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Public Utility Commission of Texas

Annual Report

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

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PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
FILING CLERK

PROJECT NO. 51890

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

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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 version of the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) in effect at the time of their construction. 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 2017 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.

During calendar year 2020, CNP identified 115 occurrences where the vertical clearance of CNP's transmission facilities did not meet the requirements of the 2017 NESC standard but met appropriate standards when constructed.

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?

In 2020, CNP had actual knowledge of, or had otherwise identified, a total of 246 occurrences where the vertical clearance of CNP's transmission facilities did not meet the requirements of the 2017 NESC standard but met appropriate standards when constructed. That number includes 131 occurrences that were identified in CNP's previous report for 2019 plus 115 additional occurrences identified in 2020. Of the total number of occurrences, 115 have been remediated or are in the process of remediation to be aligned with the 2017 NESC vertical clearance requirements, and 131 remain to be remediated.

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) has actual knowledge of zero violation(s) of easement agreements with the United States Army Corp of Engineers occurring or outstanding in 2020 relating to PURA § 38.004 regarding vertical clearance requirements of the NESC for overhead transmission facilities.

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.

CNP had zero fatalities and zero injuries in 2020 to individuals other than employees, contractors, or 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.

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

Not applicable

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 29th day of April, 2021.
Month Year

Michael Burleson
Notary Public in and For the State of Texas.

My commission expires on 3/7/23.

