

Entergy Texas May 9, 2011 News Release

Entergy Under Power Pressures Due to ‘Perfect Storm’

Storms, flooding, high heat and maintenance challenging companies’ ability to meet demands

Beaumont, Texas — The combination of damage from recent storms, current flood conditions, unusually high demand from higher temperatures and routine scheduled maintenance is challenging the ability of Entergy utilities in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas to meet customer demands for power.

Entergy has already reduced demand by curtailing some industrial and wholesale customers with whom the company has special agreements.

“This is a very unique situation, and we are facing significant challenges,” said Joe Domino, Entergy Texas, Inc. president and chief executive officer. “We’re working to import purchased power and we’ve curtailed power sales to those with whom we have agreements, but it’s important that our customers are aware that we could face power shortages until these conditions improve.”

Damage to Entergy’s transmission facilities in Arkansas from several April storms makes operating the undamaged parts of the company’s four-state system a challenge until repair and restoration are complete. Massive resources are focused on getting them back into service, but it remains a huge, labor-intensive project.

Entergy is required to meet the National Electric Safety Code for transmission line clearance and the floods are challenging the company’s ability to do so. The threat of Mississippi River flooding means some generating plants along the river, as well as some transmission and distribution lines, may be restricted or taken offline due to limited transmission availability across the system.

“Our number one focus is the safety of the public and our employees, and this is the primary reason Entergy may shut down some facilities and/or lines,” Domino said.

In addition, unseasonably high temperatures are creating additional demands on the power grid as customers use more electricity to cool their homes and businesses. This is occurring at a time when some plants are already offline for routine scheduled maintenance in preparation for summer’s peak demands.

Any steps customers can take to conserve power at this time will help lessen the risk for power curtailment and the severity of any necessary curtailment. Some ways customers can reduce their energy usage include:

- Set your thermostat to 78 degrees or the highest comfortable temperature.
- When using window units, shut doors to unused rooms, and close floor or wall registers used for heating.
- Keep air conditioner filters clean. Aluminum mesh filters should be washed and

- fiberglass filters should be replaced monthly.
- Leave storm windows and doors closed when the air conditioner is on.
- Close shades and drapes on the sunny side of the house during the day to keep light and heat out.
- Don't block air vents with curtains, shades or furniture.
- Keep the cool air in your home circulating with ceiling, oscillating or box fans. Circulating air makes you feel cooler and allows you to set your thermostat higher.
- Use kitchen and bathroom exhaust fans to remove excess heat and humidity caused by cooking, laundering and bathing.

Entergy Texas, Inc. provides electricity to more than 400,000 customers in 27 counties. It is a subsidiary of Entergy Corporation. Entergy is an integrated energy company engaged primarily in electric power production and retail distribution operations. Entergy owns and operates power plants with approximately 30,000 megawatts of electric generating capacity, and it is the second-largest nuclear generator in the United States. Entergy delivers electricity to 2.7 million utility customers in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. Entergy has annual revenues of more than \$10 billion and more than 15,000 employees.

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