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NEWS RELEASE

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CHELCO ACTIVATES NEW PROJECT TO IMPROVE RELIABILITY

One of CHELCO's newest projects, feeder automation, makes our reliability even stronger. It brings operational and engineering analysis technology together to create a smarter electric grid, which makes our members power more reliable.

After extensive testing in December of 2015, CHELCO fully activated the feeder automation system earlier this month. North Baker, Laurel Hill West, South Glendale and North DeFuniak are the first areas to receive activation.

The technology automatically detects any disturbance that causes an outage and redistributes the power by remotely activating switches that restore power to as much of the affected outage area as possible. Not everyone will have power, but fewer members would be out of power because electricity is routed on different circuit to some of the members. Some of the testing showed that the average time to restore power was two and half minutes.

“The feeder automation project is just one way CHELCO works for its members by maintaining the best reliability possible,” said CEO Steve Rhodes. “Although this project will be implemented over the next 10 years, the benefits have already begun with the recent activations.”

CHELCO is a not-for-profit electric distribution cooperative serving more than 47,000 members in Walton, Okaloosa, Holmes and Santa Rosa counties. Please visit chelco.com for more information.

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