



Control Number: 50596



Item Number: 120

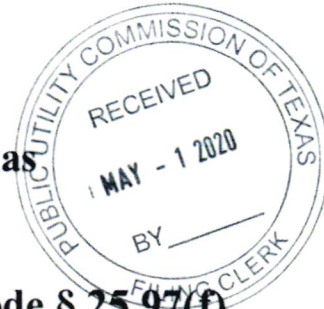
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# Public Utility Commission of Texas

## Annual Report

Required by 16 Texas Admin. Code § 25.97(f)



**PROJECT NO. 50596**

**AFFECTED ENTITY: CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC**

### General Information

Pursuant to 16 Texas Admin. Code § 25.97(f)(1), not later than May 1 of each year, each affected entity must submit this report for the preceding calendar year. The first report must be submitted not later than May 1, 2020.

### Instructions

Answer all questions, fill-in all blanks, and have the report notarized in the affidavit. If you check no in part 1.a, leave parts 1.b-d blank.

Violations resulting from, and incidents, fatalities, or injuries attributable to a violation resulting from, a natural disaster, weather event, or man-made act or force outside of an affected entity's control are not required to be reported.

### Affidavit

A representative of the affected entity must swear to and affirm the truthfulness, correctness, and completeness of the information provided by attaching a signed and notarized copy of the Affidavit provided with this form.

### Filing Instructions

Submit four copies (an original and three copies) of the completed form and signed and notarized Affidavit to:

Central Records Filing Clerk  
Public Utility Commission of Texas  
1701 N. Congress Avenue  
P.O. Box 13326  
Austin, Texas 78711-3326  
Telephone: (512) 936-7180

1201

1. This part applies only to an affected entity that owns or operates overhead transmission facilities greater than 60 kilovolts.

a) Does this part 1 apply to you? Yes  No

b) Provide the number of identified occurrences of noncompliance with Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA) § 38.004 regarding vertical clearance requirements of the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) for overhead transmission facilities.

CenterPoint Energy's (CNP) transmission facilities are constructed in full compliance with the then-current version of the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) in effect at the time of construction, which is the applicable code for purposes of determining facility compliance. However, CNP's NESC Transmission Line Clearance program evaluates vertical clearances utilizing the current version of the NESC (2017), which exceeds the requirement of Section 38.004 of the Texas Utilities Code. By using the current NESC, CNP likely identifies a higher number of potential transmission facility conflicts than it would if it evaluated each potential conflict against the NESC in effect at the time of construction.

In 2019, CNP identified 246 locations where the vertical clearance did not meet the requirements of the 2017 NESC. However, these facilities were all constructed prior to 2017, and the NESC in effect at the time of construction would need to be reviewed for each facility to determine if it, in fact, did not meet NESC requirements at the time of the inspection.

c) Do you have actual knowledge that any portion of your transmission system is not in compliance with PURA § 38.004 regarding vertical clearance of the NESC for overhead transmission facilities?

See response to Section 1b.

d) Do you have actual knowledge of any violations of easement agreements with the United States Army Corps of Engineers relating to PURA § 38.004 regarding vertical clearance requirements of the NESC for overhead transmission facilities?

CenterPoint Energy (CNP) is aware of 1 violation of easement agreements with the United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) related to vertical clearance requirements, and it is in the process of being corrected.

**2** This part applies to an affected entity that owns or operates overhead transmission facilities greater than 60 kilovolts or distribution facilities greater than 1 kilovolt.

- a) Provide the number of fatalities or injuries of individuals other than employees, contractors, or other persons qualified to work in proximity to overhead high voltage lines involving transmission or distribution assets related to noncompliance with the requirements of PURA § 38.004.

1 occurrence

b) Provide a description of corrective actions taken or planned to prevent the reoccurrence of fatalities or injuries described in subpart a), immediately above.

CNP relocated its facilities to address the clearance conflict created by a customer's construction of structures encroaching into a pre-existing CNP facilities easement.

**AFFIDAVIT**

I swear or affirm that I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this report or am relying on people with personal knowledge, that I am competent to testify to them, and that I have the authority to submit this report on behalf of the affected entity. I further swear or affirm that all statements made in this report are true, correct, and complete.

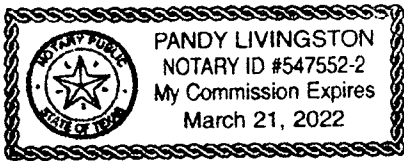
*Walter Bartel*  
Signature

Walter Bartel  
Printed Name

Director High Voltage Projects  
Job Title

CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC  
Name of Affected Entity

Sworn and subscribed before me this 1<sup>st</sup> day of MAY, 2020  
Month Year



*Pandy Livingston*  
Notary Public in and For the State of TEXAS

My commission expires on March 21, 2022