



Control Number: 32182



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October 2, 2006

Mr. James R. Galloway  
Filing Clerk  
Public Utility Commission of Texas  
1701 North Congress Avenue  
Austin, Texas 78701

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2006 OCT -2 PM 2:42  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
FILING CLERK

RE: Project No. 32182 – PUC Investigation of Methods to Improve Electric and Telecommunications Infrastructure That Will Minimize Long Term Outages and Restoration Costs Associated with Gulf Coast Hurricanes

Dear Mr. Galloway:

On behalf of the local incumbent local exchange companies listed below (the ILECs), following is the response to PUC Staff's August 23, 2006 request for written descriptions of utilities' vegetation management programs for overhead facilities, and on-going cyclical, ground-based inspection programs for overhead facilities.

Over 95% of the ILECs' facilities are underground, therefore no formal vegetation management or ground-based inspection programs for overhead facilities currently are in place, because they are unnecessary. The ILECs provide very little aerial facilities. If aerial facilities do exist, they are usually attached to poles belonging to other utilities and the applicable pole attachment agreement governs pole maintenance.

Alenco Communications, Inc. d/b/a ACI  
Blossom Telephone Company  
Cumby Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
Eastex Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
ENMR Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
Nortex Communications, Inc.  
Panhandle Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Please call me at (512) 343-2544 if there are any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Simon Park".

Simon Park  
Authorized Representative

SP/pjf

cc: Above-listed companies