



## Filing Receipt

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**PROJECT NO. 52287**

**POWER OUTAGE ALERT  
CRITERIA**

**§ PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
§ OF TEXAS**

**COMMENTS OF SOUTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY ON NEW § 16  
TAC §25.57**

On December 17, 2021, the Public Utility Commission of Texas (“Commission”) issued for publication and public comment proposed new rule 16 Texas Administrative Code (“TAC”) §25.57 (“proposed rule”) to establish the criteria for the content, activation, and termination of regional and statewide power outage alerts as required by Tex. Gov’t. Code §411.301(b), enacted by the 87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature as Senate Bill 3. Southwestern Public Service Company (“SPS”) offers the following brief comments for the Commission’s consideration.

**I. Specific Rule Comments**

*25.57(e) POA for power regions other than ERCOT*

SPS suggests the following edits to the proposed rule language for 25.57(e)(1).

A transmission service provider in a power region other than ERCOT must notify the commission when it has received load shed instructions from the applicable reliability coordinator to shed load in Texas related to a system-wide emergency condition.

SPS suggests the following edits to the proposed rule language for 25.57(e)(3).

The transmission service provider must notify the commission when the applicable reliability coordinator has recalled the load shed instructions related to a system-wide emergency condition. The transmission service provider’s notice must include any available information regarding power outages and the expectation for power restoration within its service territory.

These modifications are in keeping with the intent of the power outage alert rule to support coordinated public alerts of outages directed by the Commission related to system-wide

emergency conditions (as per the proposed definition for system-wide in 25.57(b)(2) as well as the proposed definition for load shed instructions in 25.57(b)(1)) but excludes temporal load interruptions called for by the Reliability Coordinator to address local, operational issues that do not implicate an emergency condition.<sup>1</sup> Such localized, operational outages are very specific as to location and it is not feasible to implement any sort of public alert related to them.

## **II. Conclusion**

SPS appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on this important Commission rulemaking. SPS reserves the right to make additional comments in response to other commenters and the Commission in the course of this rulemaking project.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Mark A. Walker

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<sup>1</sup> Please also note that under existing rules significant interruptions must be reported by the utility as soon as reasonably possible to the Commission, 16 TAC §25.52(e).

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - COMMENTS OF SOUTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMPANY**

SPS respectfully makes the following recommendations:

1. Revise the proposed rule language for 25.57(e)(1) and (3) to reflect the notification regarding load shed instructions is for a system-wide event.