

EEI Special Report: Harvey - 08/31/17, P.M. Edition

Member Company Preparations, Outages, and Restoration

[Crews Across South Mobilizing to Help Restore Energy Grid in Harvey's Wake](#)

SNL, August 31, 2017

According to Scott Aaronson, executive director for security and business continuity for the Edison Electric Institute, storm recovery efforts generally start before a weather system even hits an area. In the case of Harvey, planning began 24 to 36 hours before the storm made landfall late Aug. 25 just north of Corpus Christi. "To be flip about it, electricity and water do not mix well," Aaronson said. "Our systems are particularly resilient to flooding, but customers' may not be. And before we can safely restore a customer, we have to make sure that customer is able to receive power safely."

Tags: Alabama Power Company, CenterPoint Energy, Inc., Consolidated Edison, Duke Energy Corp., EEI, Entergy Arkansas, Kansas City Power & Light Company, Westar Energy

[AEP CEO Says Restoring Power to Texas Is a 'Challenge'](#)

Bloomberg, August 31, 2017

Several transmissions lines are out and the American Electric Power Co. has seen "significant" distribution losses in Texas after tropical storm Harvey. AEP CEO Nick Akins spoke to Alix Steel on "Bloomberg: Daybreak Americas."

Tags: American Electric Power

[Texas Suspends Utility Regulations to Enable Harvey Recovery](#)

SNL, August 31, 2017

The storm destroyed the Tatton substation in the AEP Texas Inc service territory serving the community of Holiday Beach and surrounding areas, which lies to the northeast of Corpus Christi, effectively "islanding" it from the rest of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas. AEP Texas is a subsidiary of American Electric Power Co. Inc.

Tags: American Electric Power, AEP Texas, CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

[Power Factbox: Texas PUC Acts to Expedite Electric Restoration](#)

Platts, August 31, 2017

CenterPoint Energy, Houston's main transmission and distribution utility reported Thursday morning that over the course of the storm it restored power to more than 850,000 customers. Around 51,000 were without power around 10 am Thursday, "of which 23,000 are still inaccessible due to high water," CenterPoint said.

Tags: AEP Texas, CenterPoint Energy, Inc., Cleco, Entergy Louisiana, Entergy New Orleans, Entergy Texas

[Harvey Cleanup Efforts for Gas Companies May be Cheaper Than Post-Sandy Repairs](#)

SNL, August 31, 2017

CenterPoint Energy Inc., whose gas distribution service territory runs along the southeastern portions of Texas that have been hit hardest by Harvey, does not have any low-pressure lines in the affected area, according to company spokeswoman Alicia Dixon. CenterPoint's gas system has continued operating normally despite the storm and flooding, according to company updates.

Tags: CenterPoint Energy, Inc., Public Service Enterprise Group, Public Service Electric & Gas Company

[US Family Warns Others After Man is Electrocuted in Floodwaters](#)

Yahoo! 7 News, August 31, 2017

Andrew's mother told WFAA, "They couldn't get him out. Nobody could touch him. Nobody could resuscitate him. "Nobody could help him and they had to leave him there in the water for over an hour until CenterPoint came and finally turned off the electricity to the subdivision."

Tags: CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

[Harvey Ravages Power Generation and Transmission](#)

Power Magazine, August 31, 2017

As of 1 p.m. on August 30—about four days and 18 hours since the devastating system made landfall as a category 4 hurricane—utilities serving the storm-affected areas reported more than 296,000 customers without power. Most, about 105,660, were in the Corpus Christi area served by AEP Texas, but CenterPoint Energy was also scrambling to restore power to 89,089 customers in the Houston-Galveston area.

Tags: AEP Texas, CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

[Businesses Aid Victims of Harvey](#)

El Dorado News Times (TX), August 31, 2017

The El Dorado Entergy Office sent two linemen and three management personnel to Conroe, Texas – a town that falls within Houston-The Woodlands metropolitan area – said Bill Luther, customer service manager for the El Dorado area. He said the crew left El Dorado at 6:30 a.m. Tuesday.

Tags: Entergy Corp.

[Harvey: Hell & high water](#)

Port Aransas South Jetty (TX), August 31, 2017

AEP crews works to get utility poles back in operation on 11th Street following the path of destruction created by Hurricane Harvey that left Port Aransas without power, water or sewer.

Tags: AEP Texas

[Local Groups Hard at Work to Provide Hurricane Relief](#)

Alexander City Outlook (AL), August 31, 2017

Trying to bring electrical power back to the city of Houston, special personnel from Alabama Power left early Wednesday morning, heading for Texas. "We are glad that we can help assist CenterPoint Energy and the people of Houston who are suffering from this disaster," Power Delivery Services General Manager Pam Boyd said in the statement.

Tags: Alabama Power Company, CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

[AEP Texas Asks for Your Patience](#)

KRIS-TV (TX), August 31, 2017

AEP Texas brought in crews from all over the state of Texas and out of state to help restore power here in the Coastal Bend. "There is work to be done as we continue to try to practice safety and ask for everyone's patience. We know there are a lot of people without power, and we are doing the best we can to restore power to everyone affected by Hurricane Harvey," said AEP spokesperson Tony Arce.

Tags: AEP Texas

[Nearly 6,000 SWEPCO Customers Without Power](#)

KSLA-TV (LA), August 31, 2017

As of 6:15 a.m. nearly 70 customers in neighborhoods across Shreveport are without power. Bossier City has 50 customers without power in two outage cases, according to SWEPCO's outage map.

Tags: Southwestern Electric Power Company

[As Houston Begins to Assess Harvey's Damage, Storm Pummels Small Towns](#)

Governing, August 31, 2017

CenterPoint Energy was working to restore electricity to about 100,000 homes and businesses. By Wednesday evening, the number of customers without electrical service had been reduced to 75,000, including 32,000 in areas that remained inaccessible to work crews, officials said.

Tags: CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

Member Company Press Releases

[Restoration Update](#)

Entergy Texas Press Release, August 31, 2017

As of 10 a.m., just over 56,600 customers remain without power, down from a peak of more than 84,000. Currently there are 6,393 customers that are without power and are unable to be restored at this time due to high water.

Tags: Entergy Texas

[AEP Texas Hurricane Harvey Restoration Update - 8-31-2017](#)

AEP Texas Press Release, August 31, 2017

AEP Texas has restored power to approximately two-thirds of the customers left without power as a result of Hurricane Harvey. In Corpus Christi, crews have restored power to 83,400 of those left without power and we continue working hard to achieve the 95 percent reduction level originally projected for Wednesday night.

Tags: AEP Texas

Additional Harvey Coverage

[Pence Tells Texans Housing Biggest Challenge in Harvey Recovery](#)

Bloomberg, August 31, 2017

Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Elaine Duke told reporters traveling with the vice president that about two million Texans have been evacuated and that crews are working to restore power to about 200,000 residents and businesses that are without power along with 11,000 more in Louisiana. There are about 32,000 people in shelters.

[Mike Pence Visits Hurricane-Ravaged Texas](#)

CNN, August 31, 2017

Vice President Mike Pence traveled to hurricane-struck Texas on Thursday and met with Texans affected by the storm.

[Harvey Live Updates: Blasts at Plant in Crosby, Texas, Underscore Worries About Storm Damage](#)

New York Times, August 31, 2017

A series of small explosions shook a chemical plant northeast of Houston on Thursday and more blasts were expected, after floodwaters shut down the cooling systems that kept the chemicals stable.

[Chemicals Catch Fire at Plant Flooded by Harvey](#)

Wall Street Journal, August 31, 2017

Containers of unstable chemicals stored at a Texas plant near Houston heated up and caught fire early Thursday morning, hours after the facility's owner urged residents and others to stay away.

[Harvey's Wrath: Chemicals Ignite at Flooded Plant in Texas as Storm's Devastation Lingers](#)

Washington Post, August 31, 2017

The remnants of Hurricane Harvey carried its wrath up the Mississippi Delta on Thursday, but not before hammering the Gulf Coast with more punishing cloudbursts and growing threats that included reports of "pops" and "chemical reactions" at a crippled chemical plant and the collapse of the drinking water system in a Texas city.

[Crosby, Texas, Chemical Plant Explodes Twice, Arkema Group Says](#)

NBC News, August 31, 2017

Two explosions shook a flooded chemical plant near Houston early Thursday, sending a plume of black smoke into the air and triggering an intense fire that continued to burn.

[A Sea of Health and Environmental Hazards in Houston's Floodwaters](#)

New York Times, August 31, 2017

Officials in Houston are just beginning to grapple with the health and environmental risks that lurk in the waters dumped by Hurricane Harvey, a stew of toxic chemicals, sewage, debris and waste that still floods much of the city.

[Agency Chiefs Tackle Harvey but Dispute Climate's Role](#)

Environment & Energy Publishing, August 31, 2017

The heads of President Trump's energy and environment agencies have taken an all-hands-on-deck approach to tackling Hurricane Harvey, bouncing from cable network interviews to meetings with local officials in Texas.

[Evacuees Crowd Into Shelters as Harvey Soaks Louisiana](#)

Wall Street Journal, August 31, 2017

As the Houston region begins to emerge from Harvey's beating, communities in eastern Texas and Louisiana are struggling to handle thousands of evacuees displaced by record rainfalls that have submerged entire towns.

[Harvey Flooding Prompts New Evacuations Near Houston's Barker Reservoir; Death Toll Climbs to At Least 31](#)

Weather Channel, August 31, 2017

The death toll from Harvey climbed to at least 31 Thursday, as new mandatory evacuations were issued around Houston's Barker Reservoir.

[After Hurricane Harvey, Port Arthur Residents Remain Stranded and Homes Still Flooded. Mayor Says](#)

ABC News, August 31, 2017

Although Harvey's floodwaters have begun to recede in parts of Port Arthur, Texas, Mayor Derrick Freeman told ABC News an unknown number of residents remain stranded and some homes, including his own, are still inundated with knee-deep water.

[More Than 1 Million Public School Students Estimated to be Impacted by Hurricane Harvey](#)

ABC News, August 31, 2017

"We're anticipating once the waters start receding, we're going to be finding pretty extensive damage," Houston Independent School District (ISD) Superintendent Richard A. Carranza told ABC News Wednesday, adding that water and roof damages and power outages have been found so far in the accessible campuses.

[Hurricane Harvey Devastated Texas. See the Wreckage From a Drone](#)

USA Today, August 31, 2017

Hurricane Harvey dumped feet of rain over parts of east Texas and its blistering winds destroyed buildings, boats and homes standing in its path.

[Drones to Assess Storm Damage in First Wide-Scale Operation](#)

Environment & Energy Publishing, August 31, 2017

Companies are sending out fleets of drones to assess the damage left by Hurricane Harvey. It's the first large-scale drone operation to measure disaster damage since the Federal Aviation Administration approved the technology last year for commercial use.

[Harvey Threats Loom for Texas as Houston Floodwaters Recede -- Live Updates](#)

CBS News, August 31, 2017

Major dangers for the U.S. Gulf Coast area loomed Thursday with the threat of major flooding further east near the Texas-Louisiana line and a fire at a Texas chemical plant as Harvey's floodwaters began receding in the Houston area after five days of torrential rain.

[Harvey Heroism: Citizens Step Up to Help Others During Deadly Storm](#)

FOX News, August 31, 2017

In the midst of deadly Tropical Storm Harvey's assault on Texas, people stepped up to help those trapped by rising floodwaters and shut out from basic necessities, with heroes forming human chains, delivering pizzas on kayaks and engaging in dramatic rescues.

[Why We Don't Yet Know Harvey's True Toll](#)

CNN, August 31, 2017

In all, 53 Texas counties issued emergency declarations -- an area that's home to around 11.4 million people. How many people successfully fled their homes ahead of the storm? How many are still waiting to be rescued?

[Scammers Using Robo-Calls About Insurance to Fleece Hurricane Harvey Survivors](#)

Washington Post, August 31, 2017

Amid the many feel-good stories about strangers helping strangers in the wake of Hurricane Harvey, a feel-bad story has almost inevitably surfaced: Scammers are using robo-calls to try to fleece storm survivors.