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Asplundh Crews Respond to Isaac Damage

Willow Grove, PA—As of this morning, Asplundh Tree Expert Co. has sent an additional 2,000 tree workers and over 400 extra line workers to Louisiana and Mississippi to assist four utilities in restoring power in the wake of Hurricane Isaac.

Over 1,700 tree workers from 21 different states have joined with hundreds of local Asplundh employees to remove storm-damaged limbs and trees so that thousands of Entergy Corp. customers can regain electric power. Approximately 240 additional Asplundh tree workers are divided amongst Central Louisiana Electric Co., Mississippi Power Co. and Magnolia Electric Power Association in Mississippi.

Traveling from as far away as Massachusetts, 411 line crews from Asplundh Construction Corp. and Utility Lines Construction Services, Inc. (subsidiaries of Asplundh) are also helping Entergy and AEP-SWEPCO in Louisiana and Texas repair storm-damaged power lines.

Hundreds of these mobilized crews began their trek for storm restoration work last Thursday (August 23, 2012) when Florida Power & Light began to prepare for Hurricane Isaac to hit the southern half of the state on Sunday. When Isaac skirted Florida's western shores and headed for New Orleans, most of those crews were released and sent to Mississippi and Louisiana. Heavy rains, flooding and sporadic tornadoes on Wednesday and Thursday made it difficult to get started on storm restoration work until today. To help keep track of so many additional tree and line crews, Asplundh sent its Mobile Storm Center trailer to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to be a base of operations and communications center for its crews.

"Everyone at Asplundh understands the urgent need to help utilities safely restore electricity after this hurricane. We all remember the damage done by Katrina in 2005 and we know there will be many long, hot hours and wet conditions ahead for thousands of customers and our own employees," said CEO Scott Asplundh. "The one thing we cannot compromise is the safety and welfare of our employees, as well as the thousands of people affected by this

storm. When this is over, we want everyone to be able to return to their loved ones, safe and sound. We also want our crews to be able to get back to work for the dozens of utilities and municipalities who released them from their normal duties for this restoration effort.”

Clearing tree debris is just one of the important steps in getting life back to normal for those communities affected by Isaac. Personal and public safety must continue to be a major concern. Asplundh’s regional safety supervisors are conducting daily safety briefings with employees to remind them of the hazards posed by broken trees, downed power lines, flooding, snakes and alligators.

Members of Asplundh’s Storm Coordination Team in Willow Grove, PA will remain on duty throughout the Labor Day holiday to fulfill additional requests for crews or address logistics issues.

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About Asplundh:

Asplundh Tree Expert Co. is a family-owned and managed company headquartered just outside of Philadelphia in Willow Grove, PA. It primarily provides vegetation management and utility infrastructure services to a wide range of utilities and municipalities. The Asplundh family of companies employs approximately 30,000 men and women throughout the U.S., Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Learn more at www.asplundh.com