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Public Utility Commission of Texas

Annual Report

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

PROJECT NO. 55983

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

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 NESC¹ (2023), which exceeds the requirement of Section 38.004 of the Texas Utilities Code. By using the current 2023 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 2023, CNP identified 216 occurrences where the vertical clearance of CNP’s transmission facilities did not meet the requirements of the 2023 NESC standard but met appropriate standards when constructed.

¹ Prior to calendar year 2023, CenterPoint Energy evaluated vertical line clearance utilizing the 2017 version of the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC).

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 2023, CNP had actual knowledge of, or had otherwise identified, a total of 728 occurrences where the vertical clearance of CNP's transmission facilities did not meet the requirements of the 2017/2023 NESC standard but met appropriate standards when constructed². That number includes 216 occurrences identified during calendar year 2023 and 512 occurrences that were identified in CNP's previous reports, 291 of which are currently in the process of remediation. To date, CNP has remediated 350 occurrences to align with the 2017 NESC vertical clearance.

² Prior to calendar year 2023, CenterPoint Energy evaluated vertical line clearance utilizing the 2017 version of the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC).

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) receives permits from the United States Army Corp of Engineers to construct facilities over navigable waters. At the time of construction, CenterPoint Energy facilities over navigable waters complied with the minimum clearance requirements stated in each relevant permit from the United States Army Corp of Engineers. Additionally, CenterPoint Energy facilities over navigable waters complied with NESC clearance standards that were applicable at the time of construction. CenterPoint Energy is aware of three portions of overhead transmission lines that no longer meet the minimum clearance requirement stated in the relevant permit from the United States Army Corp of Engineers. CenterPoint Energy is working to address the clearance issue and will coordinate remediation efforts with the United States Army Corp of Engineers.

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.

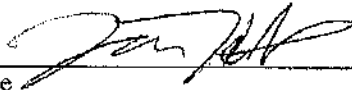
None

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.

Signature 

Jason Hulbert
Printed Name

Director Transmission Engineering
Job Title

CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC
Name of Affected Entity

Sworn and subscribed before me this 1st day of MAY 2024
Month Year

Terence Glenn Russell

Notary Public in and For the State of Texas

My commission expires on February 21, 2027

