

# **Battery Backup for Your VolP Phone**

As we enter summer storm season, don't forget the battery backup for your VoIP phone (Voice over Internet Protocol, or phone service over the internet). For many years, your analog phone landline would allow you to stay connected to emergency voice services during a power outage. However, many of today's advanced VoIP home phone services require backup battery power to continue functioning during an outage. To avoid a disruption of home voice service during a power outage – and to maintain the ability to connect to 911 emergency services -- Maquoketa Valley Electric Cooperative (MVEC) offers backup batteries for purchase to members who subscribe to our MVlink VoIP phone service.

### What Your Battery Can - and Can't - Do for You

MVEC/MVlink's backup batteries for telephone modems allow members to continue to use their home voice services during a power outage. Without a backup battery or alternate backup source such as a generator, members with VoIP service will not be able to make any calls, including emergency calls to 911. The only way to maintain the ability to use your VoIP phone during a power outage is by using some form of backup power.

MVEC/MVlink's backup battery for VoIP phone members does not provide power to any services other than voice. Home security systems, medical monitoring devices and other equipment will not run on a home phone backup battery (see Al Reiter's Energy Advisor column on page 5 for other uninterruptible power source suggestions).

#### **Purchase and Replacement Options**

If you are concerned about being able to contact 911 emergency services during a power outage, a backup battery may be a good option for you. You can purchase a backup battery for your VoIP phone directly through MVEC/MVlink or through retailers such as Best Buy. If purchased from MVEC/MVlink, our technicians will install the battery and explain proper care and use.

Keep in mind that backup batteries have a life span of approximately three to five years before they should be replaced.

If you have any questions or simply want to purchase a backup battery through MVEC, please call 1-800-927-6068, or email us at fiber@mvec.com.

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- Call Waiting
- Caller ID
- Call Forwarding



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