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PROJECT NO. 27706

REPORTS OF THE ELECTRIC § PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
RELIABILITY COUNCIL OF TEXAS § OF TEXAS  
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**ELECTRIC RELIABILITY COUNCIL OF TEXAS, INC.'S  
EMERGENCY REPORT**

COMES NOW, Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT), and pursuant to P.U.C. SUBST. R. 25.362(i)(4),<sup>1</sup> files this written report concerning the impacts of Hurricane and Tropical Storm Hanna on the reliability of the ERCOT System and operation of the ERCOT market.

**I. Background**

Hurricane Hanna made landfall as a Category 1 hurricane south of Corpus Christi, Texas, on the evening of July 25, 2020. At landfall, the storm produced sustained winds of approximately 90 mph. The storm weakened to a tropical storm by the early morning of July 26, 2020, and produced significant rainfall in areas of deep South Texas. By the afternoon of July 26, 2020, the storm was downgraded to a tropical depression and had moved into Mexico.

At 10:30 p.m. on July 23, 2020, ERCOT issued an Operating Condition Notice (OCN) for Tropical Storm Hanna pursuant to Section 6.5.9.3.1 of the ERCOT Protocols. On July 24, 2020, at 5:30 p.m., ERCOT issued an Advisory for Tropical Storm Hanna pursuant to Section 6.5.9.3.2 of the ERCOT Protocols. These notices were canceled at 3:00 p.m. on July 26, 2020.

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<sup>1</sup> P.U.C. SUBST. R. 25.362(i)(4) states in part that ERCOT shall file a written report with the Commission when it becomes aware of an "event or situation that could reasonably be anticipated to adversely affect the reliability of the regional electric network; the operation or competitiveness of the ERCOT market; ERCOT's performance of activities related to the customer registration function; or the public's confidence in the ERCOT market or in ERCOT's performance of its duties." ERCOT must file such a report within one business day of becoming aware of such an event or situation, unless the executive director of the Commission specifies in writing that the filing may be delayed.

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## **II. Impacts to ERCOT System and market due to Hurricane and Tropical Storm Hanna**

ERCOT System reliability was not adversely impacted during the storm. No 345kV transmission lines in the ERCOT System experienced outages due to this storm event. Approximately twenty 138kV and ten 69kV lines in areas impacted by the storm experienced storm-related outages. As of the time of this filing, approximately 13 of these transmission lines remain on outage due to storm-related damage. Although ERCOT expects to be able to maintain system reliability going forward, certain areas in the Rio Grande Valley could experience localized congestion while work continues to return damaged infrastructure to service.

In addition to these transmission outages, approximately 1,800 MW of wind generation was not available during periods of the storm where wind speeds were very high. Although most of this wind capacity has since come back into service, some wind farms were still assessing potential damage as of the time of this filing. ERCOT has not needed to commit any generation through Reliability Unit Commitment due to storm-related outages.

Throughout the course of the storm, ERCOT worked with transmission and generation owners to protect the overall reliability of the grid. On a going-forward basis, ERCOT will continue to monitor the situation for localized concerns in the storm-affected area.

ERCOT has received information from local providers in ERCOT indicating that the storm resulted in a significant number of customers being without power at some point due to storm-related outages at the retail provider level. ERCOT understands that, as of the time of this filing, providers are continuing to work to restore service to all customers.

Finally, the ERCOT market continued to function as expected throughout the storm event, and there has been sufficient generation available to meet demand.

### **III. Conclusion**

ERCOT will keep working with transmission and distribution providers as they continue to make storm-related repairs. Although ERCOT expects that overall system reliability will be maintained and that the ERCOT market will continue to function within normal parameters as recovery from the storm continues, ERCOT will provide prompt updates to the Commission should conditions change. ERCOT would be pleased to provide any other information the Commission may request concerning this event.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Erika Kane

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