

Public Utility Commission of Texas

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News Release
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Rolling power outages underway

The Public Utility Commission alerts Texans within the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) region that rolling power outages are underway.

The PUC urges customers to reduce electricity use as much as possible. The current conservation alert can be found the PowerfulAdvice section on the PUC Web site by linking to the colored box near the lower right corner of the PUC home page www.puc.state.tx.us

Power Emergency Rotating Outages

On BLACK days, rolling outages are occurring and are needed to prevent uncontrolled rolling blackouts. BLACK Alerts will be declared when there is insufficient electricity available to meet customer demand and rolling outages are occurring during peak demand hours. ERCOT is currently in Level 3 of its Energy Emergency Alert (EEA), which includes rolling outages to achieve frequency curtailment. Consumers should reduce their consumption of electricity as much as possible to help prevent rolling blackouts.

- ✓ Rotating outages will be limited in duration to between 10-45 minutes, unless equipment trips due to a power surge during the restoration process.
- ✓ Customers can minimize the chance that power surges will occur by turning off all appliances, lights, and other electrical equipment. Leave one task light on to determine when power has been restored.
- ✓ Minimize unnecessary travel, as traffic signals may go out of service, resulting in traffic jams.

Go to www.powertochoose.org to see if you can save money by switching to a lower cost retail electricity provider. Your choice of electric provider does not affect the reliability of your electric service, the frequency or duration of outages, or the time it will take to have your electric service restored if an outage occurs.

Information about bill payment assistance, low-income weatherization and energy efficiency measures is also available on the PUC Website and by phone toll-free at 1-888-782-8477.

All PUC News Releases are available at www.puc.state.tx.us