

By: Paddie

H.B. No. 13

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of the Texas Energy Disaster Reliability Council.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 184, Utilities code, is amended by adding Subchapter F to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER F. TEXAS ENERGY DISASTER RELIABILITY COUNCIL

Sec. 186.101. DEFINITION. In this subchapter:

(1) "Council" means the Texas Energy Disaster Reliability Council established under this subchapter;

(2) "Disaster" has the meaning assigned by Section 418.001 and includes an extended power outage;

(3) "Division" means the Texas Division on Emergency Management;

(4) "Electric utility" means an entity, including a river authority, electric cooperative, or municipally owned utility, that:

(A) provides power generation service in this state; or

(B) provides transmission or distribution service in this state;

(5) "Extended power outage" means an interruption in electric service lasting more than 24 hours.

(6) "Gas provider" means:

1 (A) a gas pipeline facility operator; or

2 (B) an operator of a gas well

3 (7) "Railroad Commission" means the Texas Railroad
4 Commission;

5 (8) "Utility Commission" means the Public Utility
6 Commission of Texas.

7 Sec. 181.102. TEXAS ENERGY DISASTER RELIABILITY COUNCIL.

8 (a) The Texas Energy Disaster Reliability Council is established
9 under this subchapter to:

10 (1) prevent an extended power outage caused by a
11 disaster;

12 (2) implement procedures to manage emergencies caused
13 by a disaster;

14 (3) maintain records of critical infrastructure
15 facilities to maintain service in a disaster;

16 (4) coordinate the delivery of fuel to electric
17 generators in a disaster;

18 (5) monitor supply chains in the electric grid to
19 minimize service disruptions; and

20 (6) study and make recommendations on methods to
21 maintain reliability in the electric grid, including gas supply
22 networks, during a disaster.

23 Sec. 181.103. COMPOSITION OF COUNCIL. (a) The council
24 consists of:

25 (1) the chair of the utility commission;

26 (2) the executive director of the utility commission;

27 (3) the chair of the railroad commission;

1 (4) the executive director of the railroad commission;

2 (5) the chief executive officer of the independent
3 organization established by Section 39.151, Utilities Code;

4 (6) the chief of the division.

5 (b) The chief of the division shall serve as presiding
6 officer.

7 (c) The council shall hold semiannual meetings on the weeks
8 of March 1 and September 1 of each year.

9 (d) In addition to he meetings required by Subsection (b),
10 council shall convene as soon as reasonably possible during or
11 prior to a disaster to address an extended power outage caused by a
12 disaster in order coordinate fuel supplies and to minimize the
13 duration of the extended power outage.

14 (e) In carrying out its functions, the council may consult
15 and coordinate with:

16 (1) the United States Department of Energy;

17 (2) the United States Department of Homeland Security;

18 (3) the North American Electric Reliability
19 Corporation;

20 (4) the Texas Reliability Entity;

21 (5) federal and state agencies;

22 (6) members of the electric industry

23 (7) members of the gas industry; and

24 (8) grid security experts.

25 (f) An electric or gas utility shall provide any information
26 requested by the council.

27 (g) The meetings of the council and information obtained or

1 created by the council are not subject to the requirements of
2 Chapter 551 or 552, Government Code.

3 (h) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the
4 council.

5 Sec. 186.104. REPORT. (a) Not later than November 1 of each
6 even-numbered year, the council shall submit to the legislature a
7 report on the reliability and stability of the electric supply
8 chain in the state.

9 (b) The council shall make recommendations on methods to
10 strengthen our electric supply chain and to decrease extended power
11 outages caused by a disaster.

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.