An Overview of The “ICE STORM” of December 2006
STORM # 1

December 19-21, 2006
Power Outages

- Eustis and other portions of eastern Frontier County
- The entire Gosper County area to include Johnson Lake area
- The western portions of Phelps County that was fed from Dawson Public Power to include the Village of Bertrand
- Areas of the City of Holdrege also received temporary loss of power
Shelters Opened

- Red Cross shelter operations in Eustis (Frontier County) and Elwood (Gosper County). Local volunteers assisted in operations and food preparation. Volunteer Fire/EMS helped in transporting the elderly to the shelters, and maintaining generator operations.
Frontier County Storm Pictures

12/21/2006
Frontier County Storm Pictures

12/21/2006
Gosper County Storm Pictures

12/21/2006
Gosper County Storm Pictures
Gosper County Storm
Pictures

12/21/2006
View From Highway 23
View From Highway 23

12/21/2006
Phelps County Storm Picture
Phelps County Storm Picture

12/21/2006
Phelps County Storm Picture

12/21/2006
STORM # 2

December 29, 2006-Jan 1, 2007
345/115 kV Structure in Kearney County
345/115 kV Structures in Kearney County
Transmission Lines Outside Holdrege
Transmission Lines Outside of Holdrege
Transmission Lines Outside of Holdrege
Power Outages

- Eastern Gosper County was out late evening on December 29th
- Entire Phelps County area
  - Atlanta (Morning of December 29)
  - Bertrand & Loomis (Late evening on December 29)
  - Holdrege & Funk by late afternoon of the 30th
Power Outage Problems

- Emergency Radio Communications failed
- Public Radio Communications failed
- Telephone landline systems marginal in service
- Telephone wireless systems failed
- Citizens purchasing and installing personal generators
Initial Concerns

- Safety
- Communications
- Shelters
- Food
- Water
- Closing Highways (Downed lines across roadways & RR’s)
Shelters

- Red Cross shelters were opened in Bertrand and Loomis by 4:00 P.M. on the 30th.

- Shelter in Holdrege was opened at about 6:00 P.M. on the 30th.

- Shelter operations in Funk started about 10:00 A.M. on the 31st.

- A private shelter opened in Atlanta during the day time hours on the 30th.
Mobile Generators

- 6 - 2 Mw units in City of Holdrege
- 7 - 2 Mw units at the BD plant in Holdrege
- 1 - 2 Mw unit in the Village of Bertrand
- 1 – 2 Mw unit at Holdrege Schools
- 1 - 1 Mw unit and 1- 950 Kw unit in Loomis
- 1 - 800 Kw unit in Funk
- 1 - 400 Kw and 500 Kw units at the Christian Home facility
- 1 - 750 Kw unit at Holdrege Homes
- 1 - 1 Mw unit at the Phelps Memorial Health Center
National Incident Management System

Area Command Emergency Management

- City of Holdrege Administrator
- Phelps County Supervisors
- Village of Funk Board Chair
- Village of Bertrand Board Chair
- Village of Loomis Clerk
- Village of Atlanta Board Chair
EM Operations

- Daily briefings were conducted with the Village Board Officials, County Board, Elected Officials, School District, Public Health, Law Enforcement, Fire & EMS, Red Cross, and the local media until some form of normalcy had returned to the area.
EM Operations

- Numerous updates, consultations, and requests with the Multi-Agency Coordination Center in Grand Island.
- Assisted with all phone calls into the local 911 center. (Averaged 300-350 calls per day related to the storm itself)
- Updates with the Governors Office as well as U.S. Senator Nelsons Office and Nebraska Senator Carlson
GENERATOR
PICTURES
Crews dedicated to restoring power
Portable Generator Unit at Funk
Portable Generator Units in East Holdrege (13.8 kV)
Portable Generator Units in East Holdrege (13.8 kV)
Portable Generator Units in West Holdrege (13.8kV)
Spare Generator Unit in Holdrege
Portable Generator at Christian Homes
Portable Generator for Phelps Memorial Health Center
ICE PICTURES
Lesson Learned

- Proper resources were not available in LEOP for such an event
- Communications issues-radio and public
- Need proper equipment on back up power systems
- Health Care Facilities can not sustain their operations without assistance of external sources
- Shelters need to have climate control and good back-up power
Lesson Learned

- Transportation systems were lacking
- Red Cross volunteers are needed
- PLANNING FOR SUCH FUTURE EVENTS IS NEEDED
Where we are now

- Power was restored to the last community on the 30\textsuperscript{th} of January
- Power crews continued to repair temporary fixes and worked to bring irrigation service back on line for summer
- Continued debris removal and insurance claim issues
- Working with FEMA and NEMA on disaster documents
- The ongoing recovery process
- PLANNING
Thank you!