

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: ***Status Report***

DATE: February 14, 2013

Status Report

1. BGE Response to Power Outages in City Neighborhoods

On November 6, 2012, Mayor Robinson sent a letter to BGE requesting information regarding power outages in the neighborhoods of Chapel Forge, Whitehall, Rockledge, Meadowbrook and Victoria Heights (see attached). Attached please find the BGE response to the Mayor's letter. BGE has concluded that: "After a full investigation and analysis of these three feeders, BGE can conclude that most of the damage seen within these feeders through the past three severe impact storms has come from large off-ROW trees that exist outside of BGE's trimming standards." Staff will continue to monitor the performance in these neighborhoods and bring any additional concerns to BGE's attention.

2. Economic Development Committee (EDC)

The EDC held their regular monthly meeting February 13. The Committee discussed the proposed change of covenants for Melford that would allow residential development on part of the property. The EDC members present voted unanimously (11 ayes, 1 recuse, 2 absent) to support the covenant change. Chairman Ahearn will draft a letter from the EDC to the Council with detailed comments and recommendations. The next regular meeting of the EDC is Wednesday, March 13, 2013.

3. Planning Board Results - Restoration Praise Center Day Care

Today, the Prince George's County Planning Board conducted a public hearing on Detailed Site Plan #DSP-05101/01 for a day care center at the future Restoration Praise Center and Church. The subject property is located on the south side of Old Stage Road, is zoned R-R (Rural Residential) and contains 7.5 acres. The property is not located within the corporate boundaries of the City. The City Council conducted a public hearing on this case on January 22, 2013, recommending approval with four (4) conditions. At the public hearing today, the County Planning Board voted to approve #DSP-05101/01, including all of the City's conditions. The motion for approval,

offered by Commissioner Shoaff and seconded by Commissioner Geraldo, passed unanimously by a vote of 3-0. (Commissioners Bailey and Washington were both absent from the meeting.)

DJD/asf

Attachment



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

November 6, 2012

Michael L. Fowler
Manager, Local Affairs
Governmental Affairs
Baltimore Gas and Electric Co.
47 State Circle, Suite 403
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Mr. Fowler:

The City is fortunate to have weathered Hurricane Sandy with approximately 1,800 power outages at the peak as a result of this storm. However, we have started to notice a trend in power outages in Bowie that we wish to bring to your attention for analysis and investigation.

We have noticed in large scale events that the neighborhoods of Chapel Forge, Whitehall, Rockledge, Meadowbrook and Victoria Heights have borne the brunt of recent storms and are oftentimes the last areas to be restored in major events. We believe this primarily involves the following feeders:

- Feeder 7421 serving Old Chapel Estates, Chapel Forge, Overbrook, Rockledge and Whitehall.
- Feeder 7438 serving Victoria Heights, Yorktown, Overbrook, Chapel Forge and Belair Town.
- Feeder 8414 serving Meadowbrook and Chapel Forge.

As you know, the neighborhoods on the list prepared by BGE do not always coordinate precisely with your feeder lists, so the above list may not be entirely accurate in pinpointing where these problems are most prominent regarding a particular feeder.

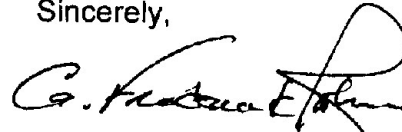
We would also note that on the most recent report presented to the Public Service Commission in May 2012, that each of these feeder lines performed well excluding major storms.

Finally, we recognize that these areas may have experienced the most outages and the longest restoration because they could have been hardest hit by recent storm events.

MAYOR G. Frederick Robinson MAYOR PRO TEM Diane M. Polangin
COUNCIL: Dennis Brady ♦ Henri Gardner ♦ James L. Marcos ♦ Isaac C. Trowth ♦ Todd M. Turner CITY MANAGER: David J. Deutsch
City Hall (301) 262-6200 FAX (301) 809-2302 TDD (301) 262-5013 WEB: www.cityofbowie.org

Thank you for looking at the performance of these three feeders, particularly in storm events, to determine if there are actions that can be taken by BGE to improve this situation. As always, we appreciate the investment that BGE has made in the Bowie area over the last five years. Hopefully, your analysis of these three feeders will determine actions that BGE can take to further improve reliability in the Bowie area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Frederick Robinson". The signature is stylized with a large, looping "R" at the end.

Bowie City Council
G. Frederick Robinson

Michael L. Fowler
Manager, Local Affairs
Governmental Affairs Department

47 State Circle
Suite 403
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-269-5279
410-269-5289 Fax



February 11, 2013

The Honorable G. Frederick Robinson
Mayor, City of Bowie
15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20715

Dear Mayor Robinson,

As you requested, BGE engineers have reviewed the outages occurring on feeders 7421, 7438, and 8414 following the recent significant storms. While the feeder supplies in Bowie rarely serve one neighborhood exclusively, BGE has tried to associate feeders with at least part of the neighborhoods they serve to provide a frame of reference. These feeders generally supply Old Chapel Estates, Chapel Forge, Overbrook, Rockledge, Whitehall, Victoria Heights, Yorktown, Belair Town, and Meadowbrook.

The engineers have found that each feeder experienced outages during the three severe impact storms of 2011/2012 (Hurricane Irene, the Derecho, and Hurricane Sandy – severe impact storms are defined as interrupting more than 250k customers), with the exception of feeder 8414 which was not interrupted by Hurricane Sandy. Additionally, some of these communities have been impacted by other major (> 100k customers interrupted) and minor (>12k interrupted) storms.

7421 – Old Chapel Estates, Chapel Forge, Overbrook, Rockledge and Whitehall

Hurricane Irene – A majority of customers experienced an outage of approximately 3 days. Large off-right-of-way (ROW) trees fell and damaged the mainline and, in turn, caused protective equipment and fuses to operate.

The Derecho Storm – A majority of customers were impacted by a 5 ½ day outage. Again, there was severe damage due to large off-ROW trees impacting the mainline. Overhead fuses operated when the trees damaged the lines.

Hurricane Sandy – Many customers within these communities experienced a 1 day outage due to overhead line damage was caused by off-ROW trees as well. The tree damage from this storm was minimal compared to the other severe impact storms.

In addition to the severe impact storms, this feeder saw outages due to other major and minor storms. Though outages were seen, they impacted a small number of customers and lasted less than 1 day. A post-derecho vegetation inspection was conducted on this feeder and several issues were resolved. The vegetation along this circuit was last trimmed in December of 2009 and is scheduled for routine trimming in 2013.

7438 – Victoria Heights, Yorktown, Overbrook, Chapel Forge and Belair Town

Hurricane Irene – A minimal amount of customers experienced an outage lasting approximately 3 ½ days. This damage was caused by large trees falling into the mainline of the feeder.

Protective equipment operated and isolated the outage. In this case, the protective equipment allowed for the other customers along the feeder to see little to no outages.

The Derecho Storm – Some customers within these communities saw a 3 ½ day outage.

Substantial wire and cross arm damage was found due to high winds, heavy rain, and large trees.

Hurricane Sandy – Some customers experienced an outage lasting approximately 1 ½ days.

Again, heavy rain and high winds caused damage to the overhead wires.

In addition to the severe impact storms, this feeder saw outages due to minor storms. Though outages were seen, they impacted a small number of customers and lasted less than 1 day.

BGE's investigation also showed that a minimal number of customers have experienced outages caused by animal contact. A post-derecho vegetation inspection was conducted on this feeder and several issues were resolved. The vegetation along this circuit was last trimmed in September of 2009 and is scheduled for routine trimming in 2013.

8414 – Meadowbrook and Chapel Forge

Hurricane Irene – A majority of the customers within these communities experienced a 3 day outage due to large off-ROW trees. In addition, a minimal amount of customers saw an additional 1 day outage because of isolated tree damage. Protective equipment operated to isolate these customers. Because of the operation, the rest of the feeder was not affected for the last day.

The Derecho Storm – A minimal amount of customers experienced a half-day outage. Tree damage was extremely minimal which accounted for such a quick restoration time.

Hurricane Sandy – Feeder 8414 performed very well during this storm. No operations were seen. Customers along this feeder had power throughout the event.

In addition to the severe impact storms, this feeder saw outages due to minor storms. Though outages were seen, they impacted a small number of customers and lasted less than 1 day. One minor storm impacted all customers along the feeder, but power was also restored in less than 24 hours. BGE's investigation also showed that a minimal number of customers have experienced outages due to animal contact. The vegetation along this circuit was last trimmed in April of 2011 and is scheduled for routine trimming in 2015.

After a full investigation and analysis of these three feeders, BGE can conclude that most of the damage seen within these feeders through the past three severe impact storms has come from large off-ROW trees that exist outside of BGE's trimming standards. An inspection of each feeder has confirmed that trimming standards are being met and equipment is working properly. BGE will continue to monitor the performance of all Bowie feeders and take any necessary action to ensure that the average Bowie customer continues to experience a level of service reliability equivalent to that of the average BGE customer. The annual performance data for the Bowie feeders, as well as the BGE feeder system ranking, are being prepared. That data will help BGE determine if any additional action is warranted. We will provide that information to you when we file it with the Maryland Public Service Commission later this spring. As always, if you receive complaints or concerns from your constituents regarding reliability please forward those to us for further analysis.

Thank you for your patience as we worked to address your questions. If you have any additional questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Fowler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael L. Fowler