

Control Number: 32182



Item Number: 92

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### **OPEN MEETING COVER SHEET**

**MEETING DATE:** 

August 10, 2006

**DATE DELIVERED:** 

August 9, 2006

**AGENDA ITEM NO.:** 

16

**CAPTION:** 

Project No. 32182 - PUC Investigation of

Methods to Improve Electric and Telecommunications Infrastructure to Minimize Long Term Outages and Restoration costs Associated with Gulf Coast Hurricanes. ADDENDUM TO REPORT FILED AUGUST 7, 2006.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** 

Discussion and possible action.

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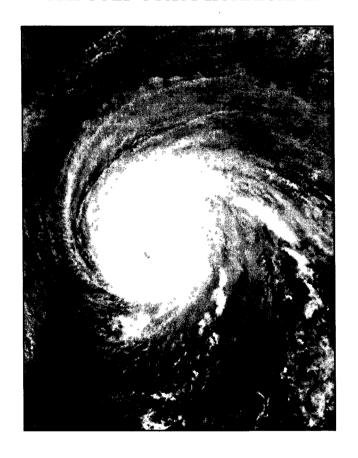
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### **PROJECT NO 32182**

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### PUC INVESTIGATION OF METHODS TO IMPROVE ELECTRIC AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE TO MINIMIZE LONG TERM OUTAGES AND RESTORATION COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH GULF COAST HURRICANES



STAFF REPORT
ADDENDUM

### Page 29, Comments of AT&T

Sentence should read:

"AT&T stated that other <u>non-mandated</u> long term upgrade activities should be treated as cost of doing business."

Page 38, the date in part (b) should be August 1, 2008.

### Page 39, Recommendation 2

2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph should read:

"Each new and existing electric and telecommunications utility vegetation management program should consider, the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) clearance limits or such other codes and standards that are generally accepted by the industry, except as modified by this commission as part of any scheduled or cyclic vegetation management activity including the trimming, or removal, of trees located within its right of way (ROW).

### Page 40, Recommendation 8

Change to:

"Staff encourages, if new underground distribution facilities are to be installed in the rear of residential lots, electric utilities to work with developers and homeowners to establish buffer zones around the facilities in which no trees or structures will be placed to ensure access to the facilities for any future repair work."

### Page 41, Recommendation 9

Change to:

"Staff encourages electric utilities to work with developers of new residential properties to utilize underground distribution facilities and to locate these facilities in front of homes or in accessible alleyways, to the extent it is not prohibited by city ordinances."

Staff Recommendation	Rulemaking Project	Timeline for Rulemaking	Reference to Enabling Statute
1. All central offices in hurricane prone areas shall be capable of full operation without interruption for at least 72 hours after loss of electric utility power.	New Sub. Rule Chapter 29 to address Emergency Management and Homeland Security Issues. Applicable to both Electric and Telecom utilities	First Quarter of 2007	PURA Sections PURA 11.002, 11.008, 14.001, 14.002, 14.003, 51.001, 52.002(a) 55.001, 55.002, 54.103(b)(2), 54.155(b)(2)
2. Require all permanent new and replacement transmission structures installed within 10 miles of the Texas coastline be designed to meet the current NESC wind loading standards assuming a maximum wind speed of 140 miles per hour. The rulemaking should also explore whether all permanent new and replacement transmission structures installed within 50 miles of the Texas coastline should be constructed to meet the current NESC wind loading standards.	New Sub. Rule Chapter 29 to address Emergency Management and Homeland Security Issues. Applicable to both Electric and telecom utilities	First Quarter of 2007	PURA Sections 11.002, 11.008, 14.001, 14.002, 14.003, 35.006, 36.008, 37.151(2), 37.152(b), 38.001, 38.002

Staff Recommendation	Rulemaking Project	Timeline for Rulemaking	Reference to Enabling Statute
3. Staff recommends that each electric utility that owns transmission facilities located within 50 miles of the Texas coastline be required to provide to the Commission information about each transmission line as follows:  a. On or before August 1, 2007, for all transmission lines, or portions thereof, located fewer than 10 miles from the Texas coastline, the following information:  i) the length of Line.  ii) a description of the type of Structures, iii) cost estimate for upgrade to 140 MPH standard;	New Sub. Rule Chapter 29 to address Emergency Management and Homeland Security Issues. Applicable to both Electric and telecom utilities	First Quarter of 2007	PURA Sections 11.002, 11.008, 14.001, 14.002, 14.003, 35.006,36.008, 37.151(2), 37.152(b), 38.001, 38.002
b) On or before August 8, 2008, for all transmission lines, or portions thereof, located more than 10 and fewer than 50 miles from the Texas coastline, the following information:  i) the length of Line; ii) a description of the type of Structures; iii) cost estimate for upgrade to meet current NESC standard.			
4. Electric and telecommunications utility that has an ongoing vegetation management program addressing all overhead facilities should file a written description of the program by October 1, 2006.	No Rulemaking Required , Information Request		

Staff Recommendation	Rulemaking Project	Timeline for Rulemaking	Reference to Enabling Statute
5. Require Electric and telecommunications utility to have an on-going vegetation management program to Protect Overhead facilities	New Sub. Rule Chapter 29 to address Emergency Management and Homeland Security Issues. Applicable to both Electric and telecom utilities	First Quarter of 2007	PURA Sections 11.002, 11.008, 14.001, 14.002, 14.003, 35.006. 37.151(2), 37.152(b), 38.001, 38.002, 38.004, 51.001, 52.002(a) 55.001, 55.002 54.103(b)(2), 54.155(b)(2)
6. Each electric and telecommunications utility that has an on-going cyclical, ground-based inspection program for its overhead facilities should file a written description of the program by October 1, 2006.	No Rulemaking Required , Information Request		

Staff Recommendation	Rulemaking Project	Timeline for Rulemaking	Reference to Enabling Statute
7. Require electric and telecommunications utility to have an on-going, cyclical, ground-based inspection program. Develop and adopt standards directing each electric and telecommunications utility to conduct inspections (during the utility's regular, ground-based inspection cycle) of its overhead facilities to determine whether the equipment located on those facilities, but not owned by the utility, is causing an overload on those structures. These rulemakings should also determine reasonable timeframes for each utility to correct any identified overloading problems and institute practices to prevent future overloads on these facilities.  The rulemaking projects should require each electric and telecommunications utility to develop requirements, to be incorporated into existing "pole attachment" contracts and tariffs that ensure the structural integrity of the utility's overhead facilities in situations where other parties attach cables or other facilities.	New Sub. Rule Chapter 29 to address Emergency Management and Homeland Security Issues. Applicable to both Electric and telecom utilities		PURA Sections 11.002, 11.008, 14.001, 14.002, 14.003, 35.006, 37.151(2), 37.152(b), 38.001 38.002, 51.001, 52.002(a), 55.001, 55.002, 54.155(b)(2)
8. Require electric utilities to design and construct all new substations located within a 100 year floodplain so that the floor of the control house and all water sensitive components of the substation operating equipment are above the elevation of the 100 year floodplain.	Add new section to the new Sub. Rule Chapter 29 to address Emergency Management and Homeland Security Issues. Applicable to both Electric and telecom utilities	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2007	PURA Sections 11.002, 11.008, 14.001, 14.002, 14.003, 35.006. 36.008, 37.151(2), 37.152(b), 38.001, 38.002

ric utilities to Rule Chapter 29 to address Several electric mited projects, but mocurage further enhance real-time witching of electric ansamission substation  Hadd new section to the new Sub. First and Second Several electric Second Homeland Security Issues. Applicable to both Electric and telecom utilities telecom utilities and telecom utilities soft the power grid.	Staff Recommendation	Rulemaking Project	Timeline for Rulemaking	Reference to Enabling Statute
	9. Cost recovery For incentives that encourage electric utilities to modernize their electric grids through the deployment of intelligent devices on the network. Several electric utilities have already undertaken limited projects, but incentives may be appropriate to encourage further development. These deployments enhance real-time monitoring of outages, selective switching of electric supply routes, and preventative maintenance of protective devices to increase the reliability of the power grid. Cost recovery for Transmission, transmission substation Distribution substation	Add new section to the new Sub. Rule Chapter 29 to address Emergency Management and Homeland Security Issues. Applicable to both Electric and telecom utilities	First and Second Quarter of 2007.	PURA Sections 11.002, 11.008, 14.001, 14.002, 14.003, 35.004(c), 36.001 36.209, 37.151(2), 37.152(b), 38.001, 38.002 51.001, 52.002(a), 53.101 – 53.113, 58.057, 58.053, 59.024(e), 59.029(a), 52.204