If the interruption / outage event caused approximate outages that exceed 10% or more of customers in the utility's entire service territory, rank the event in terms of the number and duration of outages and provide 2 comparable events, including the number and duration of outages for those comparable events:

This storm event did not exceed 10% of our customers in Duquesne Light's entire service territory.

Remarks:

Duquesne Light communicated storm restoration updates to our customers and the media through our duquesnelight.com website and social media. Weather information, photos of storm damage and news articles are attached.

Outage Case	Municipality	Total Number of Customers Affected	Outage Duration (minutes)	Initial Date of Outage	Initial Time of Outage	Restoration Date	Restoration Time
2153163	MT LEBANON	6	3073	7/7/2021	16:56	7/9/2021	20:09
2153286	PLUM	24	2672	7/7/2021	19:55	7/9/2021	16:27
2153055	WILKINSBURG	4	2465	7/7/2021	15:40	7/9/2021	8:45
2153245	PENN HILLS	3	2431	7/7/2021	15:29	7/9/2021	8:00
2153253	EAST LIBERTY (PGH)	6	2313	7/7/2021	18:17	7/9/2021	8:50
2153084	WILMERDING	50	2095	7/8/2021	6:40	7/9/2021	17:35
2153241	PLUM	17	1931	7/7/2021	15:14	7/8/2021	23:25
2153245	PENN HILLS	25	1863	7/7/2021	15:29	7/8/2021	22:32
2153185	WEST MIFFLIN	3	1851	7/7/2021	12:39	7/8/2021	19:30
2140977	RANKIN	104	1693	7/7/2021	15:11	7/8/2021	19:24
2153141	PENN HILLS	6	1684	7/7/2021	19:46	7/8/2021	23:50
2140977	WILKINSBURG	23	1657	7/7/2021	15:11	7/8/2021	18:48
2153149	PENN HILLS	29	1645	7/7/2021	16:35	7/8/2021	20:00
2153257	SQUIRREL HILL (PGH)	13	1630	7/7/2021	15:59	7/8/2021	19:09
2141005	SHALER	6	1613	7/7/2021	15:52	7/8/2021	18:45
2153184	SHALER	6	1597	7/7/2021	11:13	7/8/2021	13:50
2153434	PENN HILLS	456	1576	7/7/2021	16:09	7/8/2021	18:25
2153081	MCKEESPORT	25	1542	7/7/2021	14:53	7/8/2021	16:35
2153153	SQUIRREL HILL (PGH)	29	1527	7/7/2021	17:33	7/8/2021	19:00
2153222	PENN HILLS	27	1519	7/7/2021	15:26	7/8/2021	16:45
2153243	SWISSHELM PARK (PGH)	6	1428	7/7/2021	15:12	7/8/2021	15:00
2153078	HOMEWOOD (PGH)	6	1409	7/7/2021	15:31	7/8/2021	15:00
2153244	CASTLE SHANNON	6	1397	7/7/2021	14:58	7/8/2021	14:15
2153229	EDGEWOOD	23	1394	7/7/2021	19:46	7/8/2021	19:00
2153163	MT LEBANON	50	1394	7/7/2021	16:56	7/8/2021	16:10
2153131	SHALER	4	1387	7/7/2021	15:03	7/8/2021	14:10
2153178	SHADYSIDE (PGH)	125	1369	7/7/2021	15:36	7/8/2021	14:25
2153086	PENN HILLS	8	1369	7/7/2021	15:21	7/8/2021	14:10
2153136	SHALER	5	1362	7/7/2021	14:58	7/8/2021	13:40
2153058	PENN HILLS	88	1360	7/7/2021	21:35	7/8/2021	20:15
2153129	SHALER	36	1343	7/7/2021	11:37	7/8/2021	10:00
2153207	SQUIRREL HILL (PGH)	4	1341	7/7/2021	15:29	7/8/2021	13:50
2153164	ELLIOTT (PGH)	6	1318	7/7/2021	16:32	7/8/2021	14:30
2141044	PENN HILLS	36	1301	7/7/2021	15:39	7/8/2021	13:20
2153154	HANOVER	10	1246	7/7/2021	16:53	7/8/2021	13:39
2153142	MONROEVILLE	25	1246	7/7/2021	15:04	7/8/2021	11:50
2153111	MT LEBANON	6	1240	7/7/2021	18:41	7/8/2021	17:40
2153126	HAZELWOOD (PGH)	3	1233	7/7/2021	15:19	7/8/2021	11:52
2153250	EDGEWOOD	29	1228	7/7/2021	15:11	7/8/2021	12:30
2153136	SHALER	11	1202	7/7/2021	14:58	7/8/2021	11:00
2153139	PLUM	309	1194	7/7/2021	15:25	7/8/2021	11:30
2153167	PENN HILLS	4	1190	7/7/2021	22:32	7/8/2021	18:22
2153182	PENN HILLS	74	1186	7/7/2021	15:24	7/8/2021	11:10
2153165	CHURCHILL	4	1184	7/7/2021	20:29	7/8/2021	16:13
2153169	WEST MIFFLIN	268	1175	7/7/2021	15:02	7/8/2021	10:37
2153178	SHADYSIDE (PGH)	196	1172	7/7/2021	15:36	7/8/2021	11:08
2153192	DRAVOSBURG	6	1164	7/7/2021	17:21	7/8/2021	12:45
2153148	SHALER	4	1163	7/7/2021	18:52	7/8/2021	14:15
2153136	SHALER	37	1147	7/7/2021	14:58	7/8/2021	10:05
2153058	PENN HILLS	19	1135	7/7/2021	21:35	7/8/2021	16:30
2153116	SHALER	6	1130	7/7/2021	15:55	7/8/2021	10:45
2140980	WILKINS	193	1112	7/7/2021	15:13	7/8/2021	9:45
2153101	SHALER	135	1088	7/7/2021	16:22	7/8/2021	10:30
2153111	MT LEBANON	33	1065	7/7/2021	18:41	7/8/2021	14:45
2153111	MT LEBANON	4	1065	7/7/2021	18:41	7/8/2021	14:45

Outage Case	Municipality	Total Number of Customers Affected	Outage Duration (minutes)	Initial Date of Outage	Initial Time of Outage	Restoration Date	Restoration Time
2153168	INGRAM	4	1053	7/7/2021	15:42	7/8/2021	9:15
2153099	MOUNT WASHINGTON (PGH)	301	1048	7/7/2021	15:56	7/8/2021	9:24
2153099	MOUNT WASHINGTON (PGH)	299	1038	7/7/2021	15:56	7/8/2021	9:14
2153176	EAST LIBERTY (PGH)	723	1033	7/7/2021	15:25	7/8/2021	8:38
2153160	BRENTWOOD	39	1008	7/7/2021	17:32	7/8/2021	10:20
2153246	NORTH SIDE (PGH)	6	967	7/7/2021	19:08	7/8/2021	11:15
2153257	SQUIRREL HILL (PGH)	15	931	7/7/2021	15:59	7/8/2021	7:30
2153162	OHARA	41	930	7/7/2021	16:00	7/8/2021	7:30
2141001	WEST MIFFLIN	275	924	7/7/2021	20:32	7/8/2021	11:56
2153227	WILKINSBURG	23	906	7/7/2021	22:54	7/8/2021	14:00
2153208	MT LEBANON	4	885	7/7/2021	20:12	7/8/2021	10:57
2153156	BEAVER	4	874	7/7/2021	19:56	7/8/2021	10:30
2153242	GREENTREE	2	865	7/7/2021	17:55	7/8/2021	8:20
2153206	COLLIER	79	858	7/8/2021	3:07	7/8/2021	17:25
2153177	EAST PITTSBURGH	859	858	7/7/2021	20:12	7/8/2021	10:30
2153167	PENN HILLS	4	823	7/7/2021	22:32	7/8/2021	12:15
2153205	MONROEVILLE	163	813	7/7/2021	19:56	7/8/2021	9:29
2141001	WEST MIFFLIN	97	810	7/7/2021	20:32	7/8/2021	10:02
2141001	WEST MIFFLIN	1,114	806	7/7/2021	20:32	7/8/2021	9:58
2153054	BRADDOCK HILLS	279	804	7/8/2021	12:58	7/9/2021	2:22
2153258	EAST LIBERTY (PGH)	69	788	7/7/2021	15:47	7/8/2021	13:39
2153202	WEST MIFFLIN	6	754	7/8/2021	20:06	7/9/2021	8:40
2153213	WILKINSBURG	4	732	7/8/2021	20:18	7/9/2021	8:30
2153211	WILKINSBURG	4	716	7/8/2021	21:24	7/9/2021	9:20
2153155	WILKINSBURG	6	683	7/8/2021	5:22	7/8/2021	16:45
2141044	PENN HILLS	640	681	7/7/2021	15:39	7/8/2021	3:00
2153174	MANCHESTER (PGH)	375	667	7/7/2021	15:37	7/8/2021	2:44
2153258	EAST LIBERTY (PGH)	50	623	7/7/2021	15:47	7/8/2021	10:54
2153143	CHURCHILL	19	619	7/8/2021	11:06	7/8/2021	21:25
2153228	MONROEVILLE	184	615	7/8/2021	5:35	7/8/2021	15:50
2153248	HOMEWOOD (PGH)	3	612	7/8/2021	22:08	7/9/2021	8:20
2153132	MILLVALE	62	591	7/8/2021	0:44	7/8/2021	10:35
2153165	CHURCHILL	36	581	7/7/2021	20:29	7/8/2021	6:10
2153053	SCOTT	449	572	7/7/2021	15:27	7/8/2021	1:01
2153258	EAST LIBERTY (PGH)	2,058	524	7/7/2021	15:47	7/8/2021	0:31
2141005	SHALER	529	508	7/7/2021	15:52	7/8/2021	0:20
2153258	EAST LIBERTY (PGH)	1,281	505	7/7/2021	15:47	7/8/2021	0:12
2153239	BROOKLINE (PGH)	6	500	7/8/2021	20:00	7/9/2021	4:20
2153240	PLUM	3	466	7/8/2021	17:34	7/9/2021	1:20
2153078	HOMEWOOD (PGH)	663	464	7/7/2021	15:31	7/7/2021	23:15
2153139	PLUM	1,480	449	7/7/2021	15:25	7/7/2021	23:05
2153139	PLUM	2,562	442	7/7/2021	15:25	7/7/2021	22:58
2153139	PLUM	1,065	438	7/7/2021	15:25	7/7/2021	22:54
2153233	WILKINS	6	437	7/9/2021	3:03	7/9/2021	10:20
2153179	MCCANDLESS	4	436	7/8/2021	13:04	7/8/2021	20:20
2153196	WEST MIFFLIN	530	433	7/8/2021	1:52	7/8/2021	9:05
2153140	WEST DEER	56	404	7/8/2021	2:41	7/8/2021	9:25
2153055	WILKINSBURG	515	363	7/7/2021	15:40	7/7/2021	21:43
2153250	WILKINSBURG	1,082	361	7/7/2021	15:11	7/7/2021	22:03
2153231	EDGEWOOD	6	360	7/8/2021	14:45	7/8/2021	20:45

Weather forecast on 7/6/21 for 7/7/21

WEDNESDAY 07-07-2021

	Threat Timing					Temperature				Wind				Precipitation				Thunderstorm			
	00-03	03-06	06-09	09-12	12-15	15-18	18-21	21-00	Low	High	Wind Chill	Heat Index	Dir	Sustained	Gusts	Max Isolated Gusts	Probability	Rain	Snow	Ice	Type
Raccoon Service Center						71	86	71	91	SW	6	13	17	84	0.11	0.00	0.00	Rain	40		
Edison Service Center						71	87	71	93	SW	7	15	20	84	0.19	0.00	0.00	Rain	40		
Preble Service Center						72	88	72	93	SW	6	15	19	84	0.28	0.00	0.00	Rain	40		
Penn Hills Service Center						72	86	72	91	SW	6	14	18	84	0.26	0.00	0.00	Rain	40		
McKeesport Service Center						71	88	71	95	SSW	5	15	20	75	0.17	0.00	0.00	Rain	40		

Weather forecast on 7/7/21

WEDNESDAY 07-07-2021

	Threat Timing					Temperature				Wind				Precipitation				Thunderstorm			
	00-03	03-06	06-09	09-12	12-15	15-18	18-21	21-00	Low	High	Wind Chill	Heat Index	Dir	Sustained	Gusts	Max Isolated Gusts	Probability	Rain	Snow	Ice	Type
Raccoon Service Center						71	85	71	90	SSW	6	13	46	82	0.65	0.00	0.00	Rain	29		
Edison Service Center						71	86	71	91	SW	7	16	46	78	0.09	0.00	0.00	Rain	29		
Preble Service Center						72	88	72	93	SSW	7	15	46	78	0.19	0.00	0.00	Rain	29		
Penn Hills Service Center						73	86	73	93	SSW	6	15	46	78	0.19	0.00	0.00	Rain	29		
McKeesport Service Center						72	87	72	93	S	6	13	46	55	0.76	0.00	0.00	Rain	27		

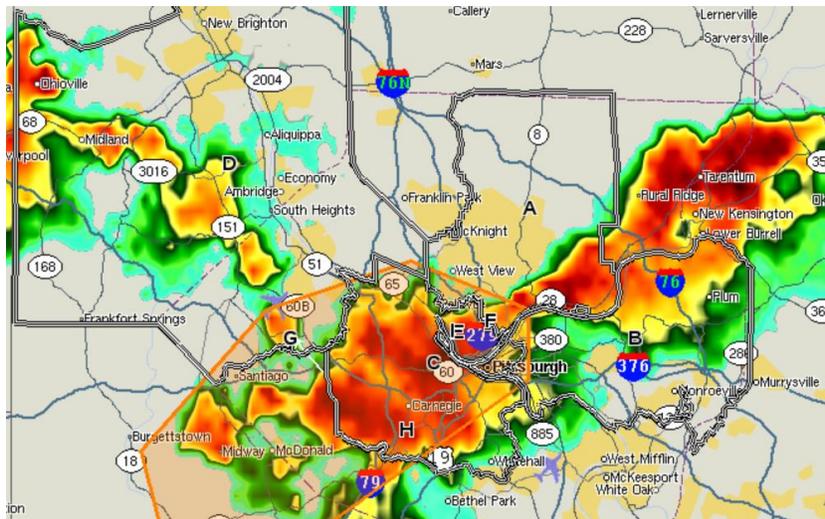
**Condition Orange - Duquesne Light Co.
Severe Thunderstorm Warning**

Valid 3:36 PM to 4:00 PM EDT, Wed, Jul 07, 2021

A Condition Orange for Severe Thunderstorms is in effect for the following locations through 4:00 PM EDT.

Label	Location	Label	Location
A	Edison Service Area	E	Preble Service Center
B	Penn Hills Service Area	F	Penn Hills Service Center
C	Preble Service Area	G	Findlay
D	Raccoon Service Area	H	Woodville
		I	Operations Center

- Severe Thunderstorm Warning for... Northwestern Washington County in southwestern Pennsylvania... West central Allegheny County in southwestern Pennsylvania...
- Until 4:00 PM EDT.
- At 3:36 PM EDT, a severe thunderstorm was located over Robinson Township, or near Moon Township, moving northwest at 5 mph.
- Locations impacted include... Pittsburgh... Mount Lebanon... Ross Township... Shaler Township... North Side Pittsburgh... Upper St. Clair... Scott Township... Robinson Township... Cecil-Bishop... Dormont... Bellevue... Carnegie...



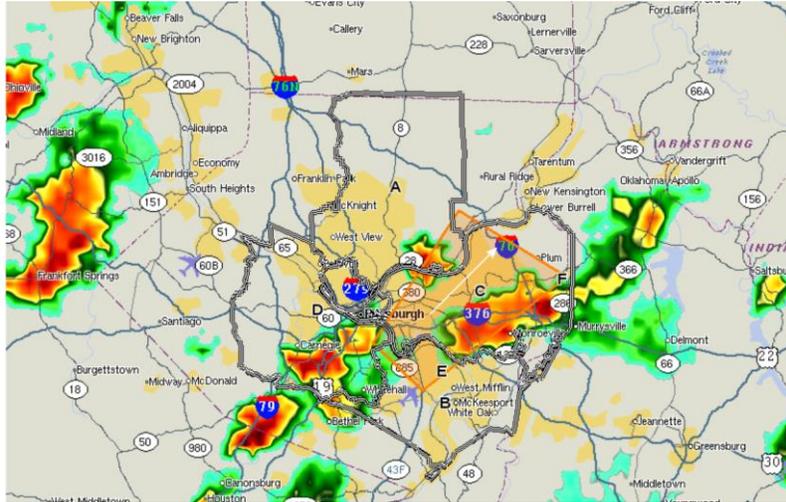
**Condition Orange - Duquesne Light Co.
Severe Thunderstorm Warning**

Valid 2:59 PM to 3:30 PM EDT, Wed, Jul 07, 2021

A Condition Orange for Severe Thunderstorms is in effect for the following locations through 3:30 PM EDT.

Label	Location	Label	Location
A	Edison Service Area	D	Preble Service Area
B	McKeesport Service Area	E	Dravosburg
C	Penn Hills Service Area	F	Plum

- Severe Thunderstorm Warning for... East central Allegheny County in southwestern Pennsylvania...
- Until 3:30 PM EDT.
- At 2:59 PM EDT, a severe thunderstorm was located over Edgewood, or near Pittsburgh, moving northeast at 15 mph.
- Locations impacted include... Pittsburgh... Penn Hills... Monroeville... Plum... West Mifflin... Baldwin... Wilkinsburg... Munhall... Swissvale... O'hara Township... Forest Hills... Wilkins Township...



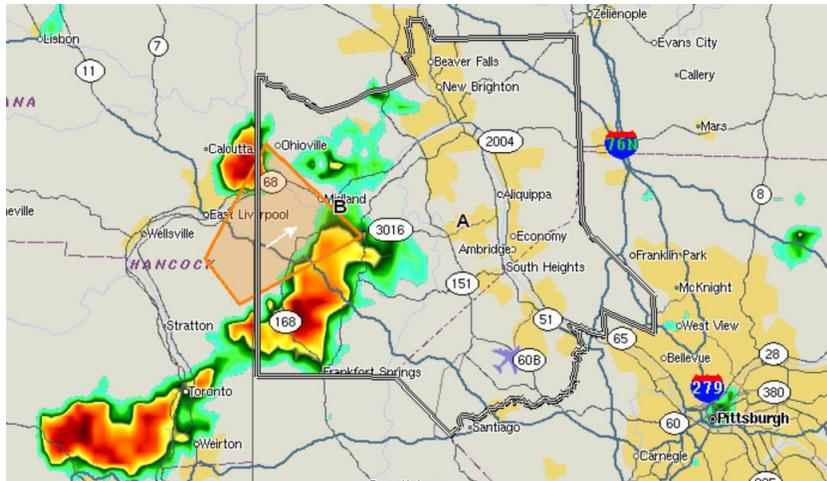
**Condition Orange - Duquesne Light Co.
Severe Thunderstorm Warning**

Valid 2:42 PM to 3:00 PM EDT, Wed, Jul 07, 2021

A Condition Orange for Severe Thunderstorms is in effect for the following locations through 3:00 PM EDT.

Label	Location
A	Raccoon Service Area
B	Beaver Valley

- Severe Thunderstorm Warning for... Southeastern Columbiana County in east central Ohio... West central Beaver County in western Pennsylvania... Hancock County in northern West Virginia...
- Until 3:00 PM EDT.
- At 2:42 PM EDT, a severe thunderstorm was located near Chester, or near East Liverpool, and is nearly stationary.
- Locations impacted include... East Liverpool... Ohioville... Midland... Chester... Industry... Shippingport... Georgetown... Hookstown... Glasgow...





NWS Pittsburgh @NWS Pittsburgh · 1h

Severe Thunderstorm Warning including Wilkinsburg PA, Munhall PA, Swissvale PA until 3:30 PM EDT

Severe Thunderstorm Warning

Valid Until
3:30 PM EDT Wednesday
July 7, 2021

Threat Information

WIND
Up to 60 MPH

HAIL
Penny Sized Possible

Potential Exposure
Population: 265,553
Schools: 58
Hospitals: 6



NWS Pittsburgh @NWS Pittsburgh · 26m

Severe Thunderstorm Warning including Pittsburgh PA, Dormont PA, Bellevue PA until 4:00 PM EDT

Severe Thunderstorm Warning

Valid Until
4:00 PM EDT Wednesday
July 7, 2021

Threat Information

WIND
Up to 60 MPH

HAIL
Quarter Sized Possible

Potential Exposure
Population: 488,681
Schools: 98
Hospitals: 12



NWS Pittsburgh @NWS Pittsburgh · 26m

Flash Flood Warning including Pittsburgh PA, Bethel Park PA, Monroeville PA until 5:30 PM EDT

Flash Flood Warning

Valid Until
5:30 PM EDT Wednesday
July 7, 2021

Safety Information

Move immediately to higher ground!

Avoid walking or driving through flood waters!

Potential Exposure
Population: 1,442,956
Schools: 364
Hospitals: 32



NWS Pittsburgh @NWSPittsburgh · 1h

Severe Thunderstorm Warning including Midland PA, Georgetown PA, Hookstown PA until 3:00 PM EDT

Severe Thunderstorm Warning

Valid Until
3:00 PM EDT Wednesday
July 7, 2021

Threat Information

WIND
Up to
60 MPH

HAIL
Quarter
Sized Possible

Potential Exposure

Population: 11,485
Schools: 2
Hospitals: 0

Allegheny County @Allegheny_Co

Wilkins: Thompson Run/Rodi Rd - multiple vehicles stuck in water

3:50 PM · Jul 7, 2021

STORM DAMAGE PHOTOS TAKEN BY DUQUESNE LIGHT EMPLOYEES

Collier Township in Allegheny County



Collier Township in Allegheny County



Mt Lebanon in Allegheny County



July 8 at 0530 am



Katelyn Sykes  @KatelynsWTAE · 7h

...

NOW: @DuquesneLight trucks just pulled up along Anderson Rd. in Shaler Twp. About 1100 customers are w/o power here in Shaler #wtae



Severe storms leave damage across Allegheny County, around 18,000 people without power



Updated: 11:11 PM EDT Jul 7, 2021

WILKINSBURG, Pa. —

Severe thunderstorms with strong winds and heavy rain left damage across Allegheny

As of 10 p.m., Duquesne Light Company said roughly 18,000 customers are without power across the region.

All customers are expected to be restored by 11 p.m. Thursday, but officials said many will be restored sooner.

Duquesne Light officials said more than 22,000 customers lost power at the height of the storm.

Allegheny County officials said Edgewood Borough has declared a state of emergency due to massive storm-related damage.

Play Video

In Wilkesburg, there were branches down on a home and vehicle along the 1400 block of Penn Avenue. ***(Watch the full report from Pittsburgh's Action News 4 reporter Sheldon Ingram in the video player above.)***

Firefighters at the scene said they believe lightning struck a tree in the area. No injuries were reported.

Allegheny County officials have also tweeted about trees being down on houses in other areas including Shaler, Tarentum and Harrison Township.

Play Video

In Bridgeville, police said evacuations were underway on Baldwin Street due to flooding. ***(Watch a full report from the scene in the video player above.)***

Police said there was flooding at the intersection of Baldwin and Jane Way near the beer warehouse.

Over 8,000 still without power as strong storms cause damage across Pittsburgh region

Thankfully, Elsa expected to have no impact in Western Pa.

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Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

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6:30 AM

This story was updated at 6:28 a.m. on Thursday, July 8, 2021.

Powerful winds tore off several panels perched atop the Tree of Life synagogue's roof in Squirrel Hill, tossing them onto Wilkins Avenue after an intense storm moved through the city Wednesday afternoon.

The aesthetic panels were installed to obscure equipment used for cellphone transmissions and were not part of the structure itself. They were designed to match the rest of the building exterior.

There was no internal damage to the building, officials said.

"This is like a sail, these things," said Michael Eisenberg, who assists in maintaining the building. "I'm surprised it has not happened in the past."

He said the synagogue has about five or six of the coverings on the roof. The cellphone companies added the coverings about 15 years ago, according to Mr. Eisenberg. He wasn't sure which cell carrier owned the panels that blew off.

Down the street from the synagogue in the 5700 block of Wilkins Avenue, neighbors experienced limbs and trees falling down in the gusts.

During the storm, Melissa Wagner watched from her kitchen window as a tree came crashing down on her house.

"I actually saw it come down," she said. "I didn't know what to do."

A limb came through her office window, and it is believed there is some damage to the roof.

The tree fell on some power lines, and both Duquesne Light and Verizon had been called, according to Desiree Soteres, who lives next door to Ms. Wagner.

“I don’t think I’ve seen such a bad storm like this in Squirrel Hill in a long time,” Ms. Soteres said.

She has lived in the area a little over five years, she said.

“It was scary. I moved to the center of the house. I just didn’t know what was going on. Normally, I’m not very scared with storms, but this one was a bad one.”

Allegheny County officials on Wednesday reported trees and power lines also down in Swissvale, Wilkinsburg, Plum, Penn Hills, Tarentum, Collier and Harrison.

The wind was also strong enough to flip over several small planes at Butler County Airport. There were no injuries reported.

Precautionary evacuations were underway at about 6 p.m. at four homes on Baldwin Street and McLaughlin Run Road in Bridgeville due to flooding, and there was more flooding at the intersection of Baldwin Street and Jane Way, officials said.

In Bridgeville, there were reports of flooding after McLaughlin Run Road was overwhelmed by the heavy rain.

As of 6:15 a.m. Thursday, about 8,500 Duquesne Light and West Penn Power customers remained without power in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Washington and Westmoreland counties, according to the utility companies. The 4,500 Duquesne Light customers without service are expected to get power restored by 11 tonight the latest, officials with the utility said.

About 32,000 Duquesne Light customers lost power at the height of the storm, with the hardest hit areas including Swissvale (2,590), Plum (2,282), Scott (1,259) and Wilkinsburg (1,056). Edgewood, which reported more than 1,000 outages, declared a state emergency due to storm-related damage, according to Allegheny County officials.

Meanwhile, Tropical Storm Elsa on Wednesday evening crossed the Florida peninsula. It is forecast to move up the East Coast, but it is not expected to have an impact on Western Pennsylvania, according to the National Weather Service.

The remnants of the storm, which was moving around 14 mph, should arrive in Pennsylvania by Friday morning, causing 2 to 4 inches of rain on the eastern side of the state.

The front that moved through Western Pennsylvania on Wednesday will “steer Elsa to the east,” said Shannon Hefferan, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Moon.

“By the weekend, it should be off the U.S. coast and into Nova Scotia and the Gulf of Maine,” Ms. Hefferan said.

She said the tropical storm, which will likely be a tropical depression by the time it reaches Pennsylvania, will cause flash flooding in the Philadelphia area.

In Pittsburgh and Allegheny County, the front that moved through produced about 1½ to 2½ inches of rain, strong thunderstorms and downdrafts.

Myranda Fullerton, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service, said “all the factors were in place for severe weather.”

She said instability in the atmosphere, combined with moisture and heat only needed something to act as a trigger. Once the first thunderstorm formed, she said, it set off other thunderstorms, and “that sets the domino effect off.”

From there, the front moved through around 10 to 15 mph, with the thunderstorms “merging and training,” Ms. Fullerton said.

As for the downdrafts, or microbursts, Ms. Fullerton said the thunderstorms grew tall into the atmosphere, and there was “plenty of dry air above us. So when [the clouds] tap into that dry air and the thunderstorm grows tall enough, it brings [the air] back to ground.”

The result, she said, is a “pancake splatter of wind and rain” that produces enough force to down trees.

There will be a positive effect from the storm front.

“The dew points are going to be lower, and low temperatures will be in the low 60s, making things more comfortable,” Ms. Hefferan said. “We’re under a high pressure system now that’s giving us 90 degree days. So that’s something to look forward to with reduced mugginess and stickiness.”

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