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March 24, 2023

Central Records
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 N. Congress Ave.
Austin, Texas 78711

Re: Project No. 53385: *Emergency Operations Plans and Related Documents*

Activation of Emergency Operations Plan

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter as a formal notice to the Commission that El Paso Electric Company ("EPE" or the "Company") has activated its Emergency Operations Plan ("EOP") and will not be performing a drill in 2023. Rule 16 TAC § 25.53(f) requires an entity to conduct or participate in at least one drill each calendar year to test its EOP. However, an entity that has activated its EOP in response to an emergency is not required to conduct or participate in a drill in the calendar year which the EOP was activated. 16 TAC § 25.53(f).

On February 26, 2023, EPE activated its EOP due to severe weather and high winds which reached speeds up to 71 miles per hour. The high wind speeds caused structural damage to electric power poles, and the Company experienced a total of nine transmission outages. In response to the emergency event, EPE activated its EOP and engaged in the procedures laid out in the Crisis Communication Plan, the Incident Management Plan, and the Emergency Plan Manual. EPE notified the Commission of outages classified as significant interruptions, and notified customers of outages through EPE's website and social media. EPE updated customers until power was fully restored. EPE identified critical load customers and the associated feeders, contacted critical load customers to inquire whether they were impacted by the outages and prioritized the restoration of service according to EPE's System Restoration Plan.

EPE's activation of the EOP on February 26, 2023, meets the annual requirement under § 25.53(f). For this reason, EPE will not be performing a drill in 2023. If you have any questions regarding the activation of the EOP, you may contact the Director of System Operations, Abel Bustillos, by phone at (915) 543-2065 or by email at abel.bustillos@epelectric.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosanna Al-Hakeem
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