

Control Number: 32182



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Echelon Building II, Suite 200 9430 Research Boulevard, Austin, TX 78759 phone: 512-338-0473, fax: 512-346-0822

October 29, 2008

Mr. James Galloway, Filing Clerk Public Utility Commission of Texas 1701 North Congress Avenue Austin, Texas 78711

Re: Project No. 32182 – Investigation of Methods to Improve Electric and Telecom Infrastructure That Will Minimize Long Term Outages and Restoration Costs

Dear Mr. Galloway:

On behalf of Eastex Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("Eastex" or "Cooperative"), I am submitting an original and ten (10) copies of this response to the data request issued in this proceeding on October 14, 2008.

The majority of Eastex's lines are buried and thus, the Cooperative maintains minimal aerial facilities. What little aerial cable the Cooperative does own is connected to electric utility poles or is merely a short service drop to the customer premises. As such, the Cooperative has never needed a program for vegetation management and ground-based inspections for overhead facilities. However, Eastex's outside plant technicians are trained to report or remedy any aerial line obstructions or problems as they attend to their daily duties. Since the last data collection in this proceeding, the Cooperative has inspected its aerial lines through the course of its day-to-day operations, and conducted maintenance as required.

Please file-stamp the additional copies and return them to me by way of our assistant. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Dee Dee Longenecker

Authorized Representative for Eastex Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Mr. Rusty Dorman, Assistant General Manager

Eastex Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

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