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August 7, 2006

Brian Almon Public Utility Commission of Texas 1701 N. Congress Ave. Austin, Texas 78701

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

Dear Mr. Almon:

You requested additional information from CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC (CenterPoint Energy) concerning implementation of initiatives after Hurricane Rita. The following information is provided in response to the request.

## Hurricane Rita - After Action Review

Hurricane Rita was the first major test of CenterPoint Energy's Emergency Operating Plan (EOP) in many years. Because of this, an After Action Review (AAR) process was implemented to gather information about the Company's storm response and to evaluate the effectiveness of the EOP. This process generated 230 Lessons Learned. Action Teams were then appointed to develop actionable recommendations based on the Lessons Learned. These teams developed 127 actionable recommendations, of which 102 have been implemented, 13 are in the process of being implemented, and the remaining 12 are being evaluated for implementation. CenterPoint Energy expects to complete action on all recommendations by year end.

## **Command Center Location**

The Central Evaluation Center was originally planned to be located on the 13<sup>th</sup> floor of the Travis Tower building, which is located in downtown Houston. CenterPoint Energy decided to relocate the Central Evaluation Center due to consideration of several factors such as access to downtown Houston, safety related to falling glass, and the fact that CenterPoint Energy did not own the building. The Central Evaluation Center was therefore relocated to the Bellaire Service Center. All necessary equipment and supplies were relocated and operational in one day. The EOP includes this mobility and, if

needed, the Central Evaluation Center can relocate to the pre-designated backup site at the Greenspoint Service Center or to any other location as necessary.

## Communication Plan

CenterPoint Energy has specific government liaison personnel assigned to the State of Texas, City of Houston, and Harris County Offices of Emergency Management. In each of the Company's Service Centers, the Service Area management team maintains communication with the various local governments in their area during an emergency event. All restoration progress information is coordinated and communicated by the Company's Corporate Communications Department.

If you need any further information, please contact me at 512-397-3032. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours truly,

DeAnn T. Walker Senior Counsel

Delinn T. Walter