

Judge sets timetable for OBX blackout victims to get compensation



Crews work to build an overhead transmission cable as a means of repair for a massive power outage on Hatteras and Ocracoke islands. (Photo: Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative, @CHEMC09/Twitter)

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Posted: May 03, 2018 07:44 AM EDT

Updated: May 03, 2018 07:44 AM EDT

OUTER BANKS, N.C. (WITN) -- A federal judge has given preliminary approval to award millions of dollars in damages after that big blackout last summer on the Outer Banks.

Power was out in parts of Dare and Hyde counties for eight days after workers building the new Bonner Bridge severed underground power lines for Hatteras and Ocracoke islands.

Judge James Dever III will give his final approval on the class action lawsuit on Sept. 14, while those impacted by the outage have until Oct. 15 to file claim forms through a settlement web site.

PCL Civil Constructors was sued in the class action lawsuit and plans to settle for \$10.35 million. The lawsuit covered businesses, renter and residents on the islands who incurred losses because of the outage.

The two islands were evacuated of more than 60,000 tourists during the height of the summer season.

Those not wanting to be part of the class action settlement can still file exclusions.

(This information was excerpted from [this news piece](#))