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Control Number - 56822

Item Number - 145

PROJECT NO. 56822

INVESTIGATION OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE BY UTILITIES IN HOUSTON AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES	§ § § §	**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS**

JASPER-NEWTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.'S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO TARGETED ELECTRIC CO-OPS QUESTION NOS. STAFF 1-1 THROUGH 1-120

TO: John Lajzer, Public Utility Commission of Texas, 1701 N. Congress Ave., Austin, Texas 78711

RESPONSES

Jasper-Newton Electric Cooperative, Inc., a Texas nonprofit electric cooperative company ("*JNEC*" or "*the Cooperative*")[1] files these responses to Commission Staff's First Request for Information to Targeted Electric Co-ops, Question Nos. Staff 1-1 through 1-120 ("*Staff's First RFIs to Co-ops*" or "*RFIs*"). Commission Staff directed that responses to Staff's First RFIs to Co-ops be filed by August 30, 2024. However, the Cooperative on August 20, 2024, requested and received an extension by email from Staff for filing its responses to September 6, 2024. Thus these responses are timely filed. The Cooperative stipulates that its responses may be treated by Commission Staff or any person that may become a party in this matter as if they were filed under oath. The Cooperative reserves the right to object to the use of the information produced in any contested proceedings or at the time of any hearing as to the admissibility of the information produced.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

The Cooperative notes for the historical record that it is responding in good faith to the RFIs, even though it is the Cooperative's understanding that the Cooperative is not the primary subject of the investigation in the docket. Furthermore, the Cooperative would respectfully request

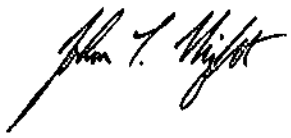
[1] Note, as a member-owned, nonprofit electric cooperative, where its members are the customers and owners, the Cooperative will refer to its "members" in its responses to Staff's RFIs regarding "customers" going forward in these responses.

that Commission Staff recognize that policy makers and legislators in recent legislative hearings have praised the response of electric cooperatives to the applicable weather events that prompted this investigation.

The Cooperative would also respectfully note that the original deadline for responding to these RFIs only provided eighteen (18) days for the Cooperative to prepare its responses.[2] Responding to this extensive set of RFIs under such a timeline, despite the positive feedback concerning the response of electric cooperatives to these weather events, has placed a significant burden on the Cooperative and its members when one considers the size of its staff and resources at its disposal. However, the Cooperative has still made a good faith effort in responding to these RFIs to assist Commission Staff with its investigation and to provide information that may aid the Commission in identifying best practices that will serve the public during future major outage events.

Dated: September 4, 2024

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTORNEYS FOR
JASPER-NEWTON COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

[2] *See* 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 22.144(c)(1)), providing 20 days to respond to a request.

STAFF 1-1

Provide the following information concerning the last hurricane or major storm drill conducted in 2024:

a. The date the drill was conducted;

b. The category of hurricane drilled and any conditions (e.g., where the hurricane made landfall, date hurricane made landfall, status of infrastructure and vegetation management activities in affected area, aid received vs aid requested from mutual assistance programs, total number of customers in anticipated affected area) used in the drill;

c. A description as to how the drill conducted in 2024 differed materially from the previous annual drill;

d. The identity of all third-party vendors that assisted in either conducting or preparations for the 2024 hurricane drill;

e. The identity of all other electric, water, sewer, or telecommunication utilities that were invited to participate in your 2024 hurricane drill and a description of their participation;

f. The identity of all local government, trade associations, medical and eldercare facilities, community organizations, PGCs, and REPs that were invited to participate in your 2024 hurricane drill and a description of their participation;

g. How performance during the 2024 hurricane drill was measured; and

h. Any feed-back whether internally or externally from a third-party vendor or party invited to participate in the 2024 hurricane drill.

RESPONSE:

a. JNEC has not yet performed a hurricane or major storm drill in 2024. However, the Cooperative experienced actual storm events that were in many ways equivalent to a hurricane beginning April 28, 2024 through June 1, 2024 with repeated storm systems with high wind gusts, record rainfalls and flooding.
b. The April 28, 2024 through June 1, 2024 events had wind gusts over 60 mph and there was damage was across the Cooperative's entire system at various time.

c.-h. N/A.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-2 Do you ever seek participation of your customers during a hurricane drill? If yes, please provide a description of their level of involvement.

RESPONSE:

No. But the Cooperative does regularly listen to any member feedback.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-3 Are actual events and conditions experienced during a previous hurricane or storm used in the next year's hurricane or major storm drill? If yes:

a. How long would an actual storm be used to set the conditions for future hurricane drills?

b. What hurricanes and major storms were used to set the conditions for the 2024 hurricane drill?

RESPONSE:

Yes.

a. Depending on the event or conditions, JNEC may implement strategic decisions based on a storm's forecasted impact on our service area. An example of this is a resource partner to house and feed workers we utilized in 2020 for Hurricane Laura.

b. Many of JNEC's workforce have encountered several hurricanes and major weather events over several decades. The most impactful events were Hurricane Rita in 2005, Hurricane Ike in 2008, Hurricane Harvey in 2017, and Hurricane Laura in 2020. These storms have set the general conditions and standards for JNEC's preparation and restoration of power after hurricanes and major storms.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-4 Please identify any electric, water, sewer, or telecommunication utilities that invited you to participate in their 2024 hurricane or major storm drill.

RESPONSE:

None.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-5 Please identify all resources, internal or external, used for weather or storm tracking purposes before July 8, 2024.

RESPONSE:

JNEC utilizes multiple weather services for forecasting weather and tracking storms: the National Weather Service, the National Hurricane Center, Storm Geo, the Texas Department of Emergency Management, and local media outlets weather forecasts.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-6 How many days before projected landfall do you start tracking storms that could affect or disrupt operations within your service area?

RESPONSE:

JNEC monitors the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico throughout hurricane season. If a storm is projected to enter the Gulf of Mexico or may develop inside it, it is monitored until it makes landfall, which can be several days before.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-7 How many days before projected landfall did you start tracking the storm eventually named Hurricane Beryl?

RESPONSE:

JNEC began tracking Hurricane Beryl on Friday, June 28, 2024.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-8 Do you check the functionality or performance of your outage tracker as part of your regular storm preparation procedures?

RESPONSE:

JNEC's internal outage tracker is updated and reviewed regularly.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-9 How far in advance of landfall did you initiate requests for mutual assistance?

RESPONSE:

JNEC communicated with contractors on Wednesday, July 3, 2024, and Sunday, July 7, 2024, to ensure crews were available for restoration. JNEC requested mutual assistance on the morning of Monday, July 8, 2024, as Hurricane Beryl made landfall. JNEC also utilized in-house line workers and two in-house line contractors.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-10 Provide information as to how restoration efforts are prioritized, and resources are allocated following a hurricane or major storm. For purposes of this question, please provide how these prioritizations and allocation guidelines were used in practice during your response to Hurricane Beryl.

RESPONSE:

JNEC prioritizes restoration by restoring transmission lines, substations, and three-phase distribution circuits. In most cases, JNEC assigns separate crews to transmission and distribution restoration. Our goal is to restore power to the largest number of meters. However, JNEC also considers critical load facilities when deploying crews and resources.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-11 Describe the procedures during an emergency for handling complaints and for communicating with the public; the media; customers; the commission; the Office of Public Utility Counsel (OPUC); local and state governmental entities, officials, and emergency operations centers, the reliability coordinator for your Company's power region; and critical load customers directly served by the entity.

RESPONSE:

In the event of a complaint during an emergency, the JNEC telephone system is staffed by a representative who will respond or direct the complaint to the appropriate person. The appropriate person will contact the person or entity responsible for the complaint in a timely manner.

JNEC communicates emergency information to members through the Cooperative's social media, website, automated phone system, and call agents.

JNEC has established communication with state and local officials, along with our state association, Texas Electric Cooperatives ("*TEC*"), to ensure a communication channel is available if concerns or complaints need to be delivered to us.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-12 Does your company use an operating condition system? If yes, define each level of the operating condition system and actions taken at each level. Please include citations to the relevant section(s) of your EOP filed with the PUCT when answering this question.

RESPONSE:

Not available.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-13 Explain the system and tools used to manage all emergency response assignments. Your response should include management of mutual assistance and contract personnel and consider needed food and lodging facilities.

RESPONSE:

JNEC utilizes the Cooperative's Emergency Operation Plan to identify employee roles when managing a response to emergencies. Various tools may be used during a power restoration event, including but not limited to email, phones, spreadsheets, and weather forecasting software.

Once it's determined that mutual assistance is required, management will request mutual assistance through email or phone. Mutual assistance and contractor crews are briefed and assigned a Cooperative representative before working on JNEC's system. In the briefing process, crews are assigned to food and lodging facilities. If these facilities have not been established, management will assign the crews, and the Cooperative representative assigned will communicate this information to the crews. The Cooperative representative will communicate with the crews through radio and mobile phone.

JNEC coordinates food and lodging facilities through email, phone, and spreadsheets to inform the facilities what crews will use their resources.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-14 How far in advance of the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl did you initiate emergency preparations? Describe the timeframes for the preparation work in anticipation of emergency operations plan activation. Please include citations to the relevant section(s) of your EOP filed with the PUCT when answering this question.

RESPONSE:

May 2024 Derecho: JNEC received weather updates related to the potential threat of severe weather for May 16, 2024. In-house line contractors and JNEC workers worked to restore power to outages. JNEC requested mutual aid assistance on May 17, 2024, and aid arrived on May 17, 2024. JNEC procured 14 hotel rooms for mutual assistance crews.

Hurricane Beryl: JNEC initiated emergency preparations beginning on Wednesday, July 3, 2024, due to the July 4th holiday. Management discussed communication with employees, reminded them that management was monitoring Hurricane Beryl, and informed them to be prepared if requested to work. JNEC also contacted a line contractor and a mutual aid partner for food and lodging workers to ensure their services were available.

On Sunday, July 7, 2024, JNEC procured ten hotel rooms for housing outside contractors and electric cooperatives. Monday, July 8, 2024, JNEC requested mutual aid assistance. All mutual assistance crews were onsite on Tuesday, May 9, 2024. An additional 23 hotel rooms were procured to lodge workers.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-15 Please provide a timeline of your Company's response to the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl.

RESPONSE:

May 2024 Derecho

Thursday, May 16, 2024: JNEC's electric system began experiencing power outages in the afternoon to evening hours. Crews began assessing and restoring power immediately after the outages occurred throughout the night. The storm caused widespread power outages across JNEC's system, affecting approximately 11,034 meters. JNEC crews restored power to 2,143 meters by approximately 10 p.m. that night.

Friday, May 17, 2024: Through mutual assistance, additional crews from six electric cooperatives assisted JNEC, along with two in-house line contractor crews and two additional line contractor crews, in restoring power to more than 10,196 meters. Another round of severe weather moved across JNEC's service area in the evening causing minor damage to our distribution system, making it challenging to maintain the progress for the day. At the end of the day, 838 meters remained without power.

Saturday, May 18, 2024: The JNEC restoration team restored the remaining 838 meters of power outages by 7:30 p.m. The remaining power outages were associated with tornadic and straight-line winds from the weather event in the South Jasper and Newton County areas on Thursday, May 16, 2024.

Hurricane Beryl

Monday, July 8, 2024: JNEC began experiencing power outages at approximately 7 a.m. in the southern portion of our service area near Deweyville, Texas. Outages were not significant until approximately 11 a.m., when an EF-2 tornado touched down Southwest of Jasper, Texas. According to the National Weather Service, this tornado had a maximum width of 400 yards, a path of almost nine miles, and estimated peak winds of 115 mph. JNEC estimates that this one tornado impacted approximately 2,000 meters. Throughout the day, JNEC continued receiving tornado warnings for areas within our service territory.

By the end of July 8, Hurricane Beryl and the tornadoes generated by Beryl caused power outages to 15,242 meters on JNEC's system. Power outages were scattered throughout JNEC's service territory. Most of the damage was in Jasper County, where multiple tornado warnings were issued. The largest number of meters without power at one time was approximately 10,000. Crews restored more than 9,227 meters on Monday, July 8th. There remained 6,015 meters without power.

Tuesday, July 9, 2024: Ten additional crews arrived throughout the day to assist JNEC in our restoration efforts. The additional cooperatives and contractors increased JNEC's line workers from 63 to 115. On day two, crews restored 4,440 meters. At the end of the day, 1,575 meters remained without power.

Wednesday, July 10, 2024: JNEC restoration crews restored power to 994 meters. The remaining outages were primarily where the EF-2 tornado damaged our distribution system west of Jasper. At the end of the day, 581 meters remained without power.

Thursday, July 11, 2024: Crews restored the remaining outages associated with Hurricane Beryl that afternoon.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-16 Please detail the extent and duration of outages experienced by your customers during and in the aftermath of the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl. Include the total number of customers affected; minimum, maximum, and average hours of service interruptions; and maximum and average time to service restoration in your response.

RESPONSE:

See Attachment A – Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl

			OUTAGES DERECHO					OUTAGES BERYL								
SUBSTATION	FEEDER	POLE TYPE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	CAUSE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	BROKEN POLE %	CAUSE	POLE COUNT	YEAR INSPECTED	YEAR TRIMMED
BONWIER (14.4kV)	BW 200F	Wood	7	66	1412G	2	TREE/WIND	G	2	968	1	0.227790433	TREE/WIND	439	2013	2020
	BW 200N	Wood	13	9	7658			10	4	324				1477	2013	2020
	BW 236	Wood	12	14	2870			7	21	4274				884	2015	2020
BUNA (7.2 kV)	B 100	Wood	9	1	96	1	TREE/WIND	10	54	18360				1176	2014	2022
	B 200	Wood	0					G	599	51853				799	2014	2023
	B 300	Wood	10	337	130952	5	TREE/WIND	7	591	20224				1459	2014	2019
	B 500	Wood	10	149	60653			1	1	211				1014	2014	2019
NORTH BUNA (7.2 kV)	NB 100N	Wood	10	190	41384			8	13	3485				1188	2019	2021/22
	NB 100S	Wood	3			2	TREE/WIND	5	42	7060				812	2020	2022
	NB 112	Wood	6	16	9657	1	TREE/WIND							1078	2015	2023
	NB 117	Wood	13	113	84412	1	TREE/WIND	15	345	40568	1	0.087719298	TREE/WIND	1140	2015	2023
	NB 301	Wood	7	14	2436			2	2	1618				292	2014	2022
CALL (7.2 kV)	C 310	Wood	19	272	83020	1	TREE/WIND	18	1200	202320				1695	2022	2018
	C 400	Wood	9	358	85719			12	842	2058873				1165	2022	2018
	C 800	Wood	0					11	563	48054				1141	2022	2022
	C 900	Wood	0					13	700	169178				1495	2022	2021
DEWEYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D 100	Wood	5	203	33894			15	447	69468				913	2021	2021
	D 600	Wood	3					14	733	246203				858	2021	2024
N DEWEYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D 200	Wood	0					5	2	148				448	2021	2024
	D 400	Wood	5											603	2021	2024
	D 700	Wood	3	3	555			11	674	243369				1140	2021	2019
EVADALE (7.2 kV)	E 100	Wood	6	130	5077			5	710	149237				575	2016	2023
	E 130N	Wood	7	179	83686	2	TREE/WIND	7	236	46605				486	2016	2020
	E 130S	Wood	2	1	219			2	1	228				259	2016	2019
	E 302	Wood	10	179	44006			7	580	135786				1180	2016	2018
HOLLY (7.2 kV)	H 100	Wood	11	64	37744	3	TREE/WIND	9	4	538				1694	2018	2023
	H 600	Wood	4	16	1466			2	148	66896	1	0.160256641	TREE/WIND	624	2015	2018
JASPER (7.2 kV)	J 500	Wood	0					3	6	1164				138		2022
	J 600	Wood	4	1	354	1	TREE/WIND	19	156	39218	28	9.824561404	TREE/WIND	285	2017	2022
	J 950	Wood	2	41	3671			14	131	20443	5	0.481231954	TREE/WIND	1039	2019	2023
NJASPER (14.4kV)	NJ 100	Wood	10	208	21858	1	TREE/WIND	16	214	73442				1519	2018	2019/20
	T1	Wood	0					2	159	47064				375	2020	2021
	T2	Wood	2											79	2020	
KIRBYVILLE (7.2 kV)	K 100	Wood	2					5	8	2781				551	2020	
	K 101	Wood	W/K200											106	2020	
	K 200	Wood	6	7	763			2	457	100540	1	0.089285714	TREE/WIND	1120	2015	2024
	K 500	Wood	2	2	78			2	3	510				567	2017	2021
	K 700	Wood	8	266	35362			16	20	2674				1170	2015	2024
	K 900	Wood	0					4	18	7449				665	2019	2022
MCGEE (7.2 kV)	M 100	Wood	0											284	2017	2019
	M 600	Wood	11	191	46914			21	194	67084	1	0.084033613	TREE/WIND	1190	2016	2024
	M 700N	Wood	10	1056	188706			9	774	226344				1761	2017	2023
	M 700S	Wood	4	204	63371	1	TREE/WIND	7	75	20133	1	0.154559505	TREE/WIND	647		2020
	M 710	Wood	4	1	548			6	1	15				492		
NEWTON (7.2 kV)	N 100	Wood	7					5	1	101				1291	2017	2024
	N 200S	Wood	6	275	63076			8	1	800				1306	2015	2024
	N 900	Wood	5	86	37507	1	TREE/WIND	11	83	35033				1185	2019	2018
PEACHTREE (7.2 kV)	P 500	Wood	0					4	1	93				347	2020	2022
	P 506	Wood	0											156		2022
	P 600N	Wood	2	37	4292			12	145	54354				755	2010	2018
	P 600S	Wood	6	513	71613			25	575	188200	1	0.086956522	TREE/WIND	1150	2010	2022
	P 660	Wood	2	12	2200			15	178	21479	2	0.366300366	TREE/WIND	546		2022
	PR 100	Wood	0											54		2022
TENMILE (7.2 kV)	TM 500N	Wood	1					2	1	30				167	2021	2022
	TM 500S	Wood	4					6	261	56814				522	2021	2020
	TM 600	Wood	0											121	2021	
	TM 700N	Wood	5	4	512			7	30	5130	1	0.177619893	TREE/WIND	563	2020	
	TM 700S	Wood	3					12	704	64568				1265	2020	2021
UNION (7.2 kV)	U 800N	Wood	4	147	32415			8	1	500				807	2017	2023
	U 800S	Wood	0											525	2017	2023
	U 815	Wood	4	138	10656			6	195	39975				788	2017	2023
	U 900	Wood	4	22	1565									1707	2019	2022
								6	82	46817						
ZAVALLA (14.4 kV)	Z900	Wood	4	148	29501	2	TREE/WIND	9	741	452078	1	0.085616438	TREE/WIND	1168	2016	2022
				5673					13719		44			51719		

STAFF 1-17 Provide the following information concerning your service territory:

a. Identify the geographic areas that experienced the highest number of outages and longest duration of outage due to the May 2024 Derecho. Your response should identify the neighborhood, city, zip code, and county if possible.

b. Identify the geographic areas that experienced the highest number of outages and longest duration of outage due to the Hurricane Beryl. Your response should identify the neighborhood, city, zip code, and county if possible.

c. Identify or describe the factors that contributed to the areas identified in response to subparts (a) and (b) as being particularly vulnerable.

RESPONSE:

a. May 2024 Derecho

Although much of JNEC's electric system experienced widespread power outages for significant periods of time, the areas with the highest outages and longest duration were in South Jasper and Newton Counties. These areas are Jasper County: Buna (77612) and Gist (77612) and Newton County: Devils Pocket (75933). Local media and elected officials reported that some believe tornadic activity could have damaged these areas.

b. Hurricane Beryl

Hurricane Beryl caused widespread significant damage to the JNEC electric system. The areas with the highest outages and longest duration were in Jasper County: Beech Grove (75951), Jasper (75951), Peachtree (75951), and Curtis Community (75951). According to the National Weather Service, an EF-2 tornado damaged these areas on Monday, July 11, 2024.

c. In both Derecho and Beryl, most of the extensive damage to JNEC's electric system was caused by high straight-line winds, tornadic activity, flooding, and lightning.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-18 Describe any challenges in restoring operations your Company encountered due to the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl.

RESPONSE:

JNEC is unaware of any challenges in restoring the operations of the Cooperative.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-19 Please provide a copy of the after-action reports or provide a date by when the action reports will be completed for the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl.

RESPONSE:

See Attachment B – JNEC After-Action Plan for Hurricane Beryl.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

Jasper-Newton Electric Cooperative

After-Action Plan: Hurricane Beryl

Objective:

- To review and analyze the outcomes of Hurricane Beryl and identify areas for improvement.

Participants:

- Mark Tamplin, Aaron Crawford, Joey Davis, John Hancock, Clark Martindale, Greg Howard, Jeff Porterfield, Shelley Powell, Penny Berryman, Angela Smith, Tina Helm, James Busby, Angie Hunt, Drew Hazlewood, Bryan Salinas, and Denton Holloway.

Timeline:

- August 13, 2024
- 9 AM – 10:20 AM

Analysis:

1. **Successes:**
    - No injuries were reported during the restoration event.
    - Procuring lodging before Beryl made landfall.
    - Confirming line contractor assistance before Beryl made landfall.
    - Mutual aid assistance request.
    - Coordinating crews.
    - Documentation in the field.
    - Communication among Cooperative employees to provide information to members.
2. **Challenges:**
    - Truck radios
    - Phone system
3. **Lessons Learned:**

- Document key takeaways from the analysis.
    - Assign gas pump numbers to each mutual assistance crew. Not by cooperative.

Action Items:

- Develop specific, actionable steps to address the identified issues and improve future performance.
    - The new phone will be installed on Wednesday, August 14, 2024.
    - A new radio communication system is scheduled to be installed by the end of 2024.

STAFF 1-20 Please provide any additional information and describe any concerns that may be helpful to this investigation.

RESPONSE:

JNEC does not have additional information to provide.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

Electric Utilities Communication and Coordination

STAFF 1-21 Provide the following information concerning the communication strategy and policy in place before July 8, 2024:

a. What consideration is given to local governments, community organizations, and other electric, water, sewer, and telecommunication utilities concerning your communication strategy after a hurricane or major storm in your service territory?

b. Describe any augmentation to staffing at call centers or help desks that would occur in advance of or after a hurricane or major storm entered your service territory.

c. For transmission and distribution utilities, please describe how your company coordinates communication to end-use customers with retail electric providers.

RESPONSE:

a. JNEC communicates with our membership and local officials throughout the year. The mediums used to communicate with our membership are monthly newsletters, magazines, our website, social media, and local media. Members may also contact the Cooperative by phone or email to request or receive information related to the Cooperative.

b. JNEC utilizes a call center of on-site employees and an automated phone system to manage calls before and after a hurricane or storm enters our service area. When an event such as a hurricane occurs, JNEC may alter an employee's role to assist in the call center if the need arises. However, JNEC has found that proactively disseminating information to our membership before and after a hurricane may reduce the call volume. JNEC's automated phone system can manage multiple calls to assist our membership.

c. Not applicable.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-22 Describe your communication strategy with the public before, during, and after the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl and by what means these communications were conducted.

RESPONSE:

JNEC communicates with members through a monthly newsletter, magazine, website, and social media throughout the year about storm preparedness, steps to restoring power, and weather-related events.

May 2024 Derecho: On Thursday, May 16, 2024, JNEC published updates from the National Weather Service regarding the potential weather threat. After the storm caused widespread power outages, JNEC updated our members through social media and our call center. Once the weather began causing power outages to the service area, the call center was available to our members throughout our restoration. Social media updates were published for members to receive.

Hurricane Beryl: JNEC began publishing information about Hurricane Beryl on Wednesday, July 3, 2024, asking members to remain vigilant of Beryl with hurricane safety tips. JNEC also spoke with local radio officials multiple times the weekend before Hurricane Beryl made landfall. Once Beryl made landfall, JNEC published social media updates on damages, how to stay safe, and restoration progress. JNEC continued communicating with local radio and news stations to provide information related to restoration. JNEC's call center was available to our members throughout our restoration.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-23 Please provide any available data regarding customer feedback you received in response to your service restoration efforts during and in the aftermath of Hurricane Beryl.

RESPONSE:

None.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-24 What steps are being taken to improve coordination and communication with local governments, medical and eldercare facilities, community organizations, trade associations, and other similar organizations for future significant weather events?

RESPONSE:

JNEC is evaluating how to improve coordination and communication with these organizations. One recent improvement was the implementation of a new phone system.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-25 What steps are being taken to improve coordination and communication with other electric, water, sewer, and telecommunication utilities for future significant weather events?

RESPONSE:

JNEC is exploring other communication mediums with all our members. This will include priority accounts, such as the groups mentioned above.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-26 Provide the following information concerning call centers and help desks used by your company before July 8, 2024:

a. How many people work in call centers or help desks?

b. Of these people, please provide the percentage of these employees that are full-time employees (FTE), contracted labor, or temporary/seasonal workers.

c. What is the target wait time or response time for calls?

d. What is the target resolution time for calls?

e. Provide a detailed description of company-specific training provided to call center and help desk operators concerning major outages and major weather events including, but not limited to, hurricanes and high wind events.

f. What is the maximum call volume for the call centers of help desks that were available and in operation during or in the aftermath of Hurricane Beryl?

RESPONSE:

a. JNEC employs 16 agents who can manage calls. This number can be increased by adding additional JNEC employees to the call center. In addition, JNEC utilizes an IVR system to allow members to report power outages or obtain information about their accounts. This system can receive multiple calls at one time.

b. All call center employees are full-time.

c. JNEC's goal is for our members to wait no more than one or two minutes. However, during major power outages such as May 2024 or Hurricane Beryl, wait times can increase by several minutes. Members can contact our automated phone system to report power outages or obtain information.

d. JNEC's target resolution time is five to seven minutes.

e. All member service representatives (call center) receive a training manual on JNEC's practices and policies, which address several duties. The section on power outages discusses steps to restore power, generator safety, power line safety, reporting a member's power outage, entering specific comments related to a member's power outage, essential numbers and phone extensions, and other resources. In addition, member service representatives receive updates on restoration progress throughout the event. Representatives also receive training and assistance from other experienced representatives.

f. The reporting software for JNEC's phone system did not provide this information. JNEC installed a new phone system in August 2024 with these reporting features.

SPONSOR: Joey Davis

STAFF 1-27 Provide the daily average and peak call volume to your call centers or help desks during or in the aftermath of Hurricane Beryl. For purposes of this question, please provide responses for each day from July 8, 2024, through the date power was restored to at least 99% of the customers in the service territory in the Impacted Area.

RESPONSE:

Not available.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-28 Describe how you communicated and shared information on recovery resources and updates with local and state leaders as well as your customers during leading up to, during, and in the aftermath of Hurricane Beryl.

RESPONSE:

Local and State Leaders: JNEC communicated with local and state leaders through phone calls, emails, and text messages. Because JNEC communicated through social media and local news outlets, I'm confident some officials received communication from this source.

Members: JNEC communicated with our members through social media, phone calls, emails, and local media outlets.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-29 Please indicate whether calls incoming to your call centers, help desks, or priority call desks are recorded, and if so, provide your retention schedule for the captured calls.

RESPONSE:

Not available.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-30 If calls incoming to your priority call desks are not recorded, please indicate if incoming calls are logged or otherwise tracked. If tracked or logged, please provide a copy of all logged or otherwise tracked calls to the priority call desk during or in the aftermath of Hurricane Beryl.

RESPONSE:

The Cooperative does not have a "priority call desk", nor does it track "priority calls". Calls that concern Service which is critical to the recovery and restoration efforts after an event are generally escalated to appropriate management and dealt with on a case-by-case basis to resolve.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-31 Please provide an audio copy and transcript of any pre-recorded messages related to either the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl used by your call centers or help desks and the date these messages were utilized.

RESPONSE:

Not available.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-32 Provide the following information concerning the outage tracker in use on July 8, 2024:

a. The date the outage tracker was rolled out to customers.

b. The last date the software underpinning the outage tracker was updated.

c. whether the outage tracker was functioning during the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl as intended or provide an explanation as to why not.

d. Whether the outage tracker was mobile-friendly;

e. the languages supported by the outage tracker;

f. Whether the outage tracker captured circuit-specific or meter-specific information or both.

g. Whether the outage tracker was cloud-based or operated through an on-premise server?

h. The maximum number of simultaneous users the outage tracker was designed to accommodate.

i. Whether you had internal facing redundancies/contingencies for outage tracking, and if so if these redundancies/contingencies were utilized during your response to Hurricane Beryl.

j. The date of the last stress or load test of the outage tracker.

RESPONSE:

JNEC did not provide a public outage tracker during May 2024 or Hurricane Beryl. We hope to have this feature available by the end of 2024.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-33 Provide daily total and peak numbers of users accessing your outage tracker in the greater Houston area during each day of the May 2024 Derecho event.

RESPONSE:

Not applicable.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-34 Provide the daily total and peak number of users accessing your outage tracker in the Impacted Area starting from July 8, 2024 through the date service was restored to 100% of your service territory.

RESPONSE:

Not applicable.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-35 Describe any processes or policies adopted by your company as contingencies to inform customers about service outages and estimated restoration times in the event the outage tracker is offline.

RESPONSE:

JNEC utilized social media and other mediums to update our members about power outages. On Tuesday, July 9, 2024, JNEC published on its social media page that members in the hardest-hit areas may remain without power for approximately 48 hours.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-36 Please indicate if the processes or policies described in your response to Staff 1-35 were utilized during either the May 2024 Derecho event or in the aftermath of Hurricane Beryl. If they were, please identify the dates the identified processes and policies were activated.

RESPONSE:

JNEC utilized social media and other mediums to update our members about power outages. On Tuesday, July 9, 2024, JNEC published on its social media page that members in the hardest-hit areas may remain without power for approximately 48 hours.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-37 Please provide a breakdown of smart meters currently in service for each county in your service territory that was included within the Impacted Area. In providing a response to this question, please provide both raw numbers and answers as a percentage of total customers in each county.

RESPONSE:

Breakdown by County for Hurricane Beryl

Angelina – 1,353 (92% out)
Jasper – 8,078 (53% out)
Newton – 4,725 (80% out)
Orange – 882 (95% out)
Sabine – 23 (100% out)

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-38 Provide the date and method (e.g., email, phone call, text message) you initially contacted local governments in the Impacted Area.

RESPONSE:

May 2024 Derecho: JNEC emailed local governments on Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 10:12 p.m.

Hurricane Beryl: JNEC emailed local governments on Monday, July 8, 2024, at 3:26 p.m.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-39 Describe what processes, if any, you had in place on or before July 8, 2024, to contact medical and eldercare facilities or critical infrastructure (e.g., police stations, firehouses, TV stations) in advance of a hurricane or major storm. Please include citations to the relevant section(s) of your EOP filed with the PUCT when answering this question.

RESPONSE:

JNEC communicates with members about hurricane preparedness on our website and sends hurricane preparedness notices through our monthly newsletter during hurricane season. JNEC also communicated to our members through social media prior to Berly making landfall. Additionally, JNEC communicated with a local radio station. [1]A JNEC representative is available by phone 24 hours a day.

[1] Critical Load Consumers: When telephone service is not available, the cooperative will attempt to notify critical loads either before or at the onset of an emergency through digital communication announcements, working with law enforcement officers and utility personnel in the field. (*JNEC Emergency Operations Plan*, 2022 at 32).

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-40 If your company has a process to contact critical care facilities, provide the date and method (e.g., email, phone call, text message) you initially contacted medical facilities, eldercare facilities, or critical infrastructure (e.g., police stations, firehouses, TV stations) in advance of Hurricane Beryl.

RESPONSE:

Not available.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-41 Please describe how you communicate and with what frequency you communicate with critical care and at-risk customers about service outages and restoration efforts.

RESPONSE:

JNEC communicates with all members through social media, email, phone, and local media outlets. During a major storm or hurricane, JNEC's call centers are staffed throughout the event to provide information to members.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-42 For ERCOT-located utilities, please describe any communication with interconnected power generation companies regarding their operational status during Hurricane Beryl.

RESPONSE:

Not applicable.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

Electric Utilities – Customer Restoration Workflow

STAFF 1-43 Please state whether you have a service restoration plan regarding service outages caused by extreme or emergency weather events. If you do, please provide a copy of that plan(s). Please include citations to the relevant section(s) of your EOP filed with the PUCT when answering this question.

RESPONSE:

JNEC does have a service restoration plan.

JNEC redacted this section of the EOP submitted to the PUC when we were allowed to redact sensitive information; but the Cooperative follows pages 7- 75 of its EOP.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-44 Please describe the procedures followed for customer restoration of service, including prioritization criteria and timelines for restoration or service. Please note if these policies may lead to quicker restoration of service for an area of your service territory relative to the others and why.

RESPONSE:

JNEC prioritizes restoration by restoring transmission lines, substations, and three-phase distribution circuits. In most cases, JNEC assigns separate crews to transmission and distribution restoration. Our goal is to restore power to the largest number of meters. JNEC also considers critical load facilities when deploying crews and resources.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-45 Please describe and explain any changes or modifications made to your service restoration plan(s) during and in the aftermath of the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl.

RESPONSE:

JNEC is still assessing and will adjust accordingly, as may be needed.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-46 Please provide a county-by-county summary of date on which and number of damage assessment, vegetation, and linemen crews that you deployed to assess and begin service restoration efforts after Hurricane Beryl made landfall in the Impacted Area.

RESPONSE:

Monday, July 8, 2024
Angelina County – 2
Jasper County – 40
Newton County – 7
Orange County – 2

Tuesday, July 9, 2024
Angelina County – 13
Jasper County – 91
Newton County – 16
Orange County – 9

Wednesday, July 10, 2024
Angelina County – 10
Jasper County – 93
Newton County – 21
Orange County – 9

Thursday, July 11, 2024
Jasper County – 103
Newton County – 5

Crews deployed can assess damage, remove vegetation, and restore power. These numbers are approximate because crews working restoring power in one county may restore power to meters in another.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-47 Please provide a county-by-county summary of the percentage of your customers that did not have service due to outages caused by Hurricane Beryl for each day from the day Hurricane Beryl made landfall in the Impacted Area to when service was fully restored to your customers.

RESPONSE:

July 8, 2024

Breakdown by County

Angelina – 1,353 (92%)
Jasper – 8,078 (53%)
Newton – 4,725 (80%)
Orange – 882 (95%)
Sabine – 23 (100%)

July 9, 2024

Breakdown by County

Angelina – 51 (3% out)
Jasper – 1,162 (8% out)
Newton – 186 (3% out)
Orange – 119 (13% out)

July 10, 2024

Breakdown by County

Jasper – 569 (4% out)
Newton – 12 (<1% out)

July 11, 2024

All meters that were able to receive power were restored by 9 p.m.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-48 Please describe how calls received by your call centers during and after Hurricane Beryl were incorporated in your service restoration workflow and processes.

RESPONSE:

Once a call is received, member service representatives determine whether the caller is reporting an outage and/or providing additional information about their outage. Members can also report an outage through JNEC's automated phone system.

If the caller reports a power outage, the representative will provide pertinent information about the outage. This information will be recorded in JNEC's outage management system, which will alert dispatchers and place it into JNEC's restoration workflow.

If the caller is providing new or additional information, the representative will note the new or additional information related to the outage in the outage management system to alert dispatchers of this information to assist in the restoration process.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-49 Please describe your coordination efforts with local, state, and federal agencies, as well as any other stakeholders regarding service restoration before, during, and after Hurricane Beryl. Please provide details of any formal agreements or understandings with these parties.

RESPONSE:

JNEC participates in the National Weather Service conference calls, Texas Department of Emergency Management bulletins, and County Emergency Management Meetings prior to, during, and after natural disaster events.

JNEC communicated with local, state, and federal representatives during Hurricane Beryl to provide updates on its progress. JNEC also updated Texas Electric Cooperatives, which had a representative stationed at the State Operations Center.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-50 Excluding the need to clear significant volumes of vegetation, please identify and described any major challenges you experienced during the process of restoring service to your customers before, during, and after Hurricane Beryl and any solutions implemented to address those challenges.

RESPONSE:

In addition to significant vegetation, flood waters were another challenge in some portions of JNEC's service area. As with most severe weather events, rising water poses a challenge for restoring power safely to our members.

Unfortunately, the solution to this challenge may be to wait until conditions become safe for first responders and restoration crews.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-51 Please describe any lessons learned about restoring service to customers during Hurricane Beryl and how what you learned will inform restoration efforts in the future.

RESPONSE:

Although lessons can always be learned from an event such as Hurricane Beryl, JNEC is still assessing this event.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-52 Does your utility employ the National Incident Management System? If yes, please provide the date on which your utility starting using NIMS as its framework for managing emergency event response.

RESPONSE:

Although JNEC is familiar with the National Incident Management System, it is not employed. However, we do value our partnerships with local, state, and federal stakeholders.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

STAFF 1-53 Are your emergency response personnel trained in Incident Command System processes? If not, please describe any training your emergency event management personnel have received and how they interact with local and state officials and other utilities.

RESPONSE:

A representative of JNEC who interreacts with local and state officials and other utilities does possess training in the Incident Command System.

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

Distribution Infrastructure

STAFF 1-54 Please explain your process for evaluating and replacing distribution poles. Please include an explanation for the following in your response:

a. How frequently this evaluation is conducted;

b. What criteria you utilize for this evaluation; and

c. When you decide to replace the distribution pole.

RESPONSE:

JNEC uses Osmose to test and inspect our wooden poles. They are here on an annual basis and complete the entire system in ten years. JNEC also requires linemen to inspect and sound test the pole before climbing any pole. Osmose provides a recommendation of the poles to change out due to the deterioration of the pole. Once we receive the inspection reports, we begin the process of replacing the recommended poles.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-55 Please provide your minimum required right-of-way (ROW) width for both 3-phase and single-phase distribution lines.

RESPONSE:

Both single-phase and 3-phase lines have a 20-foot ROW.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-56 Identify all feeders on your distribution system affected by Hurricane Beryl or the May 2024 Derecho and provide the following for each identified feeder in MS Excel format:

a. The quantity and percentage of each installed pole type (e.g., wood, composite, steel, concrete, other) on the feeder before Hurricane Beryl;

b. The quantity and percentage of pole failures, by pole type, due to Hurricane Beryl;

c. Identify the primary cause of failure for each pole type on the feeder (e.g., trees, branches, wind, or other);

d. Identify the primary point of failure of the poles (e.g., crossarm failure, pole leaning, pole break, or other);

e. NESC construction strength and overload factors the feeder is currently built to;

f. Identify which feeders are in your plans to rebuild to a higher wind loading standard; and

g. Provide an estimate for when identified rebuilds will commence.

RESPONSE:

a. *See* Attachment A – Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl.
b. *See* Attachment A – Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl.
c. *See* Attachment A – Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl.
d. The primary point of failure was broken poles and crossarms.
e. JNEC builds line in either B or C grade of construction for a medium loading district according to the NESC and adheres to RUS specification.
f. None.
g. Not applicable.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl

			OUTAGES DERECHO					OUTAGES BERYL								
SUBSTATION	FEEDER	POLE TYPE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	CAUSE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	BROKEN POLE %	CAUSE	POLE COUNT	YEAR INSPECTED	YEAR TRIMMED
BONWIER (14.4kV)	BW 200F	Wood	7	66	14126	2	TREE/WIND	6	2	968	1	0.227790433	TREE/WIND	439	2013	2020
	BW 200N	Wood	13	9	7658			10	4	324				1477	2013	2020
	BW 236	Wood	12	14	2870			7	21	4274				884	2015	2020
BUNA (7.2 kV)	B 100	Wood	9	1	26	1	TREE/WIND	10	54	18360				1176	2014	2022
	B 200	Wood	0					6	599	51853				799	2014	2023
	B 300	Wood	10	337	130952	5	TREE/WIND	7	591	20224				1459	2014	2019
	B 500	Wood	10	149	60653			1	1	211				1014	2014	2019
NORTH BUNA (7.2 kV)	NB 100N	Wood	10	190	41384			8	13	3485				1188	2019	2021/22
	NB 100S	Wood	3			2	TREE/WIND	5	42	7060				812	2020	2022
	NB 112	Wood	6	16	9657	1	TREE/WIND							1078	2015	2023
	NB 117	Wood	13	113	84412	1	TREE/WIND	15	345	40568	1	0.087719298	TREE/WIND	1140	2015	2023
	NB 301	Wood	7	14	2436			2	2	1618				292	2014	2022
CALL (7.2 kV)	C 310	Wood	19	272	83020	1	TREE/WIND	18	1200	202320				1695	2022	2018
	C 400	Wood	9	358	85719			12	842	2058873				1165	2022	2018
	C 800	Wood	0					11	563	48054				1141	2022	2022
	C 900	Wood	0					13	700	169178				1495	2022	2021
DEWYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D 100	Wood	5	203	33894			15	447	69468				913	2021	2021
	D 600	Wood	3					14	733	246203				858	2021	2024
N DEWEYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D 200	Wood	0					5	2	148				448	2021	2024
	D 400	Wood	5											603	2021	2024
	D 700	Wood	3	3	555			11	674	243369				1140	2021	2019
EVADALE (7.2 kV)	E 100	Wood	6	130	5077			5	710	149237				575	2016	2023
	E 130N	Wood	7	179	83686	2	TREE/WIND	7	236	46605				486	2016	2020
	E 130S	Wood	7	1	219			2	1	228				259	2016	2019
	E 302	Wood	10	179	44006			7	580	135786				1180	2016	2018
HOLLY (7.2 kV)	H 100	Wood	11	64	37744	3	TREE/WIND	9	4	538				1694	2018	2023
	H 600	Wood	4	16	1466			2	148	66896	1	0.160256641	TREE/WIND	624	2015	2018
JASPER (7.2 kV)	J 500	Wood	0					3	6	1164				138		2022
	J 600	Wood	4	1	354	1	TREE/WIND	19	156	39218	28	9.874561404	TREE/WIND	285	2017	2022
	J 950	Wood	7	41	3671			14	131	20443	5	0.481231954	TREE/WIND	1039	2019	2023
NJASPER (14.4kV)	NJ 100	Wood	10	208	21858	1	TREE/WIND	16	214	73442				1519	2018	2019/20
	T1	Wood	0					2	159	47064				375	2020	2021
	T2	Wood	2											79	2020	
KIRBYVILLE (7.2 kV)	K 100	Wood	2					5	8	2781				551	2020	
	K 101	Wood	W/K200											106	2020	
	K 200	Wood	6	7	763			2	457	100540	1	0.089285714	TREE/WIND	1120	2015	2024
	K 500	Wood	2	2	78			2	3	510				567	2017	2021
	K 700	Wood	8	266	35362			16	20	2674				1170	2015	2024
	K 900	Wood	0					4	18	7449				665	2019	2022
MCGEE (7.2 kV)	M 100	Wood	0											284	2017	2019
	M 600	Wood	11	191	46914			21	194	67084	1	0.084033613	TREE/WIND	1190	2016	2024
	M 700N	Wood	10	1056	188706			9	774	226344				1761	2017	2023
	M 700S	Wood	4	204	63371	1	TREE/WIND	7	75	20133	1	0.154559505	TREE/WIND	647		2020
	M 710	Wood	4	1	548			6	1	15				492		
NEWTON (7.2 kV)	N 100	Wood	7					5	1	101				1291	2017	2024
	N 200S	Wood	6	275	63076			8	1	800				1306	2015	2024
	N 900	Wood	5	86	37507	1	TREE/WIND	11	83	35033				1185	2019	2018
PEACHTREE (7.2 kV)	P 500	Wood	0					4	1	93				347	2020	2022
	P 506	Wood	0											156		2022
	P 600N	Wood	2	37	4292			12	145	54354				755	2010	2018
	P 600S	Wood	6	513	71613			25	575	188200	1	0.086956522	TREE/WIND	1150	2010	2022
	P 660	Wood	7	17	2200			15	178	21479	2	0.366300366	TREE/WIND	546		2022
	PR 100	Wood	0											54		2022
TENMILE (7.2 kV)	TM 500N	Wood	1					2	1	30				167	2021	2022
	TM 500S	Wood	4					6	261	56814				522	2021	2020
	TM 600	Wood	0											121	2021	
	TM 700N	Wood	5	4	512			7	30	5130	1	0.177619893	TREE/WIND	563	2020	
	TM 700S	Wood	3					12	704	64568				1265	2020	2021
UNION (7.2 kV)	U 800N	Wood	4	147	32415			8	1	500				807	2017	2023
	U 800S	Wood	0											525	2017	2023
	U 815	Wood	4	138	10656			6	195	39975				788	2017	2023
	U 900	Wood	4	22	1565									1707	2019	2022
								6	82	46817						
ZAVALLA (14.4 kV)	Z900	Wood	4	148	29501	2	TREE/WIND	9	741	452078	1	0.085616438	TREE/WIND	1168	2016	2022
				5673					13719		44			51717		

STAFF 1-57 If your distribution system includes feeders with poles taller than 60-feet above ground level, please provide the following:

a. Identify each feeder that has any number of poles meeting this criteria;

b. Explain the damage experienced on these lines due to either the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl; and

c. Explain the design criteria for these types of lines.

RESPONSE:

Not applicable.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-58 Please explain your standard for distribution pole embedment. In your response, please explain if this standard has changed in the last 10 years.

RESPONSE:

We use the formula 10% of pole length + 2 feet. We backfill it with dirt and use a hydraulic tamp. This has not changed in the past ten years.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-59 Please provide the standard distribution pole size and class for both single and three phase lines on your system within the Impacted Area.

RESPONSE:

Depending on conductor size, our standard is typically a 45-foot class 2 pole for three phases, and we typically use a 35-foot class 5 pole for single phases.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-60 Please explain the NESC construction strength and overload factors your distribution lines were built to in the past.

RESPONSE:

JNEC builds lines in either B or C grade construction for a medium-loading district according to the NESC and adheres to RUS specifications.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-61 Please explain any new NESC construction strength and overload factors you adopted for distribution lines in the last two years to improve system resiliency.

RESPONSE:

Not applicable.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-62 Please provide the following information regarding distribution feeders in the Impacted Area that did not lose power during Hurricane Beryl and the May 2024 Derecho:

a. Provide the designed criteria for these lines;

b. The type of poles installed;

c. The ROW widths;

d. Explain if these lines are designed to the latest NESC construction strength and overload factors; and

e. Explain if any distribution line experienced damage but remained standing.

RESPONSE:

a. JNEC builds line in either B or C grade of construction for a medium loading district according to the NESC and adheres to RUS specification.

b. Wood.

c. 20 foot.

d. Yes, these adhere to the latest standards.

e. We did have wire down, but the poles remained standing. We also sustained flooding in some areas.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-63 Please provide the number of distribution poles that were in service before the May 2024 Derecho. In your response, please provide quantities by pole type and NESC wind loading criteria of the pole.

RESPONSE:

JNEC uses a medium-loading district for wind loading. For pole counts and type, *see* Attachment A – Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl

			OUTAGES DERECHO					OUTAGES BERYL								
SUBSTATION	FEEDER	POLE TYPE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	CAUSE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	BROKEN POLE %	CAUSE	POLE COUNT	YEAR INSPECTED	YEAR TRIMMED
BONWIER (14.4kV)	BW200T	Wood	7	66	14126	2	TREE/WIND	6	2	968	1	0.227790433	TREE/WIND	439	2013	2020
	BW200N	Wood	13	9	7658			10	4	324				1477	2013	2020
	BW236	Wood	12	14	2870			7	21	4274				884	2015	2020
BUNA (7.2 kV)	B100	Wood	9	1	26	1	TREE/WIND	10	54	18360				1176	2014	2022
	B200	Wood	0					6	599	51853				799	2014	2023
	B300	Wood	10	337	130952	5	TREE/WIND	7	591	202214				1459	2014	2019
	B500	Wood	10	149	60653			1	1	211				1014	2014	2019
NORTH BUNA (7.2 kV)	NB100N	Wood	10	190	41384			8	13	3485				1188	2019	2021/22
	NB100S	Wood	3			2	TREE/WIND	5	42	7060				812	2020	2022
	NB112	Wood	6	16	9657	1	TREE/WIND							1078	2015	2023
	NB117	Wood	13	113	84412	1	TREE/WIND	15	345	40568	1	0.087719298	TREE/WIND	1140	2015	2023
	NB301	Wood	7	14	2436			2	2	1618				292	2014	2022
CALL (7.2 kV)	C310	Wood	19	272	83020	1	TREE/WIND	18	1200	202320				1695	2022	2018
	C400	Wood	9	358	85719			12	842	2058873				1165	2020	2018
	C800	Wood	0					11	563	48054				1141	2022	2022
	C900	Wood	0					13	700	169178				1495	2022	2021
DEWEYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D100	Wood	5	203	33894			15	447	69468				913	2021	2021
	D600	Wood	3					14	733	246203				858	2021	2024
N DEWEYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D200	Wood	0					5	2	148				448	2021	2024
	D400	Wood	5											603	2021	2024
	D700	Wood	3	3	555			11	674	243369				1140	2021	2019
EVADALE (7.2 kV)	E100	Wood	6	130	5077			5	710	149237				575	2016	2023
	E130N	Wood	7	179	83686	2	TREE/WIND	7	236	46605				486	2016	2020
	E130S	Wood	2	1	219			2	1	228				259	2016	2019
	E302	Wood	10	179	44006			7	580	135786				1180	2016	2018
HOLLY (7.2 kV)	H100	Wood	11	64	37744	3	TREE/WIND	9	4	538				1694	2018	2023
	H600	Wood	4	16	1466			2	148	66896	1	0.160256641	TREE/WIND	624	2015	2018
JASPER (7.2 kV)	J500	Wood	0					3	6	1164				138		2022
	J600	Wood	4	1	354	1	TREE/WIND	19	156	39218	28	9.824561404	TREE/WIND	285	2017	2022
	J950	Wood	2	41	3671			14	131	20443	5	0.481231954	TREE/WIND	1039	2019	2023
NJASPER (14.4kV)	NJ100	Wood	10	208	21858	1	TREE/WIND	16	214	73442				1519	2018	2019/20
	T1	Wood	0					2	159	47064				375	2020	2021
	T2	Wood	2											79	2020	
KIRBYVILLE (7.2 kV)	K100	Wood	2					5	8	2781				551	2020	
	K101	Wood	W/K200											106	2020	
	K200	Wood	6	7	763			2	457	100540	1	0.089285714	TREE/WIND	1120	2015	2024
	K500	Wood	2	2	78			2	3	510				567	2017	2021
	K700	Wood	8	266	35362			16	20	2674				1170	2015	2024
	K900	Wood	0					4	18	7449				665	2019	2022
MCGEE (7.2 kV)	M100	Wood	0											284	2017	2019
	M600	Wood	11	191	46914			21	194	67084	1	0.084033613	TREE/WIND	1190	2016	2024
	M700N	Wood	10	1056	188706			9	774	226344				1761	2017	2023
	M700S	Wood	4	204	63371	1	TREE/WIND	7	75	20133	1	0.154559505	TREE/WIND	647		2020
	M710	Wood	4	1	548			6	1	15				492		
NEWTON (7.2 kV)	N100	Wood	2					5	1	101				1291	2017	2024
	N200S	Wood	6	275	63076			8	1	800				1306	2015	2024
	N900	Wood	5	86	37507	1	TREE/WIND	11	83	35033				1185	2019	2018
PEACHTREE (7.2 kV)	P500	Wood	0					4	1	93				347	2020	2022
	P506	Wood	0											156		2022
	P600N	Wood	2	37	4292			12	145	54354				755	2010	2018
	P600S	Wood	6	513	71613			25	575	188200	1	0.086956522	TREE/WIND	1150	2010	2022
	P660	Wood	2	12	2200			15	178	21479	2	0.366300366	TREE/WIND	546		2022
	PR100	Wood	0											54		2022
TENMILE (7.2 kV)	TM500N	Wood	1					2	1	30				167	2021	2022
	TM500S	Wood	4					6	261	56814				522	2021	2020
	TM600	Wood	0											121	2021	
	TM700N	Wood	5	4	512			7	30	5130	1	0.177619893	TREE/WIND	563	2020	
	TM700S	Wood	3					12	704	64568				1265	2020	2021
UNION (7.2 kV)	U800N	Wood	4	147	32415			8	1	500				807	2017	2023
	U800S	Wood	0											525	2017	2023
	U815	Wood	4	138	10656			6	195	39975				788	2017	2023
	U900	Wood	4	22	1565									1707	2019	2022
								6	82	46817						
ZAVALLA (14.4 kV)	Z900	Wood	4	148	29501	2	TREE/WIND	9	741	452078	1	0.085616438	TREE/WIND	1168	2016	2022
				5673					13719		44			51719		

STAFF 1-64 Please provide the total number of distribution poles that failed due to the May 2024 Derecho. In your response, please provide separate quantities for each pole type and NESC wind loading criteria for the poles that failed, and separately identify the number of pole failures caused by either high wind or structural loading from vegetation or debris.

RESPONSE:

See Attachment A – Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl. JNEC uses a medium loading district for wind loading.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl

			OUTAGES DERECHO					OUTAGES BERYL								
SUBSTATION	FEEDER	POLE TYPE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	CAUSE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	BROKEN POLE %	CAUSE	POLE COUNT	YEAR INSPECTED	YEAR TRIMMED
BONWIER (14.4kV)	BW 200F	Wood	7	66	14126	2	TREE/WIND	6	2	968	1	0.227790433	TREE/WIND	439	2013	2020
	BW 200N	Wood	13	9	7658			10	4	324				1477	2013	2020
	BW 236	Wood	12	14	2870			7	21	4274				884	2015	2020
BUNA (7.2 kV)	B 100	Wood	9	1	26	1	TREE/WIND	10	54	18360				1176	2014	2022
	B 200	Wood	0					6	599	51853				799	2014	2023
	B 300	Wood	10	337	130952	5	TREE/WIND	7	591	20224				1459	2014	2019
	B 500	Wood	10	149	60653			1	1	211				1014	2014	2019
NORTH BUNA (7.2 kV)	NB 100N	Wood	10	190	41384			8	13	3485				1188	2019	2021/22
	NB 100S	Wood	3			2	TREE/WIND	5	42	7060				812	2020	2022
	NB 112	Wood	6	16	9657	1	TREE/WIND							1078	2015	2023
	NB 117	Wood	13	113	84412	1	TREE/WIND	15	345	40568	1	0.087719298	TREE/WIND	1140	2015	2023
	NB 301	Wood	7	14	2436			2	2	1618				292	2014	2022
CALL (7.2 kV)	C 310	Wood	19	272	83020	1	TREE/WIND	18	1200	202320				1695	2022	2018
	C 400	Wood	9	358	85719			12	842	2058873				1165	2020	2018
	C 800	Wood	0					11	563	48054				1141	2022	2022
	C 900	Wood	0					13	700	169178				1495	2022	2021
DEWEYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D 100	Wood	5	203	33894			15	447	69468				913	2021	2021
	D 600	Wood	3					14	733	246203				858	2021	2024
N DEWEYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D 200	Wood	0					5	2	148				448	2021	2024
	D 400	Wood	5											603	2021	2024
	D 700	Wood	3	3	555			11	674	243369				1140	2021	2019
EVADALE (7.2 kV)	E 100	Wood	6	130	5077			5	710	149237				575	2016	2023
	E 130N	Wood	7	179	83686	2	TREE/WIND	7	236	46605				486	2016	2020
	E 130S	Wood	2	1	219			2	1	228				259	2016	2019
	E 302	Wood	10	179	44006			7	580	135786				1180	2016	2018
HOLLY (7.2 kV)	H 100	Wood	11	64	37744	3	TREE/WIND	9	4	538				1694	2018	2023
	H 600	Wood	4	16	1466			2	148	66896	1	0.160256641	TREE/WIND	624	2015	2018
JASPER (7.2 kV)	J 500	Wood	0					3	6	1164				138		2022
	J 600	Wood	4	1	354	1	TREE/WIND	19	156	39218	28	9.874561404	TREE/WIND	285	2017	2022
	J 950	Wood	2	41	3671			14	131	20443	5	0.481231954	TREE/WIND	1039	2019	2023
NJASPER (14.4kV)	NJ 100	Wood	10	208	21858	1	TREE/WIND	16	214	73442				1519	2018	2019/20
	T1	Wood	0					2	159	47064				375	2020	2021
	T2	Wood	2											79	2020	
KIRBYVILLE (7.2 kV)	K 100	Wood	2					5	8	2781				551	2020	
	K 101	Wood	W/K200											106	2020	
	K 200	Wood	6	7	763			2	457	100540	1	0.089285714	TREE/WIND	1120	2015	2024
	K 500	Wood	2	2	78			2	3	510				567	2017	2021
	K 700	Wood	8	266	35362			16	20	2674				1170	2015	2024
	K 900	Wood	0					4	18	7449				665	2019	2022
MCGEE (7.2 kV)	M 100	Wood	0											284	2017	2019
	M 600	Wood	11	191	46914			21	194	67084	1	0.084033613	TREE/WIND	1190	2016	2024
	M 700N	Wood	10	1056	188706			9	774	226344				1761	2017	2023
	M 700S	Wood	4	204	63371	1	TREE/WIND	7	75	20133	1	0.154559505	TREE/WIND	647		2020
	M 710	Wood	4	1	548			6	1	15				492		
NEWTON (7.2 kV)	N 100	Wood	2					5	1	101				1291	2017	2024
	N 200S	Wood	6	275	63076			8	1	800				1306	2015	2024
	N 900	Wood	5	86	37507	1	TREE/WIND	11	83	35035				1185	2019	2018
PEACHTREE (7.2 kV)	P 500	Wood	0					4	1	93				347	2020	2022
	P 506	Wood	0											156		2022
	P 600N	Wood	2	37	4292			12	145	54354				755	2010	2018
	P 600S	Wood	6	513	71613			25	575	188200	1	0.086956522	TREE/WIND	1150	2010	2022
	P 660	Wood	2	12	2200			15	178	21479	2	0.366300366	TREE/WIND	546		2022
	PR 100	Wood	0											54		2022
TENMILE (7.2 kV)	TM 500N	Wood	1					2	1	30				167	2021	2022
	TM 500S	Wood	4					6	261	56814				522	2021	2020
	TM 600	Wood	0											121	2021	
	TM 700N	Wood	5	4	512			7	30	5130	1	0.177619893	TREE/WIND	563	2020	
	TM 700S	Wood	3					12	704	64568				1265	2020	2021
UNION (7.2 kV)	U 800N	Wood	4	147	32415			8	1	500				807	2017	2023
	U 800S	Wood	0											525	2017	2023
	U 815	Wood	4	138	10656			6	195	39975				788	2017	2023
	U 900	Wood	4	22	1565									1707	2019	2022
								6	82	46817						
ZAVALLA (14.4 kV)	Z900	Wood	4	148	29501	2	TREE/WIND	9	741	452078	1	0.085616438	TREE/WIND	1168	2016	2022
				5673					13719		44			51717		

STAFF 1-65 Please provide the total number of distribution poles that failed due to Hurricane Beryl. In your response, please provide separate quantities for each pole type and NESC wind loading criteria for the poles that failed, and separately identify the number of pole failures caused by either high wind or structural loading from vegetation or debris.

RESPONSE:

See Attachment A – Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl

			OUTAGES DERECHO					OUTAGES BERYL								
SUBSTATION	FEEDER	POLE TYPE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	CAUSE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	BROKEN POLE %	CAUSE	POLE COUNT	YEAR INSPECTED	YEAR TRIMMED
BONWIER (14.4kV)	BW 200F	Wood	7	66	14126	2	TREE/WIND	6	2	968	1	0.227790433	TREE/WIND	439	2013	2020
	BW 200N	Wood	13	9	7658			10	4	324				1477	2013	2020
	BW 236	Wood	12	14	2870			7	21	4274				884	2015	2020
BUNA (7.2 kV)	B 100	Wood	9	1	26	1	TREE/WIND	10	54	18360				1176	2014	2022
	B 200	Wood	0					6	599	51853				799	2014	2023
	B 300	Wood	10	337	130952	5	TREE/WIND	7	591	20224				1459	2014	2019
	B 500	Wood	10	149	60653			1	1	211				1014	2014	2019
NORTH BUNA (7.2 kV)	NB 100N	Wood	10	190	41384			8	13	3485				1188	2019	2021/22
	NB 100S	Wood	3			2	TREE/WIND	5	42	7060				812	2020	2022
	NB 112	Wood	6	16	9657	1	TREE/WIND							1078	2015	2023
	NB 117	Wood	13	113	84412	1	TREE/WIND	15	345	40568	1	0.087719298	TREE/WIND	1140	2015	2023
	NB 301	Wood	7	14	2436			2	2	1618				292	2014	2022
CALL (7.2 kV)	C 310	Wood	19	272	83020	1	TREE/WIND	18	1200	202320				1695	2022	2018
	C 400	Wood	9	358	85719			12	842	2058873				1165	2022	2018
	C 800	Wood	0					11	563	48054				1141	2022	2022
	C 900	Wood	0					13	700	169178				1495	2022	2021
DEWEYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D 100	Wood	5	203	33894			15	447	69468				913	2021	2021
	D 600	Wood	3					14	733	246203				858	2021	2024
N DEWEYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D 200	Wood	0					5	2	148				448	2021	2024
	D 400	Wood	5											603	2021	2024
	D 700	Wood	3	3	555			11	674	243369				1140	2021	2019
EVADALE (7.2 kV)	E 100	Wood	6	130	5077			5	710	149237				575	2016	2023
	E 130N	Wood	7	179	83686	2	TREE/WIND	7	236	46605				486	2016	2020
	E 130S	Wood	7	1	219			2	1	228				259	2016	2019
	E 302	Wood	10	179	44006			7	580	135786				1180	2016	2018
HOLLY (7.2 kV)	H 100	Wood	11	64	37744	3	TREE/WIND	9	4	538				1694	2018	2023
	H 600	Wood	4	16	1466			2	148	66896	1	0.160256641	TREE/WIND	624	2015	2018
JASPER (7.2 kV)	J 500	Wood	0					3	6	1164				138		2022
	J 600	Wood	4	1	354	1	TREE/WIND	19	156	39218	28	9.824561404	TREE/WIND	285	2017	2022
	J 950	Wood	7	41	3671			14	131	20443	5	0.481231954	TREE/WIND	1039	2019	2023
NJASPER (14.4kV)	NJ 100	Wood	10	208	21858	1	TREE/WIND	16	214	73442				1519	2018	2019/20
	T1	Wood	0					2	159	47064				375	2020	2021
	T2	Wood	2											79	2020	
KIRBYVILLE (7.2 kV)	K 100	Wood	2					5	8	2781				551	2020	
	K 101	Wood	W/K200											106	2020	
	K 200	Wood	6	7	763			2	457	100540	1	0.089285714	TREE/WIND	1120	2015	2024
	K 500	Wood	2	2	78			2	3	510				567	2017	2021
	K 700	Wood	8	266	35362			16	20	2674				1170	2015	2024
	K 900	Wood	0					4	18	7449				665	2019	2022
MCGEE (7.2 kV)	M 100	Wood	0											284	2017	2019
	M 600	Wood	11	191	46914			21	194	67084	1	0.084033613	TREE/WIND	1190	2016	2024
	M 700N	Wood	10	1056	188706			9	774	226344				1761	2017	2023
	M 700S	Wood	4	204	63371	1	TREE/WIND	7	75	20133	1	0.154559505	TREE/WIND	647		2020
	M 710	Wood	4	1	548			6	1	15				492		
NEWTON (7.2 kV)	N 100	Wood	7					5	1	101				1291	2017	2024
	N 200S	Wood	6	275	63076			8	1	800				1306	2015	2024
	N 900	Wood	5	86	37507	1	TREE/WIND	11	83	35035				1185	2019	2018
PEACHTREE (7.2 kV)	P 500	Wood	0					4	1	93				347	2020	2022
	P 506	Wood	0											156		2022
	P 600N	Wood	2	37	4292			12	145	54354				755	2010	2018
	P 600S	Wood	6	513	71613			25	575	188200	1	0.086956522	TREE/WIND	1150	2010	2022
	P 660	Wood	7	17	2200			15	178	21479	2	0.366300366	TREE/WIND	546		2022
	PR 100	Wood	0											54		2022
TENMILE (7.2 kV)	TM 500N	Wood	1					2	1	30				167	2021	2022
	TM 500S	Wood	4					6	261	56814				522	2021	2020
	TM 600	Wood	0											121	2021	
	TM 700N	Wood	5	4	512			7	30	5130	1	0.177619893	TREE/WIND	563	2020	
	TM 700S	Wood	3					12	704	64568				1265	2020	2021
UNION (7.2 kV)	U 800N	Wood	4	147	32415			8	1	500				807	2017	2023
	U 800S	Wood	0											525	2017	2023
	U 815	Wood	4	138	10656			6	195	39975				788	2017	2023
	U 900	Wood	4	22	1565									1707	2019	2022
								6	82	46817						
ZAVALLA (14.4 kV)	Z900	Wood	4	148	29501	2	TREE/WIND	9	741	452078	1	0.085616438	TREE/WIND	1168	2016	2022
				5673					13719		44			51717		

STAFF 1-66 For each distribution pole that failed due to the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl, please provide the date of the last inspection and explain the planned frequency of those inspections. Additionally, please provide the most recent inspection report for each pole that failed.

RESPONSE:

The inspection reports for the failed poles during May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl are not available at this time due to time constraints.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-67 Should the PUCT require utilities to construct and maintain distribution feeder equipment located in a hurricane prone area to a certain NESC standard? If so, which ones? If no, why not?

RESPONSE:

Not applicable. Electric cooperatives are not defined as an "electric utility" under state law and Commission rules.[3] While electric cooperatives already follow and implement NESC standards, the Boards of Directors of electric cooperatives maintain exclusive authority over all matters pertaining to electric cooperative systems.[4]

Moreover, a universal mandate would not take into account the specific characteristics of the local electric system which may vary depending on its location in what may be a broad swath of "hurricane prone areas."

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford (with advice of legal counsel)

[3] Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA) § 31.002 (6);16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §25.5 (137).
[4] PURA § 41.055; PURA § 41.004.

Transmission Infrastructure

STAFF 1-68 Please explain your process for evaluating the hardening of transmission lines. If you file an annual storm hardening report under 16 TAC § 25.95, do not merely recite information provided in those filings. In your response, please include an explanation for the following:

a. How frequently this evaluation is conducted?

b. What criteria is utilized for this evaluation?

c. When do you decide to harden transmission lines?

RESPONSE:

This is not applicable to JNEC as electric cooperatives are not defined as utilities under state law and Commission rules and the Cooperative does not file an annual storm hardening report under 16 TAC § 25.95. But the Cooperative does proactively perform transmission line inspections, regularly.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-69 Please provide the number of transmission structures that were in service before the May 2024 Derecho. In your response, please provide quantities by structure type and NESC wind loading criteria of the structure.

RESPONSE:

JNEC had 715 transmission structures in place before May 2024 Derecho at a medium loading district for wind loading – 645 are wooden, and 70 are concrete.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-70 Please provide the total number of transmission structures that failed due to the May 2024 Derecho. In your response, please provide separate quantities for each structure type and NESC wind loading criteria of the structure, and separately identify the number of structure failures caused by either high wind or structural loading from vegetation or debris.

RESPONSE:

None.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-71 Please provide the total number of transmission structures that failed due to Hurricane Beryl. In your response, please provide separate quantities for each structure type and NESC wind loading criteria of the structure, and separately identify the number of structure failures caused by either high wind or structural loading from vegetation or debris.

RESPONSE:

None.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-72 For each transmission structure that failed due to the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl, please provide the date of the last inspection and explain the planned frequency of those inspections. Additionally, please provide the most recent inspection report for each structure that failed.

RESPONSE:

Not applicable.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

Vegetation Management

STAFF 1-73 Provide the following information concerning your vegetation management staff:

a. Provide the current size of your vegetation management staff. Your response should include a separate figure for full-time staff and independent contractors.

b. Provide the average size of your vegetation management staff over the last 5 years. Your response should include a separate figure for full-time staff and independent contractors.

c. Please explain how you determined the appropriate level of full-time vegetation management staff for each of the last 5 years.

d. Provide the cost difference per circuit-mile between using contractors versus in-house vegetation management crews.

e. Whether you retain an arborist as part of your permanent vegetation management staff or have an arborist consult with your vegetation management crews.

RESPONSE:

a. JNEC has 19 full-time employees in vegetation management. The number of contractors varies by year, depending on the number and size of the circuits that need to be contracted out for that year.

b. On average, for the past five years, we have had 19 in-house employees and two contract crews.

c. Through historical analysis, management has been pleased with the rotation schedule and productivity of 19 employees in vegetation management.

d. We have seen a negligible difference between in-house and contract crews.

e. We do retain an arborist (nondegree) in-house.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-74 Please describe the minimum clearance standard for vegetation along transmission and distribution power lines at various voltage levels and how these clearances were derived based on your service territory.

RESPONSE:

JNEC requires a 20-foot easement for distribution lines and a 100-foot easement for transmission lines.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-75 Does your company incorporate any inspection of high customer count circuit segments to proactively identify problematic vegetation for circuits that may be outside their normal cycle period?

RESPONSE:

JNEC runs various reports to see if we have problematic areas that may need attention before their scheduled rotation.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-76 Please provide inspection logs and field reports from workers who performed VM services in the Impacted Area for the past five years.

RESPONSE:

No logs are readily available; however, JNEC does maintain robust vegetation management rotations.

See Attachment A – Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl for trimming rotation.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl

			OUTAGES DERECHO					OUTAGES BERYL								
SUBSTATION	FEEDER	POLE TYPE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	CAUSE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	BROKEN POLE %	CAUSE	POLE COUNT	YEAR INSPECTED	YEAR TRIMMED
BONWIER (14.4kV)	BW 200F	Wood	7	66	14126	2	TREE/WIND	6	2	968	1	0.227790433	TREE/WIND	439	2013	2020
	BW 200N	Wood	13	9	7658			10	4	324				1477	2013	2020
	BW 236	Wood	12	14	2870			7	21	4274				884	2015	2020
BUNA (7.2 kV)	B 100	Wood	9	1	26	1	TREE/WIND	10	54	18360				1176	2014	2022
	B 200	Wood	0					6	599	51853				799	2014	2023
	B 300	Wood	10	337	130952	5	TREE/WIND	7	591	20224				1459	2014	2019
	B 500	Wood	10	149	60653			1	1	211				1014	2014	2019
NORTH BUNA (7.2 kV)	NB 100N	Wood	10	190	41384			8	13	3485				1188	2019	2021/22
	NB 100S	Wood	3			2	TREE/WIND	5	42	7060				812	2020	2022
	NB 112	Wood	6	16	9657	1	TREE/WIND							1078	2015	2023
	NB 117	Wood	13	113	84412	1	TREE/WIND	15	345	40568	1	0.087719298	TREE/WIND	1140	2015	2023
	NB 301	Wood	7	14	2436			2	2	1618				292	2014	2022
CALL (7.2 kV)	C 310	Wood	19	272	83020	1	TREE/WIND	18	1200	202320				1695	2022	2018
	C 400	Wood	9	358	85719			12	842	2058873				1165	2020	2018
	C 800	Wood	0					11	563	48054				1141	2022	2022
	C 900	Wood	0					13	700	169178				1495	2022	2021
DEWYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D 100	Wood	5	203	33894			15	447	69468				913	2021	2021
	D 600	Wood	3					14	733	246203				858	2021	2024
N DEWEYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D 200	Wood	0					5	2	148				448	2021	2024
	D 400	Wood	5											603	2021	2024
	D 700	Wood	3	3	555			11	674	243369				1140	2021	2019
EVADALE (7.2 kV)	E 100	Wood	6	130	5077			5	710	149237				575	2016	2023
	E 130N	Wood	7	179	83686	2	TREE/WIND	7	236	46605				486	2016	2020
	E 130S	Wood	7	1	219			2	1	228				259	2016	2019
	E 302	Wood	10	179	44006			7	580	135786				1180	2016	2018
HOLLY (7.2 kV)	H 100	Wood	11	64	37744	3	TREE/WIND	9	4	538				1694	2018	2023
	H 600	Wood	4	16	1466			2	148	66896	1	0.160256641	TREE/WIND	624	2015	2018
JASPER (7.2 kV)	J 500	Wood	0					3	6	1164				138		2022
	J 600	Wood	4	1	354	1	TREE/WIND	19	156	39218	28	9.874561404	TREE/WIND	285	2017	2022
	J 950	Wood	7	41	3671			14	131	20443	5	0.481231954	TREE/WIND	1039	2019	2023
NJASPER (14.4kV)	NJ 100	Wood	10	208	21858	1	TREE/WIND	16	214	73442				1519	2018	2019/20
	T1	Wood	0					2	159	47064				375	2020	2021
	T2	Wood	2											79	2020	
KIRBYVILLE (7.2 kV)	K 100	Wood	2					5	8	2781				551	2020	
	K 101	Wood	W/K200											106	2020	
	K 200	Wood	6	7	763			2	457	100540	1	0.089285714	TREE/WIND	1120	2015	2024
	K 500	Wood	2	2	78			2	3	510				567	2017	2021
	K 700	Wood	8	266	35362			16	20	2674				1170	2015	2024
	K 900	Wood	0					4	18	7449				665	2019	2022
MCGEE (7.2 kV)	M 100	Wood	0											284	2017	2019
	M 600	Wood	11	191	46914			21	194	67084	1	0.084033613	TREE/WIND	1190	2016	2024
	M 700N	Wood	10	1056	188706			9	774	226344				1761	2017	2023
	M 700S	Wood	4	204	63371	1	TREE/WIND	7	75	20133	1	0.154559505	TREE/WIND	647		2020
	M 710	Wood	4	1	548			6	1	15				492		
NEWTON (7.2 kV)	N 100	Wood	7					5	1	101				1291	2017	2024
	N 200S	Wood	6	275	63076			8	1	800				1306	2015	2024
	N 900	Wood	5	86	37507	1	TREE/WIND	11	83	35035				1185	2019	2018
PEACHTREE (7.2 kV)	P 500	Wood	0					4	1	93				347	2020	2022
	P 506	Wood	0											156		2022
	P 600N	Wood	2	37	4292			12	145	54354				755	2010	2018
	P 600S	Wood	6	513	71613			25	575	188200	1	0.086956522	TREE/WIND	1150	2010	2022
	P 660	Wood	7	17	2200			15	178	21479	2	0.366300366	TREE/WIND	546		2022
	PR 100	Wood	0											54		2022
TENMILE (7.2 kV)	TM 500N	Wood	1					2	1	30				167	2021	2022
	TM 500S	Wood	4					6	261	56814				522	2021	2020
	TM 600	Wood	0											121	2021	
	TM 700N	Wood	5	4	512			7	30	5130	1	0.177619893	TREE/WIND	563	2020	
	TM 700S	Wood	3					12	704	64568				1265	2020	2021
UNION (7.2 kV)	U 800N	Wood	4	147	32415			8	1	500				807	2017	2023
	U 800S	Wood	0											525	2017	2023
	U 815	Wood	4	138	10656			6	195	39975				788	2017	2023
	U 900	Wood	4	22	1565									1707	2019	2022
								6	82	46817						
ZAVALLA (14.4 kV)	Z900	Wood	4	148	29501	2	TREE/WIND	9	741	452078	1	0.085616438	TREE/WIND	1168	2016	2022
				5673					13719		44			51719		

STAFF 1-77 Does your company conduct proactive vegetation management on feeders located in hurricane prone areas? If so, how far in advance of hurricane season do you send out vegetation management crews?

RESPONSE:

JNEC maintains a continuous and proactive vegetation management program year-round, not just before a storm. We consider our entire service area hurricane prone.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-78 Please provide a list of the circuits that experienced a vegetation-related outage during the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl, and provide the following information pertaining to the circuits identified:

a. The name of the circuit(s);

b. The date, time, and duration of the outage;

c. The voltage of the circuit(s);

d. A description of the cause of the outage; and

e. The NERC category (Grow-In, Fall-In, Blow-In) associated with the outage.

RESPONSE:

a.-d. *See* Attachment A – Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl.

e. In all instances, the NERC category would be Blow-In.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

Restoration Status for Derecho and Beryl

			OUTAGES DERECHO					OUTAGES BERYL								
SUBSTATION	FEEDER	POLE TYPE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	CAUSE	NUMBER	CUSTOMERS AFFECTED	DURATION (MIN)	BROKE POLES	BROKEN POLE %	CAUSE	POLE COUNT	YEAR INSPECTED	YEAR TRIMMED
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	BW 200N	Wood	13	9	7658			10	4	324				1477	2013	2020
	BW 236	Wood	12	14	2870			7	21	4274				884	2015	2020
BUNA (7.2 kV)	B 100	Wood	9	1	26	1	TREE/WIND	10	54	18360				1176	2014	2022
	B 200	Wood	0					6	599	51853				799	2014	2023
	B 300	Wood	10	337	130952	5	TREE/WIND	7	591	20224				1459	2014	2019
	B 500	Wood	10	149	60653			1	1	211				1014	2014	2019
NORTH BUNA (7.2 kV)	NB 100N	Wood	10	190	41384			8	13	3485				1188	2019	2021/22
	NB 100S	Wood	3			2	TREE/WIND	5	42	7060				812	2020	2022
	NB 112	Wood	6	16	9657	1	TREE/WIND							1078	2015	2023
	NB 117	Wood	13	113	84412	1	TREE/WIND	15	345	40568	1	0.087719298	TREE/WIND	1140	2015	2023
	NB 301	Wood	7	14	2436			2	2	1618				292	2014	2022
CALL (7.2 kV)	C 310	Wood	19	272	83020	1	TREE/WIND	18	1200	202320				1695	2022	2018
	C 400	Wood	9	358	85719			12	842	2058873				1165	2022	2018
	C 800	Wood	0					11	563	48054				1141	2022	2022
	C 900	Wood	0					13	700	169178				1495	2022	2021
DEWEYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D 100	Wood	5	203	33894			15	447	69468				913	2021	2021
	D 600	Wood	3					14	733	246203				858	2021	2024
N DEWEYVILLE (7.2 kV)	D 200	Wood	0					5	2	148				448	2021	2024
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	H 600	Wood	4	16	1466			2	148	66896	1	0.160256641	TREE/WIND	624	2015	2018
JASPER (7.2 kV)	J 500	Wood	0					3	6	1164				138		2022
	J 600	Wood	4	1	354	1	TREE/WIND	19	156	39218	28	9.874561404	TREE/WIND	285	2017	2023
	J 950	Wood	2	41	3671			14	131	20443	5	0.481231954	TREE/WIND	1039	2019	2023
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	T1	Wood	0					2	159	47064				375	2020	2021
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	K 200	Wood	6	7	763			2	457	100540	1	0.089285714	TREE/WIND	1120	2015	2024
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	M 700S	Wood	4	204	63371	1	TREE/WIND	7	75	20133	1	0.154559505	TREE/WIND	647		2020
	M 710	Wood	4	1	548			6	1	15				492		
NEWTON (7.2 kV)	N 100	Wood	2					5	1	101				1291	2017	2024
	N 200S	Wood	6	275	63076			8	1	800				1306	2015	2024
	N 900	Wood	5	86	37507	1	TREE/WIND	11	83	35035				1185	2019	2018
PEACHTREE (7.2 kV)	P 500	Wood	0					4	1	93				347	2020	2022
	P 506	Wood	0											156		2022
	P 600N	Wood	2	37	4292			12	145	54354				755	2010	2018
	P 600S	Wood	6	513	71613			25	575	188200	1	0.086956522	TREE/WIND	1150	2010	2022
	P 660	Wood	2	12	2200			15	178	21479	2	0.366300366	TREE/WIND	546		2022
	PR 100	Wood	0											54		2022
TENMILE (7.2 kV)	TM 500N	Wood	1					2	1	30				167	2021	2022
	TM 500S	Wood	4					6	261	56814				522	2021	2020
	TM 600	Wood	0											121	2021	
	TM 700N	Wood	5	4	512			7	30	5130	1	0.177619893	TREE/WIND	563	2020	
	TM 700S	Wood	3					12	704	64568				1265	2020	2021
UNION (7.2 kV)	U 800N	Wood	4	147	32415			8	1	500				807	2017	2023
	U 800S	Wood	0											525	2017	2023
	U 815	Wood	4	138	10656			6	195	39975				788	2017	2023
	U 900	Wood	4	22	1565									1707	2019	2022
								6	82	46817						
ZAVALLA (14.4 kV)	Z900	Wood	4	148	29501	2	TREE/WIND	9	741	452078	1	0.085616438	TREE/WIND	1168	2016	2022
				5673					13719		44			51717		

STAFF 1-79 Please provide aerial maps of circuits and their easements that experienced a vegetation-related outage during the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl. Overlay the map with the circuits that received vegetation management treatment for the past 5 years, using a distinct color code for each year. Provide any additional information or details to show clarity.

RESPONSE:

Not available.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-80 For the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl, please provide the percentage of forced interruptions that were related to vegetation issues.

RESPONSE:

Ninety-eight percent (98%) of the forced interruptions for May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl were related to vegetation issues.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-81 What steps are being taken to address vegetation management and infrastructure issues that contributed to outages or were identified during restoration after the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl?

RESPONSE:

We are continuing with our current vegetation management program.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-82 When did you last substantively review, augment, or modify your vegetation management plan before July 8, 2024?

RESPONSE:

The vegetation management program is continuously reviewed and monitored.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-83 What percentage of vegetation-related outages were caused by trees or branches outside of the easement or right of way? In responding to this question, please provide both an overall percentage and a breakdown for each county within your service territory that was affected by the May 2024 Derecho or within the Impacted Area for Hurricane Beryl.

RESPONSE:

Nearly all the outages were caused by vegetation from outside of our right-of-way.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-84 Describe your programs or initiatives that are designed to work with property owners to address potentially hazardous vegetation management issues that are outside of the utility easement or right of way.

RESPONSE:

Our membership calls in to report trees they deem dangerous. JNEC follows up on these reports and works with the membership to cut trees on their property outside our right-of-way. We also look for dead trees and engage with our membership to seek permission from the landowner to remove trees outside of the right-of-way.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

STAFF 1-85 Identify the number of staff that participate in any program or initiative designed to address vegetation management hazards outside of the utility easement or right of way.

RESPONSE:

JNEC has 19 full-time right-of-way employees and six full-time servicemen who participate in the vegetation management hazards outside our easement.

SPONSOR:

Aaron Crawford

Staffing and Mutual Assistance

STAFF 1-86 Please state whether you participated in or were a member of any mutual assistance programs on or before July 8, 2024. If yes:

a. Please identify all mutual assistance programs you participated in or were a member of on that date;

b. Please provide copies of any agreements entered as part of your membership or participation in those mutual assistance programs; and

c. Please provide a list of members or participants for each mutual assistance program you are a member or participant in.

RESPONSE:

a. JNEC participates in mutual assistance through Texas Electric Cooperative and Beauregard Electric Cooperative.

b. *See* Attachment C – TEC Mutual Aid Agreement and Attachment D – Mutual Aid Agreement with Beauregard Electric Cooperative.

c. Bailey Co. EC, Bandera EC, Bartlett EC, Big Country EC, Bluebonnet EC, Bowie-Cass EC, Brazos EC, Bryan Texas Utilities, Central Texas EC, Cherokee Co. ECA, Coleman Co. EC, Comanche EC, Concho Valley EC, CoServ Electric, Deaf Smith EC, Deep East Texas EC, East Texas EC, Fannin EC, Farmers EC, Fayette EC, Gort Belknap EC, Golden Spread EC, Grayson-Collin EC, Greenbelt EC, GVEC, Hamilton EC, Harmon EA, Heart of Texas EC, HILCO EC, J-A-C EC, Jackson EC, Jasper-Newton EC, Karnes EC, Lamar EC, Lamb C. EC, LCRA, Lea Co. EC, Lighthouse EC, Lyntegar EC, Magic Valley EC, Medina EC, MidSouth EC, Nararro Co. EC, Navasota Valley EC, North Plains EC, Northeast Texas EC, Nueces EC, Panola-Harrison EC, Pedernales EC, PenTex Energy, Rayburn Country EC, Rio Grande EC, Rita Blanca EC, Rusk Co. EC, Sam Houston EC, San Bernard EC, San Miguel EC, San Patricio EC, South Plains EC, Southwest Arkansas EC, Southwest Rural EA, Southwest Texas EC, Swisher EC, Taylor EC, Tri-County EC, Tri-County EC OK, Trinity Valley EC, United Cooperative Services, Upshur Rural EC, Victoria EC, Western Farmers EC, Wharton Co. EC, Wise EC, Wood Co. EC.

Beauregard Electric Cooperative, DeRidder, Louisiana

SPONSOR:

Joey Davis

MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

In consideration of the mutual commitments given herein, each of the Signatories to this Mutual Aid Agreement agrees to render aid to any of the Signatories as follows:

1. Request for aid. The Requesting Signatory agrees to make its request in writing to the Aiding Signatory within a reasonable time after aid is needed and with reasonable specificity. The Requesting Signatory agrees to compensate the Aiding Signatory as specified in this Agreement and in other agreements that may be in effect between the Requesting and Aiding Signatories.

2. Discretionary rendering of aid. Rendering of aid is entirely at the discretion of the Aiding signatory. The agreement to render aid is expressly not contingent upon a declaration of a major disaster or emergency by the federal government or upon receiving federal funds.

3. Invoice to the Requesting Signatory. Within 90 days of the return to the home work station of all labor and equipment of the Aiding Signatory, the Aiding Signatory shall submit to the Requesting Signatory an invoice of all charges related to the aid provided pursuant to this Agreement. The invoice shall contain only charges related to the aid provided pursuant to this Agreement.

4. Charges to the Requesting Signatory. Charges to the Requesting Signatory from the Aiding Signatory shall be as follows:

   a) Labor force. Charges for labor force shall be in accordance with the Aiding Signatory's standard practices.

   b) Equipment. Charges for equipment, such as bucket trucks, digger derricks, and other special equipment used by the aiding Signatory, shall be at the reasonable and customary rates for such equipment in the Aiding Signatory's locations.

   c) Transportation. The Aiding Signatory shall transport needed personnel and equipment by reasonable and customary means and shall charge reasonable and customary rates for such transportation.

   d) Meals, lodging and other related expenses. Charges for meals, lodging and other expenses related to the provision of aid pursuant to this Agreement shall be the reasonable and actual costs incurred by the Aiding Signatory.

5. Counterparts. The Signatories may execute this Mutual Aid Agreement in one or more counterparts, with each counterpart being deemed an original Agreement, but with all counterparts being considered one Agreement.

6. Execution. Each party hereto has read, agreed to and executed this Mutual Aid Agreement on the date indicated.

Date 6/5/2018 Entity Jasper Newton Electric Coop., Inc

By Mark Lamp

Title General Manager

MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

In consideration of the mutual commitments given herein, each of the Signatories to this Mutual Aid Agreement agrees to render aid to any of the Signatories as follows:

1. Request for aid. The Requesting Signatory agrees to make its request in writing to the Aiding Signatory within a reasonable time after aid is needed and with reasonable specificity. The Requesting Signatory agrees to compensate the Aiding Signatory as specified in this Agreement and in other agreements that may be in effect between the Requesting and Aiding Signatories.

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6. Execution. Each party hereto has read, agreed to and executed this Mutual Aid Agreement on the date indicated.

Date 7/9/24 Entity Beauregard Electric

By [signature]

Title V.P. Finance