

1                   II.     PURPOSE AND SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

2   Q4.   WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

3   A.    The general purpose of my testimony is to offer an independent opinion of  
4       the reasonableness of the approach Entergy Texas, Inc. ("ETI" or  
5       "Company") proposes to take with respect to protecting its Transmission  
6       and Distribution ("T&D") assets through self-insurance. The specific  
7       purpose of my testimony is: (1) to estimate the annual accruals needed to  
8       provide for the expected property losses incurred by ETI for the storm  
9       damage losses that are not covered by insurance and for which  
10      Section 36.064 of the Texas Public Utility Regulatory Act permits a  
11      provision to be made; and (2) to estimate a target amount to accumulate  
12      in the self-insurance reserve along with a recommended time period over  
13      which these accruals are to be made.

14           My testimony also includes a cost benefit analysis demonstrating  
15      that self-insurance at the levels proposed by ETI is a lower cost alternative  
16      to purchasing insurance and is in the public interest, consistent with the  
17      P.U.C. Subst. Rule 25.231(b)(1)(G).

18  
19   Q5.   WHAT DOES THIS RULE PROVIDE?

20   A.    This rule provides as follows:

21           Accruals credited to reserve accounts for self-insurance  
22           under a plan requested by an electric utility and approved by  
23           the commission. The commission shall consider approval of  
24           a self insurance plan in a rate case in which expenses or  
25           rate base treatment are requested for such a plan. For the

1 purposes of this section, a self insurance plan is a plan  
2 providing for accruals to be credited to reserve accounts.  
3 The reserve accounts are to be charged with property and  
4 liability losses which occur, and which could not have been  
5 reasonably anticipated and included in operating and  
6 maintenance expenses, and are not paid or reimbursed by  
7 commercial insurance. The commission will approve a self-  
8 insurance plan to the extent it finds it to be in the public  
9 interest. In order to establish that the plan is in the public  
10 interest, the electric utility must present a cost benefit  
11 analysis performed by a qualified independent insurance  
12 consultant who demonstrates that, with consideration of all  
13 costs, self-insurance is a lower-cost alternative than  
14 commercial insurance and the ratepayers will receive the  
15 benefits of the self insurance plan. The cost benefit analysis  
16 shall present a detailed analysis of the appropriate limits of  
17 self insurance, an analysis of the appropriate annual  
18 accruals to build a reserve account for self insurance, and  
19 the level at which further accruals should be decreased or  
20 terminated.

21 Q6. WHAT HAS THE COMMISSION ESTABLISHED AS THE PROPERTY  
22 INSURANCE EXPENSE AND RESERVE TARGET FOR ETI?

23 A. The Commission ruled in Docket No. 39896 that ETI's storm cost accrual  
24 shall be increased to \$8.37 million annually, consisting of \$4.4 million to  
25 provide for average annual expected storm losses, plus an annual accrual  
26 of \$3.87 million for 20 years to restore the reserve from its current deficit.  
27 It also ruled in Docket No. 39896 that the reasonable and necessary  
28 reserve balance should be \$17,595,000.

1 Q7. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS.

2 A. As shown on Exhibit GSW-2, I proposed an annual accrual of \$8,540,000  
3 and a new target property insurance reserve of \$15,512,000. The accrual  
4 is composed of two elements. The first is \$4,972,000 to provide for  
5 average annual expected losses from all storms that do not exceed  
6 \$100 million. As I explain subsequently, the \$4.972 million annual accrual  
7 is calculated using a Monte Carlo simulation run on the loss history of the  
8 Company. The second is \$3,570,000 accrued annually for twenty years to  
9 achieve the target reserve of \$15,512,000 from the current reserve level of  
10 negative \$55.9 million.

11

12 III. SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE BACKGROUND

13 Q8. PLEASE STATE THE PURPOSE OF A SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE  
14 AND EXPLAIN HOW IT WOULD OPERATE.

15 A. The purpose of ETI's self-insurance reserve is to provide for occurrences  
16 resulting in storm-related T&D and other property loss of at least \$50,000.

17 Each year, an amount of money would be accrued in the self-  
18 insurance reserve to provide for losses expected to occur in the calendar  
19 year. In addition to this amount, an accrual would be made to raise the  
20 self-insurance reserve to a level that would serve as a financial buffer in  
21 the event that actual losses exceed the accrued annual expected loss  
22 amount. Accruals would be made to this reserve until it reaches the

1 recommended target level, at which point contributions to the reserve  
2 would reduce to the lower of annual expected losses or actual losses.

3

4 Q9. WHAT HAPPENS IF THE ANNUAL AGGREGATE LOSSES EXCEED  
5 THE AMOUNT ACCRUED IN ANY GIVEN YEAR?

6 A. If the annual aggregate losses exceed the amount accrued in any given  
7 year, the remaining reserve would be drawn upon to provide the needed  
8 additional amounts. If the annual aggregate losses are less than the  
9 amount accrued for that purpose, the excess annual accrual would remain  
10 in the self-insurance reserve, serving to bring the self-insurance reserve  
11 closer to its target level.

12

13 Q10. WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO BUILD THE SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE  
14 UP TO A CERTAIN TARGETED LEVEL?

15 A. The range of expected losses from storm damage covered by the self-  
16 insurance reserve varies considerably from year to year, as will the actual  
17 losses that ETI will incur. The self-insurance reserve needs to be  
18 sufficient to cover the losses for each year, knowing that any given year's  
19 actual losses may be very different from the average expected losses.  
20 Hence, a reserve large enough to provide for some variation in the annual  
21 aggregate amount of losses is needed.

1 Q11. IS THE SELF-INSURANCE PROGRAM OF ETI IN THE CUSTOMERS'  
2 INTEREST?

3 A. Yes. The self-insurance program of ETI is in the best interest of the  
4 Company's customers. As will be shown later, it provides a lower cost  
5 alternative than purchasing insurance for all losses. At the same time, it  
6 provides for utility rate stability by providing for a self-insurance reserve to  
7 absorb the variation in the experience from the expected annual losses so  
8 that customers' rates will not reflect dramatically different self-insurance  
9 losses from one year to the next.  
10

11 IV. ANNUAL EXPECTED LOSSES

12 Q12. HOW MUCH MONEY SHOULD ETI ACCRUE ANNUALLY IN THE SELF-  
13 INSURANCE RESERVE TO COVER THE EXPECTED LOSSES FOR  
14 EACH YEAR?

15 A. The amount I recommend to be accrued annually for expected losses for  
16 the self-insurance reserve is \$4,972,000. This amount is the expected  
17 value of the annual losses incurred by ETI from all storm damage, except  
18 those over \$100 million, adjusted to reflect current conditions and current  
19 cost levels. The recommended amount of \$4,972,000 is calculated using  
20 a Monte Carlo simulation run on the loss history (shown on  
21 Exhibit GSW-3) of the Company. A Monte Carlo simulation is a statistical  
22 technique incorporating a computer program to simulate loss experience

1 over a longer period of time than the period captured in the available loss  
2 history.

3 The program simulates individual losses on an annual basis for ETI  
4 for 5,000 iterations of annual experience. A statistical distribution is  
5 estimated from ETI's trended loss experience and input into the model.  
6 The model is run 5,000 times, each time simulating a possible outcome.  
7 From these 5,000 iterations of simulated experience, I was able to  
8 determine that the average annual indicated loss over this period was  
9 \$4,890,000.

10 Exhibit GSW-4 contains an example showing how each historic  
11 loss was adjusted to reflect the current cost levels using the Handy-  
12 Whitman index of cost trends of electric utility construction for the South  
13 Central Region. The Handy-Whitman index data is a standard type of  
14 database used to measure cost changes for utility companies. The loss in  
15 the example occurred on June 12, 2012, for \$690,695. The Handy-  
16 Whitman index on July 1, 2012, was 592; on January 1, 2012 it was 582.  
17 Interpolating between these two points to June 12, 2012, produces an  
18 expected index of 590.956. As of January 1, 2013, the Handy-Whitman  
19 index was 607. Thus, the change from June 12, 2012, to January 1, 2013,  
20 was 607 divided by 590.956, or 1.027 (2.7% increase). Multiplying the  
21 loss of \$690,695 by 1.027 gives a cost-adjusted loss of \$709,343. This  
22 procedure was used for each loss of \$50,000 or greater that occurred

1           during the experience period. This approach is reasonable because it  
2           adjusts historic costs to current dollar levels.

3

4   Q13. WERE ANY OTHER ADJUSTMENTS MADE TO THE HISTORICAL  
5       DATA?

6   A.   Yes. The majority of the losses from Hurricanes Rita, Gustav and Ike  
7       were removed from the historical data because those losses were  
8       securitized and recovery for those losses was not through the insurance  
9       reserve.

10

11   Q14. WERE ANY ADJUSTMENTS MADE TO THE MONTE CARLO  
12       SIMULATION TO ADJUST FOR POTENTIAL SECURITIZATION?

13   A.   Yes. The results from the simulation were adjusted by removing any  
14       simulated year where the total storm loss exceeded \$100,000,000. I am  
15       informed by the Company that any loss that exceeds this amount is likely  
16       to be securitized.

17

18   V.   TARGET RESERVE

19   Q15. WHAT IS THE TARGET AMOUNT OF MONEY NEEDED TO PROVIDE  
20       FOR AN ADEQUATE SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE?

21   A.   The recommended total target amount of the reserve is \$15,512,000,  
22       which is the amount of O&M damage expected to result from a 25-year  
23       storm with total losses under \$100 million. The Company needs to

1 provide for anticipated T&D and other property losses resulting from  
2 severe storms in order to ensure safe, reliable, and adequate service to  
3 ratepayers.

4

5 Q16. WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO ACCRUE MORE TO THE SELF-  
6 INSURANCE RESERVE THAN THE \$4,972,000 FOR EXPECTED  
7 LOSSES?

8 A. The \$4,972,000 accrual is intended to cover only the average annual  
9 expected loss from storm damage. These losses can range from very low  
10 to millions of dollars in any one year. The storm damage reserve needs to  
11 be built up to provide for extreme or catastrophic events in any one year.

12

13 Q17. HOW WAS YOUR TARGET RESERVE OF \$15,512,000 DEVELOPED?

14 A. As indicated above, I ran a Monte Carlo simulation on the loss history of  
15 ETI. From the 5,000 iterations of simulated experience, I was able to  
16 determine that in any 25-year period, the largest expected loss totaling  
17 less than \$100 million is approximately \$15,512,000.

18

19 Q18. WHY IS THIS RESERVE LEVEL APPROPRIATE?

20 A. This reserve level is the amount that should be carried by ETI to make an  
21 actuarially sound provision for coverage of the self-insured losses. The  
22 target reserve will be sufficient if annual losses are equal to or less than  
23 the target in a given year provided the reserve is already in place at its



1 target amount; but if the actual losses exceed the amount accrued for the  
2 expected annual amount for several years in a row, the self insurance  
3 reserve may be depleted.

4 For example, once the reserve level has been reached, if there are  
5 several years with losses of approximately \$4,000,000, the reserve will  
6 remain unused. However, if there are two consecutive years with annual  
7 aggregate losses of more than \$12,000,000 each year, the self-insurance  
8 reserve would be in a deficit position. The deficit amount would need to  
9 be collected from future ratepayers.

10

11 Q19. WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE BALANCE OF THE  
12 RESERVE?

13 A. The Commission found in Docket No. 39896 that the reasonable and  
14 necessary reserve balance in rate base for property insurance should be  
15 \$17,595,000. As shown on Rate Filing Package Schedule 11-B, page 1 of  
16 2, the current balance reflects a deficit of \$55,920,521.

17

18 Q20. WHAT ARE THE INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS OF THE ANNUAL  
19 ACCRUAL TO THE SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE INDICATED BY  
20 YOUR ANALYSIS?

21 A. The annual amount to be accrued each year is \$8,542,000, which is  
22 composed of two elements. First, there is \$4,972,000 each year to  
23 provide for the year's annual expected losses from storm damages.

1 Second, there should be an accrual of \$3,570,000 each year for twenty  
2 years to provide for the variation in annual losses from year to year by  
3 building the total self insurance reserve from the current deficit balance of  
4 \$56 million up to the \$15.512 million level. I have recommended a twenty-  
5 year period to balance the interests of future ratepayers versus past  
6 ratepayers.

7  
8 Q21. ARE THESE CALCULATIONS PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
9 GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACTUARIAL PROCEDURES?

10 A. Yes. The process reflects generally accepted actuarial procedures.  
11 However, I have made certain adjustments to reflect the nature of  
12 ratemaking for public utilities. For example, it would be customary to  
13 project losses to the anticipated cost level of the future time period during  
14 which rates will be in effect. Because of the historical test year approach  
15 to utility ratemaking and the adjustment of expense items based on known  
16 and measurable quantities only, I have limited loss adjustments to the cost  
17 levels. The dates to which the losses were adjusted reflect the dates of  
18 the most recent indices available at the time the adjustments were made.  
19 On the other hand, common actuarial practice would be to project the cost  
20 of expected losses to the future period when they will be incurred, a level  
21 that would be greater than the figure contained in my testimony.

22 In addition, no adjustment has been made to reflect future  
23 increased exposure to loss. For example, in 2013 ETI may own more

1 property in the service area that is exposed to loss than it had in years  
2 prior to 2000. This would increase the exposure to loss, and lead to a  
3 higher recommended reserve.

4

5 Q22. HOW WILL THE SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE ACCRUALS OPERATE?

6 A. The excess of annual expected losses over actual self-insured losses, to  
7 the extent there is any such excess, will accrue to the self-insurance target  
8 reserve and cause ETI to reach its target earlier, all other things being  
9 equal. Any deficiency between the annual expected losses and the actual  
10 self-insured layer losses in any calendar year will serve to extend the  
11 period over which the Company can expect to reach its target.

12

13 VI. ALTERNATIVE CALCULATION OF INSURANCE RESERVE

14 Q23. AT THE OPEN MEETING IN DOCKET NO. 39896, THE  
15 COMMISSIONERS DISCUSSED CHANGING THE THRESHOLD FOR  
16 STORM COST INSURANCE RESERVE FROM \$50,000 TO  
17 SOMETHING HIGHER, SUCH AS \$450,000. DID YOU MAKE ANY  
18 ESTIMATE OF THE IMPACT OF INCREASING THE INSURANCE  
19 RESERVE THRESHOLD?

20 A. Yes.

1 Q24. WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON THE INSURANCE RESERVE LEVEL?

2 A. If the current \$50,000 threshold is raised to \$500,000, the indicated annual  
3 accrual for ETI would decrease to \$8,178,000. The target reserve would  
4 decrease to \$15,199,000.

5

6 Q25. ARE THERE OTHER IMPACTS OF CHANGING THE INSURANCE  
7 RESERVE LEVEL?

8 A. Yes.

9

10 Q26. WHAT OTHER IMPACTS ARE THERE?

11 A. If the threshold is increased, more of the storm losses will be treated as  
12 Operations and Maintenance ("O&M") expense, and will need to be  
13 included in ETI's rates as O&M expense. Approximately \$837,000 in  
14 O&M expense that was paid from the insurance reserve during the test  
15 year will not be included in the reserve calculation and will need to be  
16 added to ETI's ongoing O&M expense level.

17

18 Q27. THERE WAS ALSO DISCUSSION DURING THE DOCKET NO. 39896  
19 OPEN MEETING REGARDING CHANGING THE THRESHOLD TO A  
20 DEDUCTIBLE. IS THAT REASONABLE?

21 A. I do not think so. While the insurance expense amount is called a  
22 threshold, in reality it is a franchise deductible. That is, it is a condition  
23 where nothing is paid until the loss hits the deductible, and once the

1 deductible is reached, the entire amount is paid. These types of  
2 deductibles have typically been used by large commercial entities.

3 The franchise deductible is used by many utilities for their self-  
4 insured reserve in Texas, including ETI, Oncor, and Centerpoint.

5

6 Q28. IS THE USE OF THE FRANCHISE DEDUCTIBLE CONCEPT IN THE  
7 BEST INTEREST OF RATEPAYERS?

8 A. Yes. O&M expenses that a utility incurs as a result of storm damage that  
9 is not charged to the insurance reserve would be reflected in higher O&M  
10 and included in the revenue requirement charged to customers. If these  
11 dollars are instead charged to the insurance reserve, they will be included  
12 in the calculation of the insurance reserve and therefore in establishing the  
13 rate base in the next rate case. Because the insurance reserve is  
14 estimated using data over several years, the full amount of expense in any  
15 one year will not be completely felt in the subsequent rate case. This  
16 leads to more stability in rates and works to the benefit of the ratepayer in  
17 spreading out the recovery of the expense over a period of time greater  
18 than one year.

19

20 Q29. DO YOU RECOMMEND CHANGING THE THRESHOLD FOR THE  
21 SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE IN THIS CASE?

22 A. No. I believe that the current level is appropriate because it provides rate  
23 stability for the ratepayers.

1 VII. COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS

2 Q30. HOW DID YOU DETERMINE THAT SELF-INSURANCE IS A LOWER  
3 COST ALTERNATIVE FOR THOSE T&D AND OTHER PROPERTY  
4 LOSSES THAT ARE STORM-RELATED AND GREATER THAN  
5 \$50,000?

6 A. There are at least two ways to consider the cost-benefit of self-insuring  
7 these losses. The first is by considering the manner in which insurance  
8 companies set premiums and the second is by an actual comparison to  
9 estimated insurance premiums for the self-insurance coverage.

10

11 Q31. WHAT ASPECTS OF AN INSURANCE COMPANY'S PREMIUM  
12 DETERMINATION PROCESS DID YOU CONSIDER IN CONCLUDING  
13 THAT THE SELF-INSURANCE APPROACH FOR THE DESIGNATED  
14 LAYER OF LOSSES IS APPROPRIATE?

15 A. Insurance companies include provisions in their premiums for all costs  
16 associated with the transfer of the insurance risk. Hence, they include  
17 provisions for losses, loss adjustment expenses, non-loss related  
18 expenses, premium taxes, and a profit.

19 A self-insurance reserve, such as ETI's reserve, does not need to  
20 include many of the provisions other than those for losses and loss-related  
21 expenses. For example, a self-insurance reserve does not need to pay  
22 premium taxes and other state-imposed fees. An insurance company  
23 needs to make a profit on the business it transacts. A self-insurance

1       reserve, on the other hand, is not intended to generate a profit and, hence,  
2       no provision for profit needs to be included in the accrual provisions.  
3       Insurance companies also incur costs associated with the acquisition of  
4       insured risks. The largest of these expenses is that associated with the  
5       payment of commissions to insurance agents or brokers to place the  
6       business. A self-insurance reserve does not include any provision for  
7       commissions. Finally, an insurance company must expend resources to  
8       underwrite risks, market its products, and maintain overhead expenses. A  
9       self-insurance reserve does not need to provide for these costs.

10             In summary, self-insurance saves the costs of premium taxes,  
11       commissions, profit, and many of the general expenses associated with  
12       the operation of an insurance company.

13

14   Q32. WHAT OTHER COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS HAVE YOU RELIED UPON  
15       TO SHOW THAT THE COST FOR THE SELF-INSURED LAYER IS  
16       LOWER THAN THE COST OF INSURANCE FOR THE SAME LAYER OF  
17       INSURANCE AND IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE COMPANY'S  
18       CUSTOMERS?

19   A.   Comparing the cost of self-insurance versus the cost of buying insurance  
20       establishes that it is more cost effective for ETI to self-insure, even if there  
21       is a company willing to insure it. For example, ETI's broker contacted the  
22       US, London and Bermuda insurance markets to discuss a T&D policy for  
23       ETI. Only one company would even discuss the possibility of providing

1 coverage to ETI for windstorm damage. The broker received an indicative  
2 premium for T&D coverage for damage caused by named storms only,  
3 and the amount was for limited coverage in excess of a \$15 million  
4 retention. Coverage is limited based on the strength of the storm, as  
5 measured by the Saffir-Simpson scale. Coverage would be \$25 million for  
6 a Category 2 storm, ranging up to \$150 million for a Category 5 storm.  
7 The premium for this coverage is estimated at \$21.25 million per year.  
8 Thus, under this named storm only proposal, ETI would have to pay over  
9 \$20 million per year, and still be responsible for at least the first  
10 \$15 million of loss. ETI would also need to accrue additional amounts for  
11 losses lower than the deductible, losses for non-named storms, the  
12 deductible itself, and to recover the current deficit. As discussed in more  
13 detail below, my estimate of the total annual cost to purchase the  
14 insurance and accrue amounts sufficient to cover the costs is  
15 approximately \$34 million. Therefore, it is clear that the combination of  
16 the high premium cost and the high retention indicates that self-insurance  
17 is the most cost effective method of providing protection for ETI's T&D  
18 assets.

19 The cost of buying insurance is as follows. The premium for ETI to  
20 purchase T&D property insurance with a \$15,000,000 deductible is  
21 estimated at \$21,250,000 annually. This amount would only cover those  
22 losses from named storms that exceed the \$15,000,000 deductible. ETI,  
23 however, would still need to maintain a reserve to cover the first



1       \$15 million of losses, as well as the losses from non-named storms.  
2       Eliminating the named storms from the ETI history results in an expected  
3       loss of \$4,130,000. In addition, even if ETI secures commercial  
4       insurance, the insurance premium would not address the current deficit in  
5       the reserve balance of almost \$60 million, so an accrual of \$3,570,000  
6       would also be needed to reduce the deficit. An amount to fund the  
7       \$15,000,000 deductible would also need to be accrued. I would  
8       recommend that it be accrued over a three-year period, since the  
9       insurance policy would be for three years. As a result, even with the  
10      purchase of commercial insurance to cover some of the storm loss, the  
11      recommended accrual total would be  $\$33,950,000 = [(\$21,250,000) +$   
12       $(\$4,130,000) + (\$3,570,000) + (\$5,000,000)]$ .

13             In contrast, the cost of self-insurance is \$8,542,000.

14

15                             VIII. CONCLUSION

16   Q33. WHAT DO YOU CONCLUDE REGARDING ETI'S REQUEST FOR  
17       SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE TO T&D PROPERTY LOSSES?

18   A. I have conducted an analysis that meets the Commission's rule  
19       requirements and have demonstrated that self-insurance is necessary and  
20       desirable given the lack of reasonably priced commercial insurance.

21

22   Q34. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?

23   A. Yes, at this time.

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GREGORY S. WILSON, FCAS, MAAA  
Vice President and Principal

CURRENT POSITION

Mr. Wilson is a Vice President and Principal with Lewis & Ellis, Inc.

EXPERIENCE:

Mr. Wilson's responsibilities include evaluating the adequacy of insurance company reserve levels in conjunction with actuarial certification for the annual statement as well as state insurance department examinations. He also performs rate level analyses for his clients and assists them prepare filings for the state insurance departments. He also evaluates the adequacy of loss reserves for several self-insured companies.

Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Wilson was a Principal Consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. His responsibilities were similar to his current responsibilities. In addition, he reviewed retrospective rating calculations for several companies involved in class action litigation in Texas. He also performed several funding analyses for governmental entities.

Prior to joining PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Mr. Wilson was Vice President of Amica Mutual Insurance Company in Providence, Rhode Island. There, he supervised all aspects of ratemaking, from procedures to recommendations, helped negotiate the purchase of reinsurance, determine

IBNR, develop a strategy for Massachusetts Automobile and develop other states' residual market strategies, in particular, New York and New Jersey.

#### EDUCATION

Mr. Wilson received his Bachelor's degree in Applied Mathematics from the University of Rhode Island.

#### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Mr. Wilson is a former member of the Casualty Actuarial Society's Examination Committee, Committee on Ratemaking and Committee on Reserving. He is also a Past President of the Southwest Actuarial Forum.

Entergy Texas, Inc.  
Calculation of Recommended Accrual

Expected Annual Storm Loss	4,972,000
Incremental Amount to Build Storm Reserve	3,570,000
Total Annual Accrual	8,542,000

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Entergy Texas, Inc.  
Texas Major Storm Damage  
Adjusted to Current Cost Level  
1996-2013

<u>Year</u>	<u>Actual Loss</u>	<u>Trended Loss</u>
1986	5,262,243	13,198,693
1987	1,038,215	2,600,543
1988	102,057	247,603
1989	2,333,835	5,367,809
1990	266,670	596,991
1991	6,195	13,703
1992	1,094,037	2,410,198
1993	31,879	69,543
1994	3,008,906	6,397,901
1995	1,574,297	3,233,981
1996	2,078,255	4,240,584
1997	14,158,018	29,193,865
1998	6,363,563	12,770,805
1999	1,698,071	3,402,829
2000	4,048,245	7,902,807
2001	3,624,745	6,835,651
2002	2,651,346	4,919,003
2003	1,680,753	3,080,497
2004	946,375	1,639,077
2005	2,628,245	4,141,178
2006	1,231,691	1,741,224
2007	25,577,619	32,162,066
2008	10,012,187	11,739,727
2009	1,064,872	1,218,687
2010	431,534	473,391
2011	3,675,150	3,891,032
2012	4,198,957	4,285,316
2013	180,094	180,094
	86,249,720	133,817,833

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Entergy Texas, Inc.  
Example of Loss Trending Methodology

1)	Date of Loss	12-Jun-12
2)	Amount of Loss	\$690,695
3)	Handy-Whitman Index - Electric Utility Construction South Central Region - Distribution Plant	
	a) January, 2012	582
	b) July, 2012	592
	c) May 1, 2012	590.956
	d) January, 2013	607
4)	Trend Factor (3d) / (3c)	1.027
5)	Cost-Adjusted Losses (2) x (4)	\$709,343

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Entergy Texas, Inc.  
Calculation of Recommended Accrual  
With \$500,000 Threshold

Expected Annual Storm Loss	4,618,000
Incremental Amount to Build Storm Reserve	3,560,000
Total Annual Accrual	8,178,000

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Entergy Texas, Inc.  
Calculation of O&M Amounts  
Charged to Expense  
With \$500,000 Threshold  
April 1, 2012 - March 31, 2013

Date of Storm	Total Loss From Storm	O&M Expense Charged to Storm Reserve	O&M Charged to Storm Reserve with Threshold	O&M Charged to O&M Expense
04/02/12	253,215	57,133	0	57,133
04/20/12	638,011	155,997	155,997	0
05/10/12	700,043	162,329	162,329	0
05/31/12	517,884	115,757	115,757	0
06/06/12	886,605	207,956	207,956	0
06/12/12	3,002,904	690,695	690,695	0
07/13/12	324,613	64,802	0	64,802
07/17/12	185,431	44,564	0	44,564
07/21/12	521,997	105,974	105,974	0
07/28/12	203,649	42,677	0	42,677
08/05/12	75,795	15,556	0	15,556
08/06/12	114,862	25,567	0	25,567
08/10/12	213,206	45,307	0	45,307
08/18/12	357,832	74,586	0	74,586
08/28/12	157,606	41,350	0	41,350
09/30/12	197,522	45,863	0	45,863
11/03/12	185,517	33,851	0	33,851
11/26/12	319,501	71,452	0	71,452
12/04/12	138,394	32,820	0	32,820
12/09/12	174,960	33,443	0	33,443
12/16/12	121,741	27,821	0	27,821
12/20/12	1,375,283	396,054	396,054	0
12/25/12	2,902,928	827,214	827,214	0
01/09/13	312,225	89,687	0	89,687
02/25/13	287,236	76,850	0	76,850
03/10/13	69,395	13,557	0	13,557
Total	14,238,355	3,498,863	2,661,976	836,887

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DOCKET NO. 41791

APPLICATION OF ENTERGY	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
TEXAS, INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO	§	
CHANGE RATES AND RECONCILE	§	OF TEXAS
FUEL COSTS	§	

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

DEVON S. JAYCOX

ON BEHALF OF

ENTERGY TEXAS, INC.

SEPTEMBER 2013

ENTERGY TEXAS, INC.  
DIRECT TESTIMONY OF DEVON S. JAYCOX  
2013 RATE CASE

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## EXHIBITS

Exhibit DSJ-1	Models Used in Short-Run Planning and Operations Processes
Exhibit DSJ-2	Example of Monthly Energy Plan
Exhibit DSJ-3	Example of Next Day Plan
Exhibit DSJ-4	Example of Current Day Plan
Exhibit DSJ-5	Transmission Constraints Affecting Entergy Unit Commitment and Dispatch, July 1, 2011 through March 31, 2013

I. INTRODUCTION

Q1. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS AND BUSINESS AFFILIATION.

A. My name is Devon S. Jaycox. My business address is 10055 Grogan's Mill Road, Parkwood II Building, Suite 300, The Woodlands, Texas 77380. I am employed as Manager, Operations Planning by Entergy Services, Inc. ("ESI"), the service company affiliate of Entergy Texas, Inc. ("ETI" or the "Company").

Q2. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.

A. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from New Mexico State University in 1989 and a Master of Business Administration degree from Lamar University in 1995. I began my electric utility career at Gulf States Utilities ("GSU") in Beaumont, Texas in 1989 in the Resource Planning Department. My responsibilities there included production cost modeling and monthly and annual energy planning for the GSU system. After the merger involving GSU and Entergy Corporation in 1994, I held positions of progressive responsibility in the areas of Fuels Planning, Gas & Oil Supply, and Operations Planning within the combined company. In 2000, I accepted a position with Florida Power & Light in Palm Beach, Florida as an Asset Manager. My role there was to manage the fuel supply for the Lamar Power Project located in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas ("ERCOT"). In 2001, I returned to ESI and

1 assumed a position back in Operations Planning in The Woodlands,  
2 Texas where I assumed various responsibilities up until 2008 when I was  
3 promoted to Manager of Gas & Oil Supply, where my responsibilities  
4 included overseeing the planning, acquisition, delivery, and management  
5 of the gas supply requirements for the six Entergy Operating Companies.<sup>1</sup>  
6 In October 2010, I began my current role as Manager of Operations  
7 Planning.

8  
9 II. PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY AND SUMMARY

10 Q3. ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU TESTIFYING?

11 A. I am testifying on behalf of ETI.  
12

13 Q4. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY IN THIS  
14 PROCEEDING?

15 A. The purpose of my Direct Testimony is to address four issues that concern  
16 the reasonableness of the fuel and purchased power expenses that ETI  
17 incurred during the Reconciliation Period. First, I address how, under the  
18 terms of the Entergy System Agreement, the planning and operation focus  
19 is on the combined systems of the Entergy Operating Companies.  
20 Second, I review the main objective of the planning and operation of the  
21 Entergy System – that of providing reliable, economical power. Third, I  
22 explain how four key short-run planning and operations processes were

---

<sup>1</sup> "EOCs" or the "Entergy System" or "System."

1           used during the Reconciliation Period to ensure that the main objective of  
2           supplying reliable, economical power was accomplished. Fourth, I discuss  
3           the constraints that affected the Company over the Reconciliation Period.

4  
5   Q5.   HOW DOES YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY RELATE TO THE DIRECT  
6           TESTIMONY OF OTHER COMPANY WITNESSES?

7   A.   First, Company witness Michelle H. Thiry provides an overview of the  
8           System Planning and Operations department ("SPO"),<sup>2</sup> including the  
9           Energy Management Organization ("EMO"), in her Direct Testimony. In  
10          particular, Figure MHT-2 provides an overview of the ETI Fuel Acquisition  
11          and Reconciliation Process. I provide information related to the box  
12          labeled "System Dispatch/Operations Planning" in Figure MHT-2. In  
13          addition, Figure MHT-3 provides a more detailed depiction of the individual  
14          System Planning and Operations Processes. My Direct Testimony  
15          provides further detail on four of these SPO Processes that were relied on  
16          during July 1, 2011 through March 31, 2013 (the "Reconciliation Period").

17                 Second, Company witness Michael J. Goin provides an overview of  
18          the Entergy System Agreement in his Direct Testimony. I discuss certain

---

<sup>2</sup> SPO is a department within ESI tasked with: (1) the procurement of fossil fuel and purchased power, (2) the dispatch of the resources of the Entergy Operating Companies, and (3) the planning and procuring of additional resources required to provide reliable and economic electric service to the Entergy Operating Companies' customers. SPO also is responsible for carrying out the directives of the Operating Committee and the daily administration of aspects of the Entergy System Agreement not related to transmission.

1 aspects of the Entergy System Agreement that affect the four SPO  
2 Processes that are the focus of my Direct Testimony.

3 Finally, Company witnesses Gerard L. Fontenot, Robert R. Cooper,  
4 Ryan S. Trushenski, Andrew J. O'Brien, and Thiry all provide more  
5 detailed discussion of their involvement in the four SPO Processes I  
6 discuss in my Direct Testimony.

7

8 Q6. WHAT CONCLUSIONS DO YOU REACH CONCERNING THE FUEL  
9 AND ENERGY EXPENSES THAT ETI INCURRED DURING THE  
10 RECONCILIATION PERIOD?

11 A. I conclude that the four SPO Processes reasonably accomplished the  
12 System's main objective of supplying reliable, economical energy during  
13 the Reconciliation Period. I also conclude that the System operated in a  
14 reasonable manner during the Reconciliation Period resulting in a  
15 reasonable mix of fuel and purchased power for ETI.

16

17 III. ETI AND THE ENTERGY SYSTEM

18 Q7. HOW WAS THE ETI SYSTEM OPERATED DURING THE  
19 RECONCILIATION PERIOD?

20 A. The ETI system was operated as part of the overall Entergy System. The  
21 Entergy System was operated as a single, integrated electric system  
22 during the Reconciliation Period, as provided for in the Entergy System  
23 Agreement.

1 Q8. WHAT IS THE ENTERGY SYSTEM AGREEMENT?

2 A. The Entergy System Agreement is a Federal Energy Regulatory  
3 Commission ("FERC")-approved contract governing the planning and  
4 operation of the systems of the EOCs. The Entergy System Agreement  
5 and its major provisions are described in greater detail in the Direct  
6 Testimony of Company witness Goin. The entire Entergy System  
7 Agreement is included as an exhibit to his testimony.

8

9 Q9. HOW DOES THE ENTERGY SYSTEM AGREEMENT ADDRESS THE  
10 PLANNING AND OPERATION OF THE ETI SYSTEM?

11 A. The Entergy System Agreement establishes (in Sections 3.01, 3.02, 3.07,  
12 4.08 and Article VI) the basis for the operation of the facilities of the  
13 parties to the Entergy System Agreement, including those of ETI.  
14 Section 3.01 provides in part for the "...operation of the electric  
15 generation, transmission and other facilities of the [Entergy Operating]  
16 Companies in such a manner as to achieve economics consistent with the  
17 highest practicable reliability of service ...." Section 3.02 states, "It is  
18 recognized by the Companies that economies of scale and integrated  
19 operations require that the planning, construction and operation of the bulk  
20 power supply and related facilities of the Companies be on a coordinated  
21 basis." Section 3.07 provides in part, "It is recognized that reliability of  
22 service and economy of operation require that the energy supply to the  
23 system be controlled, to the extent practicable, from a centralized

1        dispatching office ....” Section 4.08 provides in part, “Under the general  
2        direction of the Operating Committee, Services [ESI] will operate a  
3        centralized operations center properly equipped and staffed to dispatch  
4        the capacity and energy capability of the Companies, in the efficient,  
5        economical, and reliable manner as provided in the Agreement.” Article VI  
6        makes specific provisions for the centralized dispatching office.

7

8        Q10. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ENTERGY OPERATING COMMITTEE AND  
9        ITS RESPONSIBILITIES.

10      A.    Article V of the Entergy System Agreement describes the composition and  
11      duties of the Operating Committee. The Operating Committee includes a  
12      representative from each Operating Company and a representative from  
13      ESI. As described in more detail in the Direct Testimony of Company  
14      witness Goin, the Operating Committee is responsible for overseeing all  
15      aspects of the planning and operation of the Entergy System.

16

17      Q11. UNDER SECTION 4.08 OF THE ENTERGY SYSTEM AGREEMENT,  
18      WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OPERATING THE GENERATION  
19      SYSTEMS OF THE EOCS, INCLUDING ETI?

20      A.    During the Reconciliation Period, the EMO was responsible for natural gas  
21      and fuel oil procurement, wholesale transactions, system dispatch, and  
22      operations planning, for the EOCs.

1 Q12. IS THE EMO RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OPERATION OF THE  
2 TRANSMISSION SYSTEM?

3 A. No. The EMO is not responsible for the operation of the Entergy  
4 transmission system. ESI has an organizational unit separate from the  
5 EMO, named "Transmission," that is responsible for the operation of the  
6 transmission system. The Entergy System separated the operation of the  
7 generation and transmission systems in response to FERC Order  
8 Nos. 888 and 889.

9  
10 Q13. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ENTERGY OPERATING SUBCOMMITTEE  
11 AND ITS RESPONSIBILITIES.

12 A. The Entergy Operating Subcommittee ("EOS"), of which I am a member,  
13 is a subcommittee of the Entergy Operating Committee. The EOS is  
14 primarily responsible for making the day-to-day operational decisions on  
15 issues that have the potential to impact the entire Entergy System.  
16 Members of the EOS represent all of the functional areas of the Entergy  
17 System involved in operations, including generation, transmission,  
18 distribution, and customer service. The EOS also includes  
19 representatives from the areas responsible for communicating with the  
20 public and with regulatory agencies.



1 Q14. DOES THE ENTERGY SYSTEM AGREEMENT ADDRESS  
2 PARTICIPATION IN THE WHOLESALE MARKET?

3 A. Yes. The Entergy System Agreement provides for participation in the  
4 wholesale electricity market in Sections 4.02; 4.03; 4.04; 4.05; 5.06 (n), (o)  
5 and (p); 6.02 (c); and in Service Schedule MSS-5.  
6

7 IV. OBJECTIVES FOR PLANNING AND OPERATING  
8 THE ENTERGY SYSTEM

9 Q15. WHAT ARE THE MAIN OBJECTIVES IN PLANNING AND OPERATING  
10 THE ENTERGY SYSTEM?

11 A. There are two major objectives in planning and operating the Entergy  
12 System: economics and reliability. These objectives are stated plainly in  
13 Section 3.01 of the Entergy System Agreement, which provides in part for  
14 the "... operation of the electric generation, transmission and other  
15 facilities of the Companies in such a manner as to achieve *economics*  
16 consistent with the highest practicable *reliability* of service." (Italics  
17 added).  
18

19 Q16. HOW DO THE JOINT OBJECTIVES IN THE ENTERGY SYSTEM  
20 AGREEMENT RELATE TO THE MINIMIZATION OF COSTS FOR ETI'S  
21 CUSTOMERS?

22 A. The Entergy System Agreement requires the minimization of costs for the  
23 System as a whole, not for an individual EOC. Furthermore, the

1 minimization of System costs must be accomplished while, at the same  
2 time, maintaining the highest practicable level of reliability of service for  
3 the entire System. Thus, there is a responsibility to both minimize System  
4 costs and maintain System reliability. Neither component can be ignored  
5 for the benefit of the other. This concept is consistent with the Fuel Rule  
6 of the Public Utility Commission of Texas, in that costs must be  
7 reasonable and necessary costs incurred to provide reliable service.

8

9 Q17. CAN YOU ILLUSTRATE HOW THESE TWO OBJECTIVES MIGHT BE IN  
10 CONFLICT?

11 A. Yes. Let me provide three examples.

12 First, consider the role of purchased power within the Entergy  
13 System. As addressed by the Direct Testimony of Company witness  
14 O'Brien, the Entergy System seeks to find purchased power that is less  
15 expensive than its own generation, but it would be a mischaracterization of  
16 the System's purchases to classify them as being solely for the reason of  
17 economics. This classification fails to consider and recognize purchases  
18 that are also made for reliability purposes. Electric utilities buy power not  
19 only because it is more economical than their own generation, but also to  
20 meet reliability needs. The electric utility industry has developed many  
21 mechanisms to facilitate reliability purchases among utilities, ranging from  
22 reserve sharing agreements to formal rate structures for emergency  
23 power. For example, the Southwest Power Pool ("SPP") Reserve Sharing

1       Group that I discuss later in my testimony is a mechanism to facilitate  
2       power purchases to meet potential reliability needs among the participants  
3       of that Group. By viewing cost minimization as the sole reason for  
4       purchases, one might incorrectly seek the disallowance of a portion of  
5       reliability power costs under the rationale that they were uneconomical.

6       Second, consider the role of unloaded capacity on the Entergy  
7       System, capacity that might be less expensive than an off-system  
8       purchase. It would be erroneous to assume that unloaded generation  
9       performs no useful function and should have been dispatched in lieu of  
10      making the off-system purchase. Reliability and operating reserves  
11      require the maintenance of unloaded capacity. Increasing generation on  
12      generating units without regard to operating reserve requirements can  
13      result in a reduction of operating reserve below acceptable limits. Thus,  
14      reliability may conflict with the least cost way of providing power.

15      Third, consider how one must take into account the reality of buying  
16      power in a market in which sellers often require advance notice, minimum  
17      take amounts, and the requirement to take delivery in both standard sizes  
18      and in standard time frames, not the hourly or even shorter increments  
19      that would be ideal. For example, the System may purchase a 16-hour  
20      block of power during the on-peak hours, which is an industry standard  
21      product, to meet the expected load during four peak hours of the day.  
22      During the peak hours, there is no unloaded generation available on the  
23      System other than operating reserve. However, during the shoulder hours

1 on either side of the peak, the System load is lower and there may actually  
2 be unloaded generation available. In this example, it is necessary for the  
3 Entergy System to make the purchase to meet System load and operating  
4 reserve requirements during peak hours. Once the purchase is  
5 scheduled, the System cannot refuse to accept or pay for the power  
6 during shoulder hours absent a breach of contract.

7

8 Q18. WHAT RESOURCES ARE USED TO ACCOMPLISH THESE  
9 OBJECTIVES?

10 A. The resources used to accomplish these objectives are:

- 11 (1) the generating units owned by or under contract to the EOCs,  
12 including the units owned in whole or part by ETI;  
13 (2) the demand-side management programs of the EOCs, including the  
14 Interruptible Service tariffs of ETI; and  
15 (3) purchases from others, such as those from wholesale market  
16 participants, including purchased power contracts of ETI.

17

18 Q19. HOW ARE THESE RESOURCES USED TO ACHIEVE THE RELIABILITY  
19 OBJECTIVE?

20 A. Generating units and purchases are supply-side resources that are used  
21 to produce power to serve the load requirements of the EOCs.  
22 Demand-side resources are load reductions or disconnections of some  
23 customer load. Demand-side resources may be applied to maintain

1 service to firm loads when supply-side resources are not available in  
2 sufficient quantity to serve all of the load requirements. By applying all  
3 three types of resources, the EMO is able to meet the reliability objective  
4 specified in the Entergy System Agreement.

5

6 Q20. HOW ARE THESE RESOURCES USED TO ACHIEVE THE ECONOMIC  
7 OBJECTIVE?

8 A. Energy from the generating units and purchases of all the EOCs is  
9 scheduled to minimize operating cost while meeting operating constraints.  
10 Demand-side resources are generally not used to minimize operating cost.  
11 The primary economic benefit of the demand-side resources is avoiding  
12 the need to acquire additional supply-side resources.

13

14 Q21. DOES THE EMO SELL POWER IN THE WHOLESALE MARKET?

15 A. Yes. The EMO, acting as agent for the EOCs, may sell power in the  
16 wholesale market that is not committed to the needs of the customers of  
17 the EOCs, or when such sales are necessary to maintain system  
18 reliability. The revenues from the sale of power are credited to fuel and  
19 purchased power expenses.

1       V.     THE PLANNING AND OPERATIONS OF THE ENTERGY SYSTEM

2                                   A.     Overview

3     Q22. HOW DOES SPO PLAN AND OPERATE THE SYSTEM TO MEET THE  
4         OBJECTIVES OF PROVIDING ECONOMIC AND RELIABLE SERVICE  
5         TO THE CUSTOMERS OF THE EOCS?

6     A.     SPO has developed several planning and operations processes that are  
7         designed to aid decision-making required to meet the objectives of  
8         providing reliable and economic service. Decisions that must be made  
9         include the acquisition of new resources, the acquisition of fuel for existing  
10        resources, the acquisition of purchased power, unit and fuel commitment  
11        for existing resources, and economic dispatch. These planning and  
12        operations processes are shown in the Direct Testimony of Company  
13        witness Thiry as Figure MHT-3. I address four of these planning and  
14        operations processes, as described below, that were used during the  
15        Reconciliation Period.

16

17     Q23. IN WHICH OF THE PLANNING AND OPERATIONS PROCESSES ARE  
18         YOU INVOLVED?

19     A.     The four planning and operations processes in which I am involved are:

- 20         (1)     the Monthly Energy Planning Process;  
21         (2)     the Weekly Procurement Process;  
22         (3)     the Next-Day Planning Process; and  
23         (4)     the Current Day Process.

1 Q24. WHAT TIME HORIZONS DO THESE FOUR PLANNING AND  
2 OPERATIONS PROCESSES COVER?

3 A. Generally, each planning and operations process focuses on a different  
4 time horizon. The planning and operations processes in which I am  
5 involved cover time horizons of less than a year. I refer to these as the  
6 "short-run planning and operations processes." A horizon of one month is  
7 used for the Monthly Energy Planning Process. A horizon of  
8 approximately ten days is used for the Weekly Planning Process. Each  
9 business day the Next-Day Planning Process is executed to develop a  
10 plan that covers the next day and several days following. The Current  
11 Day Process involves both planning for the upcoming twenty-four hour  
12 period, as well as the actual real-time operation of the System.

13

14 Q25. WHO IMPLEMENTS THE SHORT-RUN PLANNING AND OPERATIONS  
15 PROCESSES?

16 A. Highly experienced EMO employees implement the short-run planning  
17 and operations processes. Members of appropriate EMO departments  
18 participate on teams in matrix fashion. Each planning and operations  
19 process has an assigned team that executes its tasks to ensure that the  
20 results of the assigned planning and operations process are complete and  
21 accurate.

1 Q26. WHAT DO THE SHORT-RUN PLANNING AND OPERATIONS  
2 PROCESSES HAVE IN COMMON?

3 A. All of the short-run planning and operations processes use state-of-the-art  
4 mathematical models, software, and hardware. The mathematical models  
5 are implemented through a variety of software programs, including both  
6 vendor-supplied programs and in-house developed programs. The  
7 software runs on a variety of hardware, including personal computers and  
8 network servers.

9  
10 Q27. WHAT ARE THESE MATHEMATICAL MODELS?

11 A. The mathematical models that are used to aid in the planning and  
12 operations of the Entergy System are abstractions of the physical  
13 processes of the real world. The goal of the mathematical models is to  
14 represent certain essential features of the real world physical processes  
15 so that the mathematical models respond to changes in a similar way as  
16 do the real world physical processes. A mathematical model is generally  
17 not an exact replica of the real world physical process due to the  
18 complexity of the real world process. Thus, these mathematical models  
19 are useful tools so long as their limitations are recognized. Exhibit DSJ-1  
20 summarizes the models used in each of the short-run planning and  
21 operations processes.



1 Q28. IS THE USE OF THESE MATHEMATICAL MODELS REASONABLE IN  
2 THE SHORT-RUN PLANNING AND OPERATIONS PROCESSES OF  
3 THE ENTERGY SYSTEM?

4 A. Yes. Not only is it reasonable to use mathematical models in the short-run  
5 planning and operations processes of the generation system, it would be  
6 almost impossible to effectively manage the Entergy System without such  
7 models. In the normal course of planning and operating the Entergy  
8 System, numerous constraints and contingencies occur that limit flexibility  
9 and can significantly impact the reliable and economic operation of the  
10 System. Monitoring these constraints and responding to contingencies is  
11 difficult on even a simple system having a limited number of units.  
12 Mathematical models are essential to maintaining economic efficiency and  
13 reliability of the Entergy System.

14

15 Q29. WHAT ELSE DO THE SHORT-RUN PLANNING AND OPERATIONS  
16 PROCESSES HAVE IN COMMON?

17 A. The short-run planning and operations processes all address the same  
18 general problems that must be solved in any power system to achieve  
19 reliable and efficient operation, albeit at differing levels of detail and over  
20 different time horizons. To begin with, the customer load must be  
21 forecasted or calculated.

22 Another major activity involves decisions about which resources to  
23 select to serve the customer load. In particular, decisions must be made

1        regarding what mix of resources will produce the desired reliability at the  
2        lowest cost. Possible resources include nuclear, coal, gas, oil,  
3        hydroelectric, and purchased power. Once the general mix is determined,  
4        decisions must be made regarding which specific resources to utilize, and,  
5        if those resources involve purchases, from whom to buy them, when to  
6        buy them, and under what contract terms they will be bought.

7                After the energy mix problem is solved, decisions must be made to  
8        actually use the resources to serve the load. This problem, in turn,  
9        requires the solution of three other related problems. They are the Fuel  
10       Commitment Problem, the Unit Commitment Problem, and the Economic  
11       Dispatch Problem. In combination, these are very complicated problems  
12       and require state-of-the-art hardware and software to solve.

13

14    Q30. WHAT ARE THE UNIT COMMITMENT AND FUEL COMMITMENT  
15       PROBLEMS?

16    A.    The solution to the Unit Commitment Problem is the determination of  
17       which units will be made available (or "committed") to meet load and  
18       reserve requirements while meeting other operating constraints and  
19       minimizing cost. The solution to the Fuel Commitment Problem is the  
20       determination of which fuels will be burned (or "committed") at each  
21       generating unit while meeting constraints and minimizing cost. The Unit  
22       Commitment Problem and the Fuel Commitment Problem must be solved  
23       prior to the solution of the Economic Dispatch Problem because the