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-PROJECT NO. 56822

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

SAN PATRICIO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'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

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. "SPEC" 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"). Commission Staff directed that responses to Staff's First RFIs to Co-ops be filed by August 30, 2024, thus these responses are timely filed. SPEC stipulates that its responses may be treated by all parties as if they were filed under oath.

Dated: August 28th, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,

Ron Hughes
General Manager

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. Wednesday May 22, 2024 (3 sessions)
b. Formation from a Category 1 to a Category 3, then into a Category 4 Hurricane
c. Discussion-based session where employees met in an informal classroom to discuss their roles during an emergency and their responses to a particular situation; facilitator guided participants through a discussion of each scenario.
d. None
e. None
f. TDEM – District Director and San Patricio County Emergency Management Department
g. N/A
h. None
i.

SPONSOR:

Marcos N. Garcia

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

SPONSOR:

Marcos N. Garcia

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?

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. Until the next impacted occurrence
b. Hurricane Harvey

SPONSOR:

Marcos N. Garcia

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:

South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc. (STEC)

SPONSOR:

Marcos N. Garcia

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

RESPONSE:

Storm Geo, Weatherops.com, ERCOT website, South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc. (G&T), National Weather Service (NWS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

SPONSOR:

Marcos N. Garcia

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:

Emergency Operation Plan, Section (E) Hurricane Annex pg. 42, 43.

Alert Level I

When any form of tropical wave, tropical storm or hurricane is formed in the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico or the Caribbean Sea, the Cooperative Customer Service Representatives will start plotting the storm on the following basis:

1. Each day at 8:00 a.m., if the storm is in the Atlantic Ocean; and,
2. Immediately after each advisory if the storm is in the Caribbean Sea or Gulf of Mexico area.

SPONSOR:

Marcos N. Garcia

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

RESPONSE:

Six (6) days. On 07/02/24 the cooperative went into Alert Level I and remained at Alert Level I until 07/08/24.

SPONSOR:
Marcos N. Garcia

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

RESPONSE:

We have an Outage Management System that is used daily, therefore functionality and performance is frequently checked. Some of the data from this system is used for a public facing outage map on our website. Checking the functionality of the public facing outage map is not currently part of our storm preparation procedures.

SPONSOR:
Brittany Williams

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

RESPONSE:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) was not adversely impacted by Hurricane Beryl and therefore did not request mutual assistance.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) was not adversely impacted by Hurricane Beryl and therefore SPEC did not need to prioritize our restoration efforts or allocate resources. As part of our normal practice, SPEC would prioritize circuit outages based on number of meters and critical loads. After all major circuits are energized, SPEC would focus on smaller line sections and individuals based on critical care customers and critical loads.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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: Please see the following excerpt from SPEC's Emergency Operations Plan.

SPEC Emergency Operations Plan (Section-2): Communications Plan

2.0 Purpose and Applicability

To provide the communication guidelines, policies, procedures, and pre-developed content that SPEC shall utilize in all types and levels of emergency events.

2.1 Administration / Initial Tasks

Develop / Implement Emergency Operations Communications Plan (EOCP): SPEC shall develop and maintain a communications plan to guide SPEC during emergency events, including significant service outages.

The EOCP contemplates all types of system emergencies and provide the guidelines, policies, procedures, and pre-developed content that SPEC shall utilize to communicate with all external audiences and stakeholders. Additionally, the EOCP shall address SPEC's telephone system and member complaint handling procedures during an emergency event. The EOCP is summarized in this section of the EOP.

2.2 Annual Review / Ongoing Maintenance

The EOCP shall be reviewed annually (or as needed) by the EOP Administrator and the Public Relations Manager to ensure that the information is current. The EOCP shall be maintained by the Public Relations Manager.

2.3 Content of SPEC Communications Plan

The SPEC Communications Plan includes the following information regarding the strategies, policies, and procedures during a system emergency, including:

2.3.1 Emergency Event Communication Strategies

Key strategic elements of the plan are based on industry best practices along with lessons learned from recent emergency events. Key Emergency Event Communication strategies are listed below:

- **Readiness and Activation:** SPEC EOP Administrator, Managers, Supervisors, and key staff will monitor potential emergency situations and conditions and activate appropriate levels of internal and external communication procedures.
- **Open and Timely Communication:** SPEC EOP Administrator, Managers, Supervisors, and key staff will share all relevant information regarding the preparation, operations, restorations and other relevant information with internal and external audiences and stakeholders in a timely manner.
- **Engagement and Communication with Relevant Agencies and Entities:** SPEC General Manager (or Designee) will work closely and coordinate with local, regional, and State agencies and entities to ensure effective communications regarding outage and restoration conditions, status, and plans.

- **Ongoing and Effective Training:** SPEC has developed and shall implement a comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan training program for all SPEC personnel. This training can be customized to the various SPEC departments to ensure key EOP information is conveyed to the respective groups.
- **Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Channels:** SPEC will establish in-person and/or virtual EOC to ensure event status and operational communications across all relevant SPEC departments and teams. SPEC will utilize virtual meeting software to establish a virtual EOC with regular briefings and meetings to share operational, logistical, communications, and coordination status with other entities and agencies.

2.3.2 Emergency Event Communication Policies

- **Development and Maintenance of Emergency Operations Communication Plan:** SPEC shall develop and maintain a plan that contains communication guidelines, policies, procedures, and pre-developed content that SPEC shall utilize in all types and levels of emergency events.
- **Tracking and Coordination of External Communications:** During any declared emergency, the Public Relations Manager will be responsible for the coordination and tracking of all SPEC external communications. Public Relations Manager will coordinate closely with SPEC General Manager and Operations Manager to ensure all external press/media releases, interviews and associated communications contain accurate and updated information.
- **Primary Spokesperson(s):** The SPEC General Manager and the Public Relations Manager will direct and serve as the primary spokesperson(s) for the cooperative. The General Manager and the Public Relations Manager may delegate / designate other senior staff to prepare communications and / or make statements to SPEC's members, the public, the media (including social media).
- **SPEC Employee Communications with Media / External Communications:** Any SPEC employee contacted by the media should refer the contact to the Public Relations Manager. Unless a SPEC employee has been given specific authority to disclose information to the media, and/or present the company's official position, comment should not be provided. Any SPEC employee pressed by the media for information should be polite, but firm in their referral to the Public Relations Manager.
- **Pre-Developed Communications Pre-Scripted Content and Templates:** SPEC Public Relations Manager shall develop pre-scripted templates for news releases, social media posts and other media communications. The content will be maintained and filed in the appropriate network directory.

2.3.3 Handling Member Complaints and Contacts:

The procedures for addressing complaints, concerns, and inquiries from SPEC's members is as follows:

- During an emergency, CRC and/or the cooperative's telephone system will be staffed around the clock in order to receive information from customers, emergency authorities and others. Also, personnel will be on duty during normal business hours to receive outage reports from customers appearing in person. The Accounting and Finance Financial Services Manager will be in charge of staffing the front office with available personnel.
- SPEC communications team shall make every effort to answer / return all calls from members including members registering complaints, concerns, and asking questions regarding the emergency event and related information and updates regarding SPEC's

restoration efforts and status.

2.3.4 Communicating with the Public:

- SPEC communications team will coordinate with the Operations Manager to provide official updates on SPEC's power restoration process and post this information on the SPEC website. These official status reports / updates will be posted daily or more frequently as restoration status changes.

2.3.5 Communicating with the Media:

- Public Relations Manager may notify local media and membership of preparations taken by SPEC to prepare for the event.
- In the period prior to a likely event, the Public Relations Manager will assemble and review materials and brief staff / managers regarding basic procedures and the types of messaging that could be provided during a pending event via standard and / or social media platforms.
- Public Relations Manager will maintain media contact list for local and regional media.
- Periodic updates will be provided to local and major media outlets in and around the SPEC service areas throughout the event. All local media outlets will be notified of new developments in their areas as they occur.
- Major media outlets will be provided daily updates on SPEC's power restoration process.
- Public Relations Manager will provide area / regional Newspapers and Radio stations with restoration status updates and promote safety messages, and encourage use of outage hotline, outage map etc.
- Public Relations Manager will coordinate with the Operations Manager to provide official updates on SPEC's power restoration process and post this information on the SPEC website. These official status reports / updates will be posted daily or as restoration status changes.

2.3.6 Communicating with Members:

- SPEC Public Relations Manager shall designate personnel that are responsible for member communications (that will be synchronized with any/all media communications).
- SPEC Public Relations Manager will coordinate with the Operations Manager to provide official updates on SPEC's power restoration process and post this information on the SPEC website. These official status reports / updates will be posted daily or as restoration status changes.
- The SPEC Outage Map will be maintained in real-time based on the system's configuration and capabilities. Public Relations Manager will provide additional status information in the same section of the SPEC website to inform members (and media) of any additional restoration information.

2.3.7 Communicating with the PUCT:

- Upon request by PUCT staff during an activation of the State Operations Center (SOC) by the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM), the Cooperative will provide updates on the status of operations, outages, and restoration efforts. Updates shall continue until all event-related outages are restored or unless otherwise notified by PUCT staff.
- SPEC General Manager will coordinate with the Public Relations Manager and the Operations Manager to provide official updates on SPEC's power restoration process and

post this information on the SPEC website. These official status reports / updates will be posted daily or as restoration status changes. SPEC will inform the PUCT of this information source if requested.

- SPEC has provided PUCT with SPEC's contact information and will respond directly to any communications and requests from PUCT and / or OPUC.

2.3.8 Communicating with the Office of Public Utility Counsel (OPUC):

- Upon request by OPUC during an activation of the SOC by the TDEM, the Cooperative will provide updates on the status of operations, outages, and restoration efforts. Updates shall continue until all event-related outages are restored or unless otherwise notified by OPUC.
- SPEC will maintain open channels of communication with PUCT and OPUC.
- SPEC has provided PUCT with SPEC's contact information and will respond directly to any communications and requests from PUCT and / or OPUC.

2.3.9 Communicating with Local and State Governmental Entities, Officials, and (County) Emergency Operations Centers:

- SPEC General Manager (or Designee) will work closely and coordinate with local, regional, and State agencies and entities to ensure effective communications regarding outage and restoration conditions, status, and plans.
- SPEC General Manager and Public Relations Manager will actively participate and coordinate with the following entities and groups:
  - Regional / County Emergency Managers;
  - State and local government agencies, including Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM), the Texas Public Utility Commission (PUCT), South Texas Electric Cooperative (STEC); and regional utilities.
- As appropriate, coordinated communications will be developed and distributed in conjunction with these entities.
- As directed by SPEC General Manager and the Public Relations Manager will coordinate with regional emergency coordinators and participate in regular calls, meetings (in-person and/or virtual).

2.3.10 ERCOT:

- SPEC will maintain open channels of communication with SPEC's ERCOT Designated Transmission Operator, STEC, which is the entity that will communicate with ERCOT regarding any Firm Load Shed status.
- SPEC has provided ERCOT with SPEC's contact information and will respond to any and all communications and requests from ERCOT and / or STEC.

2.3.11 Critical Load Customers:

- Public Relations Manager will coordinate communications including calls, texts or emails to Critical Load Members to provide relevant information.
- SPEC makes every effort to be aware of customers who have life- sustaining electric equipment.

- SPEC attempts to identify these customers by asking new members at the time of establishing equipment and by reminding members through articles in Texas Co-op Power, newsletter and notices included with bills that the Cooperative needs to be informed of special needs. A registry of these customers is accessible in the Customer Service Representatives' office.
- Critical Loads member will be contacted before any planned service interruption for maintenance or construction activities.
- Methods to communicate with these customers during emergencies when telephone service is not available include visits by linemen and other utility personnel and working through local law enforcement officers and emergency medical personnel in the field.

2.3.12 Internal Communications:

- The Public Relations Manager (and designees) will keep SPEC personnel informed of media communications.
- Public Relations Manager shall coordinate internal communications with Operations Manager and General Manager during the entire period of any / all emergency restoration situations.

SPONSOR:
Brittany Williams

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:

Yes, see excerpt from EOP Section (E) Hurricane Annex pg. 42, 43.

ALERT LEVEL I

When any form of tropical wave, tropical storm or hurricane is formed in the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico or the Caribbean Sea, the Cooperative Customer Service Representatives will start plotting the storm on the following basis:

1. Each day at 8:00 a.m., if the storm is in the Atlantic Ocean; and,
2. Immediately after each advisory if the storm is in the Caribbean Sea or Gulf of Mexico area.

The Customer Service Representatives are responsible for the update of each hurricane-tracking map. All employees shall know where the maps are located and keep track of the storm by viewing these maps periodically.

ALERT LEVEL II

If a storm increases in intensity to a tropical storm or hurricane, upon decision between the General Manager, and/or Operations Manager, all operations and the respective responsibilities will enter Alert Level II with all departments to be notified.

At this time the Customer Service Representatives will issue revised advisories to the General Manager and Operations Manager as they become available on the weather radio.

Upon issuance of Alert Level II, plans will be in effect as follows:

General Manager

- A meeting will be called by the General Manager to assess the situation and review responsibilities.
- Make arrangements for aerial surveying to assess damage after the storm.
- Notify outside resources that they may be called upon for assistance.

Technology Services Manager

- With Operations Manager and Safety and Environmental Coordinator assure all radios and communications equipment is in working order.
- Create printed copies of necessary reports
- Get backup tapes from safety deposit box and distribute to be taken off site.
- Run up to date backup tapes prior to evacuation

Financial Services Manager

- Prepare to shut down the office.
- Assure all items needing protection are placed in the vault.

Operations Manager

- Assure all generators are working, with extra fuel supply.
- Assure all radios and communication equipment is in working order.
- All trucks to be equipped with materials, tools, etc.
- Notify outside resources that they may be called upon for assistance.
- The Operations Manager will Contact TEC for help getting additional crews, if necessary.

Member Services Manager

- Make arrangements for purchase of emergency food & water supply.
- Make motel reservations in several areas of SPEC service area.

Safety and Environmental Coordinator

- All first aid kits are complete
- Lock down fuel tanks
- Top off gas fuel tanks
- Acquire supply of rain gear, rubber gloves, hard hats, etc.
- Have available remote mounted radio antenna (VHF) to be installed after the storm, as conditions dictate.
- Purchase of necessary flashlights and batteries (number and type required will be previously determined).
- Attempt to obtain portable fuel for after storm restoration.
- Acquire supply of insect repellent and issue to vehicles.
- Start tie down preparations of yard material, etc.

Department Heads

- Ready all transportation equipment for use. Vehicles to be filled up at gasoline stations rather than company tanks.
- Get updated list of personnel available for duty. All operations personnel will be expected to be on duty. Give list of personnel to the Financial Services Manager.
- Each department will be responsible for permitting all duty personnel adequate time off to secure their personal facilities and make arrangements for their families. It is assumed that at least four hours of time should be granted for such service.

ALERT LEVEL III

When it is potentially imminent that the tropical storm or hurricane will make landfall within 48 to 60 hours within the SPEC service area or adjacent to the service area, the General Manager or in his or her absence, the Operations Manager, will issue Alert Level III warning and the actions to be taken will be as follows:

- A meeting of all supervisors will be held to assess the situation and to make final preparations. All areas of the complex facilities will be prepared for potential high winds and high water. The construction department will be responsible for yard facilities and the headquarters building.
- All operations personnel will report for duty with assignments to be made and locations.
- Food will be purchased if not completed in Alert Level II and distributed.

- The Customer Service Representatives will continue to issue storm advisories.
- Non-duty personnel will be released from duty as directed.
- Arrangements will be made for availability of all company vehicles with radios and instructions for moving all vehicles to safer ground as determined by management.
- Contact State/County officials and obtain paperwork for employees' re-entry.
- Send all phone calls to CRC if a mandatory county evacuation is called

ALERT LEVEL IV

When a storm moves inland, all duty personnel will stay on ready alert with maintenance personnel continuing to operate as conditions permit and dispatching continuing to function by maintaining power in SPEC service area as conditions permit.

No attempt will be made to send crews into the service area for restoration purposes until there can be reasonable assurance of safety. During the storm's move inland, numerous phone calls and other events may occur on the SPEC distribution system requiring the undivided attention of the on-duty CSR and/or CRC personnel.

To avoid confusion or misunderstanding, the CSR control area will be limited to the following personnel:

- All CSR personnel;
- General Manager;
- Operations Manager/Maintenance Supervisor; and,
- Other personnel as specifically directed or permission is granted.

ALERT LEVEL V

As soon as possible after the storm has passed, the following activities will occur:

- All employees shall assist in the assessment of actual storm damage.
- Upon such determination, restoration crews will be sent into the service area for repair.
- Remote Customer Service Representatives will be assigned to the field for coordination between the crews and the dispatch operations center.
- Outside crews will be brought in as necessary.
- All other office and non-duty personnel will report back to duty (regular working hours unless otherwise directed). Due to the size of SPEC's system and the number of employees, non-duty personnel may perform work outside of their normal job duties and could be asked to work overtime to aid in storm restoration in a support capacity. Call in to Finance and Accounting Financial Services Manager before returning.
- The Technology Services Department and the Operations Department will attempt to restore communications (radios, microwave, etc.)
- Arrangements will be made for heavy equipment, if necessary.

SPONSOR:

Marcos N. Garcia

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) follows the guidelines as identified in the EOP. The below excerpt is from Section 3 page 19-20 of the EOP and identifies the emergency response activities to be completed.

(Section-3) Pre-Identified Supplies for Emergency Response Plan

3.0 Purpose and Applicability

To provide guidelines for the management of materials, supplies and resources that SPEC may need during emergency events.

3.1 Administration / Initial Tasks

Develop / Implement a Pre-Arranged Supply Plan: SPEC shall develop and maintain a Pre-Arranged Supply plan that provides SPEC personnel (and contractors) with sufficient supplies to support emergency operations during all types and levels of emergency event(s).

3.2 Annual Review / Ongoing Maintenance

The Pre-Arranged Supplies Plan shall be reviewed annually (or as needed) to ensure that the information is current. The Pre-Arranged Supplies Plan shall be maintained by the Operations Manager.

3.3 Supplies and Resources Preparation

3.3.1 Suppliers: SPEC procures materials and supplies from TEC Materials and Supply Division. In the period prior to a likely event, emergency supplies shall be checked and supplemented (if needed).

3.3.2 Advance Preparations Related to a Specific Approaching Event: Preparations for a known approaching storm or system event are made. Examples would be major storms, rising water, tornados, and more serious events such as public health pandemic events.

3.3.3 Location of Emergency Supplies: SPEC maintains inventories of distribution materials in the warehouses the main office in Sinton. TEC Materials and Supply Division is responsible for maintaining inventories. TEC maintains additional inventory off site at several locations in Texas.

3.3.4 Fuel Supply: SPEC has "call-upon" agreements in place with local bulk distributors of gasoline and diesel fuel. Bulk distributors, in turn agree to reserve fuel on behalf of SPEC, during Major (E-2) and/or Catastrophic (E-3) events.

3.3.5 Lodging/Food and Laundry: The SPEC Logistics Officer or designee is responsible for locating / arranging lodging, meals, and laundry service for SPEC personnel incapable of

returning home during Major (E-2) and/or Catastrophic (E-3) events and for support crews called upon under the Mutual Aid Agreement with TEC to help in the restoration efforts. During emergency operations, SPEC personnel and mutual aid support crews will be working abnormal, extended hours without a reasonable amount of time to provide for their own meals. In some circumstances, food and water may not be reasonably available for employees to purchase. Contractors are required to provide their own meals and lodging under the terms of the contract.

3.4 Actions in a Major or Catastrophic Event

- The pre-arranged supplies shall be accessed and utilized as needed.
- Depending on the level of event the Operations Manager shall manage the distribution of supplies to the appropriate operations personnel and contact material suppliers to coordinate the potential need for additional materials and supplies.
- In a large-scale outage with significant damage to overhead distribution facilities where additional materials and supplies are required, SPEC Operations Manager shall manage and coordinate the procurement, delivery location and management of all materials and supplies.

SPONSOR:

Marcos N. Garcia

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) was not adversely impacted by the May-24 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl, therefore SPEC did not initiate emergency preparations. SPEC activated EOP Alert Level I for Hurricane Beryl on 7-2-24 and lifted it on 7-8-24. See response to Staff 1-12.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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

RESPONSE:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) was not adversely impacted by the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl, therefore SPEC did not need to respond to either storm.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

Derecho: At San Patricio Electric Cooperative we believe any impacts of the Derecho in our service territory were minimal as we were not very close to most of the intense winds produced. Damages to our distribution equipment during the period between **05/16/2024 00:00:00** and **05/17/2024 23:59:59** were limited to 26 meters damaged by hail, a few blown fuses due to lightning, and a line recloser opened because of line down, probably caused by windy conditions. The 26 Sensus AMI meters damaged were within a small area affected by hail. Most of the damage was limited to cracks or holes in the transparent shell of the meter cover due to large hail. While many of these meters had blinks or transmitted an alert, most continued to operate. All were replaced because of the potential for water damage to the devices. Hail damage was confined to the Swinney Switch area near Mathis, Texas on the Mathis substation, circuit designation S06403.

The most meters affected in a single outage in this interval was due to line down. It involved 25 meters and lasted two hours and one minute. Outage 446751 began on 5/17/24 at 11:10 am and ended at 1:12 pm. This outage was reported on the Refugio substation, circuit designation S08201. There were also two transformer fuses blown due to lightning on S08201, involving only two meters. Below is additional data extracted from our OMS excluding planned outages, blinks and meters that were successfully pinged reporting power on. (See also attached Excel export from SPEC's OMS for Derecho and Beryl)

There were six confirmed outages between **05/16/24 00:00:00** and **05/17/24 23:59:59**. Five of the six outages involved only a single meter, the longest being 2 hours 38 minutes due to hail damage. A total of 30 meters were out of power in this interval. The largest number of meters out in a single outage was 25 and lasted 2 hours and one minute. 3334 consumer outage minutes occurred in this period. The shortest outage was 20 minutes with only one meter out. The average duration for affected meters this period was 111.13 minutes. A single meter was out on the George West substation (circuit S10204) due to a bad insulator which burnt a line fuse and lasted 35 minutes.

No poles were replaced due to damage during this time and no additional resources requiring extra equipment or manpower were deployed.

Hurricane Beryl: SPEC was not impacted in a significant way by Hurricane Beryl. As Beryl traversed up the Texas coast, it stayed offshore well away from the cooperative's service territory. At 09:00 AM CDT Sunday, July 07, 2024, the storm was 195 miles southeast of Corpus Christi, TX as the track was being corrected to the East repeatedly. The radius of tropical storm force winds was only 115 miles from the center of the hurricane. In addition to the proximity, we were at this point well situated on the "dry side" of the storm. From 07/07/24 00:00:00 to 07/09/24 23:59:59 we had only 38 meters out of power with a total of 2591 consumer minutes off system wide. SPEC

was never below 99.99% of meters with power on. The largest outage reported 20 meters out for 37 minutes which was caused by a recloser locking out due to lightning. The longest duration for an outage in this period was 5 hours 59 minutes due to a remote location and multiple other assignments around the same time. The shortest duration outage was nineteen minutes affecting just one meter. The average outage time for meters affected was 68 minutes. All but two of the outages were believed to be caused by lightning, the two others were caused by animals.

As with the May Derecho, no poles were replaced due to damage during this time and no additional resources requiring extra equipment or manpower were deployed. A line-item detailed file for both the Derecho and Hurricane Beryl were exported from our OMS and are attached below.

Outage History **DERECHO**

Outage	# Out	Duration	Time Off	Time On	Type	Map Location	Dispatch Com
446733	1	0:35	5/17/2024 8:59	5/17/2024 9:35	Line Section	76-42-32-64-	05/17/2024 tr
446737	1	0:33	5/17/2024 9:47	5/17/2024 10:21	Meter	77-37-13-70-49-01	
446725	1	2:38	5/17/2024 7:09	5/17/2024 9:47	Meter	77-37-14-71-	HAIL BROKE M
446760	1	1:03	5/17/2024 14:51	5/17/2024 15:55	Transformer	77-35-23-64-25-01	
446756	1	0:20	5/17/2024 13:17	5/17/2024 13:38	Transformer	77-35-22-83-	05/17/2024 tr
446751	25	2:01	5/17/2024 11:10	5/17/2024 13:12	Line Section	77-35-23-86-	05/17/2024 tr
	30						

Outage History **BERYL**

Outage	# Out	Duration	Time Off	Time On	Type	Map Location	Dispatch Comments	Line Sect	Equip Desc
449196	1	0:19	7/9/2024 20:35	7/9/2024 20:54	Line Section	77-20-54-51-75-01		FUSE_64303	Line Fuse - Blo
449159	4	0:50	7/8/2024 19:29	7/8/2024 20:20	Line Section	77-44-30-69-	Received Outage Element St	FUSE_15116	Line Fuse - Blo
449193	20	0:37	7/9/2024 20:20	7/9/2024 20:57	Line Section	76-35-43-04-69-01		RECL_47354	Line Recloser
449191	2	1:43	7/9/2024 19:20	7/9/2024 21:04	Line Section	76-35-61-10-03-08		FUSE_47728	Line Recloser
449203	1	1:50	7/9/2024 21:35	7/9/2024 23:25	Transformer	76-35-81-93-03		TRAN_49166	Transformer F
449201	2	1:39	7/9/2024 20:48	7/9/2024 22:27	Transformer	76-40-22-25-98		TRAN_48891	Transformer F
449195	1	1:53	7/9/2024 20:34	7/9/2024 22:27	Transformer	76-40-22-25-45-01		TRAN_U9019	Transformer F

SPONSOR:
James Muschalek

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 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. The geographic area with the highest number and longest duration outages were Northwest of Refugio along Old Goliad Road and North of State Highway 202 including ranch land to the East. Although not a neighborhood name, the area begins at Jackson Road and Old Goliad and runs South to Hwy 202 then turns to the Northeast to ranchland where most service is to water wells, oil wells and pipeline equipment. Refugio is the county name and the closest city. The zip is 78377.

b. The area with the most outages during the interval specified was approximately eight miles West of George West Texas. This location supports the belief that Beryl had no significant impact on our system. George West and Beeville areas had the most outages, and they are farthest from the coast. The outages were isolated and widely dispersed. This area is about 5.5 miles South of Simmons community on FM 1873 extending a mile West on Live Oak County Road 113. Simmons is little more than a country church, so I would say this area is equidistant from Three Rivers and George West. The county is Live Oak, and the zip is 78022.

c. SPEC's position is that none of the areas experiencing outages during the specified timeframes for the Derecho or Hurricane Beryl were vulnerable. We take pride in doing our best to operate and maintain our distribution system in a safe and responsible manner. The hail damage during the Derecho interval was unavoidable. Egg sized pieces of hail would damage any electric meter. The single instance of line down was due to high winds, which are not unusual for our area. The outages during the Beryl interval were typical of a common lightning storm.

SPONSOR:
James Muschalek

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

RESPONSE:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) was not adversely impacted by the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl, therefore SPEC did not encounter any challenges restoring operations.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative was not adversely impacted by the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl, therefore an "after action" report was not prepared.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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

RESPONSE:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative was not adversely impacted by the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl therefore we do not have any additional information to provide at this time.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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. A detailed communications plan is available in SPEC's 2024 Emergency Operations Plan, which was in effect prior to July 8, 2024. This plan explains how the co-op would communicate to these groups in the event of an emergency. The entirety of this communication plan is provided in response to STAFF 1-11.
b. In addition to onsite personnel, SPEC utilizes a third-party call center, Cooperative Response Center (CRC). This call center is staffed around the clock and would be utilized to handle call volume during and after a major storm.
c. Not applicable. SPEC's members do not have retail electric providers.

SPONSOR:
Brittany Williams

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative was not adversely impacted by the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl, therefore our communication plans were not activated.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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:

SPEC was not adversely affected by Hurricane Beryl and therefore did not receive any member feedback regarding restoration efforts.

SPONSOR:
Brittany Williams

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:

SPEC has a comprehensive communications plan in place and is not aware of any communications issues at this time.

SPONSOR:
Brittany Williams

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:

SPEC has a comprehensive communications plan in place and is not aware of any communications issues at this time.

SPONSOR:
Brittany Williams

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. Our Call Center employs 281 personnel.

b. See chart below.

Skill	FTE	Bodies	FT	PT	Contracted	Temp Seasonal
CSR 1	142.9	162	84%	16%	0%	0%
CSR 4	80.8	87	98%	2%	0%	0%
CSL	10	10	100%		0%	0%
FL	9	9	100%		0%	0%
Sup	13	13	100%		0%	0%
Total Contact Center			88%	12%		

c. The target wait time or response time for calls are:
   i. CSR 1 (member calls) goal: 65% of all calls answered within 30 seconds or less.
   ii. CSR 4 (dispatch) goal: 85% of all calls answered within 20 seconds or less.

d. The target resolution time for calls is 258 seconds or less.

e. CRC's agents all undergo extensive training at the time of onboarding on how to handle a multitude of call questions. They are taught de-escalation skills, listening skills, importance of clear and concise documentation, and communication skills. The specific skills are many, but do include high call volume such as hurricanes, tornados, ice storms, etc. Also, they are taught line safety protocols for times when hazards, such as a downed line, are reported. While employed with CRC they also attend quarterly department meetings where skill refreshers are taught. Weekly meetings with their direct supervisor also include skill-up training. Each agent also has a site customer service lead who provides them with up-training when needed.

f. The total number of calls taken from our call center during or in the aftermath of Hurricane Beryl was 30 calls.

SPONSOR:
Rose Lujan

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:

June 6, 2024 – 22 calls
June 7, 2024 – 2 calls
June 8, 2024 – 4 calls
June 9, 2024 – 2 calls
June 10, 2024 – 0 calls

SPONSOR:
Rose Lujan

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative was not adversely impacted by the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl, therefore our communication plan was not activated.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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:

Yes, all calls that come into our call center are recorded and retained for 7 years.

SPONSOR:
Rose Lujan

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:

All calls are recorded.

SPONSOR:
Rose Lujan

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) was not adversely impacted by the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl. The call volume for SPEC did not reach levels sufficient to require pre-recorded messages regarding storm restoration efforts.

SPONSOR:
Rose Lujan

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:

a. SPEC's outage tracker is called simply Outage Map and has been accessible since June 1, 2016.

b. The last update for the outage software was 2/28/2024

c. The outage tracker was functioning throughout all the intervals in question.

d. The Outage Map is mobile friendly but may require some re-orientation and zoom in or out.

e. English is the only language supported by Outage Map.

f. The Outage Map only provides outage information by two geographic areas (County & Board District). The Outage Map does not provide circuit or meter level data.

g. The Outage web map is hosted on premises by a secure server within our private network. The server it resides on is the same as our billing system, which also receives the metering telemetry the OMS processes. We are to begin the process of transitioning to a cloud-based system sometime after January 2025.

h. Because the OMS is hosted locally, the controlling service will allow 750 hits per second. Once on a cloud-based system, there will be no limits because it will be able to scale up.

i. Yes, we do have internal redundancies/contingencies for outage tracking. Our call center for weekends, after hours and major events is Cooperative Response Center, Inc. (CRC). We have provided CRC with copies of our OMS engineering model, and they track outages independently. We can access their system remotely if our OMS fails.

j. We have never deliberately requested a stress test to be performed on our Outage Map, but the system did operate successfully throughout Hurricane Harvey on August 25, 2017, and thereafter.

SPONSOR:
James Muschalek

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:

On the date of May 16, 2024 there were 0 users that viewed SPEC's outage map. On May 17, 2024 a total of 6 users viewed SPEC's outage map.

SPONSOR:
Brittany Williams

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:

On July 8, 2024 there were 133 users that viewed SPEC's outage map.

On July 9, 2024 there were 0 users that viewed SPEC's outage map.

SPONSOR:

Brittany Williams

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:

SPEC has an outage notification system that automatically delivers outage notifications to affected members by email, with a text opt-in option as well. Initial outage and restoration notices are regularly sent out this way. In the event of a large storm, SPEC can also send outage updates to members through email and/or text.

SPEC's communications plan also addresses communicating about outages through the cooperative's website and social media, as well as through local media resources.

SPONSOR:
Brittany Williams

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:

SPEC was not adversely affected by the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl, therefore the cooperative did not exercise any of the processes or policies outlined in Staff 1-35.

SPONSOR:
Brittany Williams

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:	Quantity	Percentage
Aransas	42	0.336
Bee	4621	36.950
Goliad	294	2.351
Jim Wells	256	2.047
Live Oak	3637	29.082
McMullen	127	1.016
Nueces	3	0.024
Refugio	608	4.862
San Patricio	2918	23.333
Totals:	12506	100%

SPONSOR:
James Muschalek

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative was not adversely impacted by the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl, therefore we did not contact our local governments.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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:

SPEC does not serve medical or eldercare facilities but does maintain a list of critical infrastructure and critical care members. The communications plan for these members is detailed in SPEC's EOP section 2.3.11 Critical Load Customers.

In the event of a major hurricane or storm, SPEC would make efforts to contact these members through calls, texts or emails. In the event these methods are unavailable, SPEC would utilize its field personnel, or partner with local law enforcement or medical personnel to make in-person visits.

SPEC provides four notices each year to its members with instructions on how to join its critical care and critical load lists. Bill inserts are provided to all members with April and October bills each year. Further, this information is printed in SPEC's Texas Co-op Power Magazine in February and August of each year. In addition, this information is available on the cooperative's website.

SPONSOR:
Brittany Williams

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:

SPEC was not adversely affected by Hurricane Beryl and therefore did not exercise its policies and procedures to contact critical care facilities.

SPONSOR:
Brittany Williams

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:

SPEC would communicate with these members through call, text or email to provide relevant information as frequently as necessary or possible. The frequency of this communication may vary due to the nature and extent of the service outage or restoration effort.

SPONSOR:
Brittany Williams

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

RESPONSE:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative (SPEC) was not adversely impacted by Hurricane Beryl, however SPEC did participate on daily calls with our G&T, South Texas Electric Cooperative (STEC) during the tracking of Hurricane Beryl to discuss storm readiness and also to discuss storm damage after the hurricane made landfall in STEC's eastern most service area. Teams calls made on;

7/2/2024	15:00
7/3/2024	15:00
7/4/2024	15:00
7/5/2024	15:00
7/6/2024	15:00
7/8/2024	15:00
7/9/2024	8:30 & 17:00
7/10/2024	8:30 & 17:00
7/11/2024	16:00

SPONSOR:

Ron Hughes

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) does have a restoration plan as part of our EOP. Please see excerpt from Section (B) Load Shed Annex, B2 Restoration Plan, Pg. 31 B.2.4 Restoration Plan below:

B.2 Restoration Plan

B.2.1 Purpose and Applicability

To provide the guidelines, policies, and procedures that SPEC shall utilize in system restoration activities, including restoration following a Firm Load Shed event.

B.2.2 Administration / Initial Tasks

Develop / Implement a Restoration Priorities Plan as part of the EOP Load Shed Annex: SPEC shall develop and maintain a Restoration Priorities Plan that includes restoration priorities and procedures, including procedures related to restoring load after a Firm Load Shed event. The Operations Manager develops and maintains the Restoration Priorities Plan.

B.2.3 Annual Review / Ongoing Maintenance

Operations Manager shall conduct a review of the Restoration Priorities Plan each year. This review shall occur prior to the annual table-top exercise, or as needed. The Restoration Priorities Plan shall be reviewed as necessary or at a minimum, annually.

B.2.4 Restoration Priorities and Process

- SPEC will coordinate with STEC regarding the restoration of feeders that are shed in a Firm Load Shed (EEA-3) event. This restoration process should be controlled by STEC utilizing SCADA. If restoration of certain feeders require sectionalizing in order to restore service, SPEC operations personnel will coordinate with STEC on these restoration tasks.
- The priority of SPEC in restoring service shall begin with restoring power to all main feeders/circuits. Once electric power has been restored to all main feeders/circuits the cooperative will begin prioritizing remaining outages. Locations involving electric service to critical loads, including to gas pipelines and infrastructure serving generation facilities along with hospitals, nursing homes, and other locations involving community health and safety will be given priority over less critical loads. In addition to priorities concerning community health and safety, crews shall be assigned to defined areas. Generally, crews shall concentrate on a given feeder, working to the end or to a sectionalizing point, and then returning to restore service on single phase lines or taps off the feeder.
- Restorations shall be done systematically, avoiding pressure from individuals for special attention. However, one or more crews may be assigned to locations where special hazards

exist or where especially critical loads require immediate attention. When not on special assignments, these crews may be used to repair individual services.

- No crew shall be sent to work in a county or area where a known biohazard or terrorist act has occurred until clearance has been granted by the county sheriff's department in the affected area.

B.2.5 Additional Information

- SPEC Operations personnel shall categorize, prioritize and sequence loads and establish procedures for restoration of service.
- The plan incorporates the guidelines for coordinating emergency assistance with other cooperatives. The procedure for securing assistance is in accordance with the plan developed by the Texas Electric Cooperatives for TEC and mutual Cooperative assistance request process.
- SPEC critical assets and facilities include all distribution facilities and equipment, the Headquarters office, District offices, and the SPEC Dispatch / Operations Center.
- Critical assets and infrastructure served by SPEC's electric system identified as elements of national security are included in the listings in this section.
- SPEC has interconnections with STEC. SPEC shall maintain close communications with STEC during the restoration process.
- Once STEC has notified SPEC that generation, transmission, and substation services have been restored, SPEC shall systematically begin to energize its distribution feeders/circuits as conditions allow. SPEC shall coordinate local pickup with STEC to ascertain system stability and adequate system resources.
- SPEC can confirm the status of distribution breakers via its use of STEC's SCADA system and subsequently the restoration of service to its members via follow-up calls to selected members.
- Crews shall be assigned to distribution feeders, working to the end of the feeder or to a sectionalizing point, and then restoring service on single-phase lines or taps. Restorations shall be done systematically, avoiding pressure from individuals for special attention. However, one or more crews may be assigned to locations where special hazards exist or where especially critical loads require immediate attention.
- SPEC Operations personnel shall coordinate with SPEC Dispatch to identify Critical Loads that may be able to be prioritized during restoration efforts (see Critical Loads section B.2)
- SPEC shall perform post-energization inspections of substations to verify asset status and condition.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

Please see answer to Staff 1-43. This plan assures restoration process will focus on the circuits impacting the largest number of members first and then direct resources to critical loads and critical care.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative was not adversely impacted by the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl, therefore we have not made any changes or modifications to our service restoration plans during and in the aftermath of the May 2024 Derecho or Hurricane Beryl.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative was not adversely impacted by Hurricane Beryl, therefore no damage assessment, vegetation or line crews were deployed.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative was not adversely impacted by Hurricane Beryl, therefore we have a limited number of outages caused by thunderstorms related to Hurricane Beryl.

County	Meters Out	Percentage of Meters Out by County
Aransas	0	0%
Bee	4	0.091%
Goliad	0	0%
Jim Wells	1	0.389%
Live Oak	25	0.725%
McMullen	3	2.362%
Nueces	0	0%
Refugio	0	0%
San Patricio	4	0.145%

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative Inc., (SPEC) was not adversely impacted by Hurricane Beryl, therefore calls received by our call center were dispatched directly to the service personnel on call.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

SPEC was not adversely affected by Hurricane Beryl and therefore did not engage with local, state or federal agencies regarding service restoration efforts.

Prior to Hurricane Beryl, SPEC utilized social media to share updates from the National Weather Service, including watches and warnings for its service area. The cooperative also used its website and social media to provide general power outage, storm and generator safety information.

SPONSOR:
Brittany Williams

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative Inc., (SPEC) was not adversely impacted by Hurricane Beryl, therefore SPEC did not experience any major challenges restoring power.

SPONSOR:

Albert Gaitan

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative Inc., (SPEC) was not adversely impacted by Hurricane Beryl, therefore there were no lessons learned about restoring service during Hurricane Beryl.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

Yes. April 12, 2022

SPONSOR:

Marcos N. Garcia

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:

Yes

SPONSOR:

Marcos N. Garcia

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) utilizes a third party contractor to inspect and treat all distribution poles.

a. SPEC goal is to inspect and treat distribution poles every 8 – 10 years.

b. SPEC uses the N.E.S.C Table 261-1A

c. SPEC uses the N.E.S.C Table 261-1A

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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

RESPONSE:

Right-of-way width for both 3 phase and single phase distribution lines for SPEC is 15 feet on either side of distribution line.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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. Below is a list of feeders reporting outages during the interval specified for the Derecho and Hurricane Beryl respectively. Again, SPEC believes neither event directly impacted our system, or the impact was not significant relative to our normal operations.

Derecho Circuits:

Circuit	Location	Pole Type
Substation 10 Circuit 4	George West, Middle Rd.	100% Wood, Southern Pine
Substation 6 Circuit 3	Mathis, Dinero	99.5% Wood, Southern Pine, 0.5% Ductile Iron
Substation 8 Circuit 1	Refugio, Blanconia	99.7% Wood, Southern Pine, 0.3% Ductile Iron

Hurricane Beryl

Circuit	Location	Pole Type
Substation 9 Circuit 1	Beeville, Normanna/Tuleta	99.6% Wood, Southern Pine, 0.4% Concrete (6 poles)
Substation 9 Circuit 4	Beeville, STEC/Mineral	100% Wood, Southern Pine
Substation 4 Circuit 1	West Sinton, Hartzendorf/Papalote	99.8% Wood, Southern Pine, 0.2% Ductile Iron (4 poles)
Substation 2 Circuit 2	Taft, Redfish Camp	99.8% Wood, Southern Pine, 0.2% Ductile Iron (3 poles)
Substation 11 Circuit 1	West George West, Simmons	99.9% Wood, Southern Pine, 0.1% Ductile Iron (1 pole)
Substation 11 Circuit 2	West George West, Rhode Ranch	+99.9% Wood, Southern Pine, less than 0.1% Ductile Iron (2 pole)
Substation 5 Circuit 2	Sandia, Knolle	+99.9% Wood, Southern Pine, less than 0.1% Ductile Iron (1 pole)

b. SPEC did not have any pole failures during the Hurricane Beryl or the Derecho timeframes. Quantity and percentage are zero

c. No failures. Not applicable

d. No failures. Not applicable

e. We have always built to RUS standards which meet or exceed NESC specifications.

f. SPEC has no plans to change our building standards. We weathered Hurricane Harvey reasonably well.

g. SPEC has no plans to change our building standards. Not applicable- no rebuilding.

SPONSOR:
James Muschalek

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 criterion.

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:

a. San Patricio Electric Cooperative has no poles on our system that are taller than 60 feet above ground. Our tallest poles are 65 feet, and we have only six poles that size. Of course, these poles are buried more than 5 feet. We do contact taller poles that are over 60 feet above ground. These poles we contact are all owned by STEC or AEP. We are only responsible for maintaining any equipment that contacts the pole, but we will report any defects or hazards observed.

b. SPEC did not suffer damage to our system due to Beryl or the Derecho.

c. All our new line construction is designed to conform with current RUS construction standards.

SPONSOR:
James Muschalek

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:

SPEC utilizes RUS construction standards which require poles to be set at a depth equal to 10% of overall pole height plus 2 feet. These standards have not been changed in the past 10 years.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) has a combination of 35 ft class 5 poles, 35 ft class 6 and 40 ft class 5 poles throughout our system. For the past 10 years SPEC has transitioned from using 35 ft class 6 poles to using 40 ft class 5 poles as a standard for our distribution system.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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

RESPONSE:

SPEC has always built to RUS standards which meet or exceed NESC specifications.

SPONSOR:
James Muschalek

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:

SPEC typically builds distribution lines to RUS Specifications. If we are confronted with unusual circumstances (i.e. requires larger conductors, new materials or longer spans than we are familiar with), we will send drawings or other materials to be reviewed by our contracted engineering firm. I do not know of any new NESC strength or overload factors we have adopted in the last two years.

SPONSOR:
James Muschalek

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:

SPEC's distribution lines were not damaged by Hurricane Beryl and the May 2024 Derecho.

a. See response to STAFF 1-60 for our construction standards.

b. The overwhelming number of poles in plant are creosote treated Southern Pine poles.

c. SPEC specifies a 30 foot ROW, 15' on each side of our lines.

d. SPEC adheres to RUS standards that meet or exceed NESC specifications.

e. Does not apply. No damage experienced.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

SPEC had no impact or any poles down for either of the events in question. As of 08/22/2024 SPEC's physical plant had a total of 65,911 poles in service. Of that number, 65,821 were wooden poles of various classes. There are 82 steel or ductile iron poles and 8 concrete poles that are typically class 3 poles or under.

SPONSOR:
James Muschalek

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:

SPEC had zero (0) poles fail in either of the timeframes specified.

SPONSOR:
James Muschalek

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:

SPEC had zero (0) poles fail in either of the timeframes specified.

SPONSOR:
James Muschalek

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:

No poles failed in either interval specified. SPEC was not impacted by either event.

SPONSOR:
James Muschalek

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:

It would depend on whether or not it can be determined that meeting more stringent construction standards will, in fact, improve service reliability over the life of the asset. For areas that only experience one hurricane every 20 to 30 years it is likely that, regardless of what NESC codes are in place at the time of construction, most failures will be due to age/deterioration of infrastructure by the time another hurricane hits. Perhaps the cost of meeting stricter construction codes should be weighed against what is an acceptable outcome.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) is an electric distribution cooperative. SPEC does not own or operate transmission facilities.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) is an electric distribution cooperative. SPEC does not own or operate transmission facilities.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) is an electric distribution cooperative. SPEC does not own or operate transmission facilities.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) is an electric distribution cooperative. SPEC does not own or operate transmission facilities.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) is an electric distribution cooperative. SPEC does not own or operate transmission facilities.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes

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. SPEC does not have any internal vegetation management staff. SPEC contracts vegetation management to a vegetation management contractor and establishes an annual vegetation management plan based on the annual vegetation management budget. The co-op's current contractor consists of a total of four crews. Three crews have three men, and one crew has two men.

b. SPEC does not have specific data regarding the FTEs on the contractor vegetation management staff. SPEC does not have any internal vegetation management staff.

c. SPEC does not have specific data regarding the FTEs on the contractor vegetation management staff. SPEC does not have any internal vegetation management staff.

d. SPEC had determined that it is cost effective to contract out vegetation management services.

e. SPEC's vegetation management contractor has an arborist on staff to provide consulting and guidance as needed.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

SPEC utilizes clearance standards of 12 feet for the minimum clearance standards for SPEC's distribution system which operates at 12.5 and 24.9 KV.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) is predominantly rural and does not have high customer count circuit segments. SPEC routinely trims all circuits on a 4-to-6-year cycle.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

2020		2021		2022		2023		2024	
Sub 9 Cir 4	2/025/20	Sub 7 Cir 1	2/6/2021	Sub 12 Cir 1	4/16/2022	Sub 2 Cir 2	2/15/2023	Sub 9 Cir 2	1/16/2024
Sub 10 Cir 3	3/24/2020	Sub 6 Cir 2	2/26/2021	Sub 13 Cir 1	5/2/2022	Sub 11 Cir 3	3/15/2023	Sub 11 Cir 2	5/22/2024
Sub 6 Cir 1	7/9/2020	Sub 4 Cir 2	4/23/2021	Sub 12 Cir 4	7/31/2022	Sub 9 Cir 2	carried over to 24	Sub 4 Cir 3	In progress
Sub 10 Cir 1	6/13/2020	Sub 3 Cir 2	6/26/2021	Sub 11 Cir 1	8/18/2022				
Sub 10 Cir 4	7/31/2020	Sub 10 Cir 5	7/21/2021	Sub 1 Cir 2	10/4/2022				
Sub 10 Cir 2	10/23/2020	Sub 3 Cir 1	9/17/2021	Sub 2 Cir 1	12/21/2022				
		Sub 13 Cir 2	12/24/2021						

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

No. SPEC considers 100% of the SPEC system to be "hurricane prone". SPEC utilizes the same vegetation management process for the entire SPEC system.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

SPEC did not have any circuits that experienced a vegetation-related outage during the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

SPEC did not have any circuits that experienced a vegetation-related outage during the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

SPEC did not have any circuits that experienced a vegetation-related outage during the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl and therefore did not have any forced interruptions.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

SPEC did not have any circuits that experienced a vegetation-related outage during the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl and therefore did not have any forced interruptions.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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

RESPONSE:

SPEC's Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) is based on an annual budget for vegetation management with a scope of contracting for annual services that cover approximately $1/4^{th}$ to $1/6^{th}$ of the distribution system each year.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

SPEC did not have any circuits that experienced a vegetation-related outage during the May 2024 Derecho and Hurricane Beryl and therefore did not have any forced interruptions due to vegetation.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

Vegetation in San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) service area consists of predominately mesquite and hackberry trees with some oaks. Very few trees outside our right of way would impact our distribution lines. If there was an issue, SPEC service personnel and or our VM contractor would inform the member.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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:

San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) does not have a program or initiative to address vegetation management hazards outside of SPEC's easements, however if such a condition is discovered by SPEC service crews or the VM crews the member will be contacted and made aware of the situation.

SPONSOR:
Albert Gaitan

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. San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SPEC) maintains a mutual aid agreement with Texas Electric Cooperative (TEC) our statewide association. Said mutual aid agreement was last executed on April 13th, 2022 and is still in effect.

b. See Mutual Aid Agreement Exhibit 1-86 (b)

c. Mutual aid provided by SPEC is available to any of the other electric cooperatives in Texas that have also signed the same mutual aid agreement. See Exhibit 1-86 (c) for the complete list of participating cooperatives. SPEC provided four linemen to Jackson Electric Cooperative during Hurricane Beryl under the mutual aid agreement.

SPONSOR:
Ron Hughes