



Louisiana Load Shed Event: What Commissioners Need to Know

Introduction

- My name is [Name], and I live in [City/Parish]. I'm here today because like thousands of others, I was affected by the blackout on May 25.
- That day wasn't just an inconvenience — it was dangerous. On a hot day, we lost power without warning. We deserve to know why this happened and what's being done to make sure it doesn't happen again.

Point 1: This blackout didn't need to happen

- The outage happened because two nuclear plants were offline, there were higher than usual temperatures, and there were several transmission outages. There was enough regional power to meet demands, but the power could not get to where it was needed.
- As our representatives, it's crucial that you push for regional planning and investment in transmission.
- This wasn't bad luck — it was bad planning. We don't have the safeguards in place to prevent outages like this, and summer is just getting started.

Point 2: We need long-term regional transmission planning – now

- MISO South, which includes Louisiana, isn't fully connected to the broader MISO grid. That means when a plant goes offline here, we can't easily pull in power from other states — even though it's available.
- Other parts of the MISO region are already moving forward with long-term transmission planning. Louisiana is being left behind because regulators haven't acted.
- This isn't just about avoiding outages. Investing in transmission can also help bring down costs by giving us access to more affordable energy on the broader grid.
- Commissioners must demand that Louisiana participate in long-term regional planning — especially now that FERC has issued Order 1920 requiring it. There's no excuse for further delay.

Point 3: Energy efficiency should be a priority

- Part of the reason demand was so high is because our homes and buildings are energy inefficient.

- Investing in energy efficiency means we reduce the load on the grid during peak times, and gives families a break on rising energy costs.
- The blackout happened on a sunny day. If the Public Service Commission supports programs that make solar energy more affordable and accessible for households, we can avoid outages like this in the future.

Point 4: Ratepayers should not be responsible for Entergy's failure

- If a power plant has a high accredited capacity but fails to produce that much power when it's needed (as happened during the May 25th load shed), the utility still has to find electricity elsewhere — often at a much higher price. Those emergency costs can be passed on to customers through rate hikes or fuel cost adjustments.
- The Commission has the authority to push for regional long term transmission planning, implement energy efficiency programs, and encourage diversifying Louisiana's fuel mix with more renewable energy. It is our regulators responsibility to fight for what constituents need to be able to have access to reliable, affordable energy.

Information The Alliance believes the public has a right to know:

1. How much additional revenue did Entergy make from the load shed event?
2. What is the expected rate impact for consumers?
3. When will consumer rates be affected due to the load shed event?