

Last Tuesday's windstorm was one of the most destructive in Charlotte's history.

In less than an hour winds of up to 54 miles per hour had destroyed buildings. Uprooted trees. Downed power lines. And left up to 20,000 families without electricity.

Service was restored to most of the affected homes and businesses within a few hours. But as weakened tree limbs and roots continued to give way into the night, the storm's aftermath was being felt by thousands of customers even a day later. Our telephone system, normally adequate to handle the most severe storm outages, became jammed

as reports of downed lines continued to stream in hours after the storm's fury had passed.

More than 750 Duke Power employees, including about 300 from other cities and towns in the Carolinas, were involved in repairing our crippled distribution system. Some crews worked upwards of 30 straight hours. Setting poles. Stringing wire. Getting the lights back on.

You helped, too. By calling to report trouble. By telling us how to find it. And by being patient and understanding while the hundreds of repairs were being made. For that, we say thanks.

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