

ENTERGY NEW ORLEANS, INC.
CITY OF NEW ORLEANS
Docket No. UD-16-02

Response of: Entergy New Orleans, Inc.
to the Second Set of Data Requests
of Requesting Party: Alliance for Affordable
Energy

Question No.: AAE 2-42

Part No.:

Addendum:

Question:

Page 17 of the application states: “the exclusion of NOPS would likely involve the construction of multiple new transmission facilities in the greater New Orleans area, each of which would be difficult and costly to construct given the limited land availability and the environmental challenges associated with transmission line construction in that region.”

- a. Describe the type of new transmission facilities referenced in this statement and approximately how many would be needed and where;
 - b. Explain the relationship between difficulty and cost to limited land availability; and
 - c. Explain the environmental challenges associated with transmission line construction in the greater New Orleans area; and
 - d. Provide all data and documents relied upon in answering subparts (a)-(c).
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Response:

- a. Please see the response to AEE 2-45(a).
- b. Limited land availability makes it more difficult to obtain easements for Rights of Way for transmission lines and land for substation by making such processes costly and time-consuming. A portion of the limited land in the Greater New Orleans area available for the expansion of the transmission grid has been designated to be wetlands by the Environment Protection Authority, making the construction of transmission facilities on such land expensive, technically difficult and require consideration of

wetlands mitigation processes. The poor soil conditions in the limited land available for transmission construction require special construction considerations, such as those associated with the foundations of transmission line towers, the grounding of substation ground grids and transmission towers, access to transmission infrastructure for heavy lifting machinery, specialized construction equipment, etc. Finally, the heavy concentration of industrial, commercial, and residential development in the limited land available not only make access to transmission infrastructure more expensive and time consuming, but also makes it difficult to obtain outages, if needed, on the transmission system to perform construction work.

- c. The existence of coastal watersheds and other wetlands throughout the Greater New Orleans region, the poor soil conditions and the need to build transmission facilities to high-wind design standards are some of the environmental challenges associated with transmission construction in the Greater New Orleans area. Each transmission project may present unique environmental challenges associated with the specific route that the project takes and thus, it is difficult to predict all of the environmental factors associated with transmission construction in this region ahead of time.
- d. The data and documents relied upon to answer part a have been provided in the response to AAE 2-45(a).