



Pike County Light & Power Co.

Pike County Light & Power Co.
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March 18, 2015

REGULAR MAIL

Honorable Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

RECEIVED
2015 MAR 24 AM 10:55
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SECRETARY'S BUREAU

Re: Request for Exclusion of Major Outage for Reliability Reporting Purposes


Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

By this letter, Pike County Light & Power Company ("PCL&P" or the "Company") sets forth a 'Request For Exclusion Of Major Outage For Reliability Reporting Purposes', in accordance with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("PAPUC") Order entered May 11, 2004 at M-00991220.

This request relates to an interruption to PCL&P customers that occurred on January 3, 2015. This incident meets the 10% customer threshold identified in Pa. Code §57.192, and was the result of a lightning storm in the service territory.

As a result, 1,249 customers were interrupted. The event affected Line 7 in Milford, Pennsylvania. Since the number of customers affected exceeds the criteria for exclusion, PCL&P respectfully requests that this interruption be accepted as a Major Event.

Sincerely,


John L. Carley
Assistant General Counsel

Attachment (1)

APPENDIX D

REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION OF MAJOR OUTAGE FOR
RELIABILITY REPORTING PURPOSES TO
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
P O BOX 3265
HARRISBURG, PA 17105-3265

Reports require an original and one copy to be filed with the Secretary's Bureau.

Information Required:

1. Requesting
Utility: Pike County Light & Power Company ("PCL&P")
Address: One Blue Hill Plaza
Pearl River, NY 10965

2. Name and title of person making request:

Brian Nugent (Name) Section Manager
Electric Reliability Support (Title)

3. Telephone number: 845-577-3691

4. Interruption or Outage:

(a) Number of customers affected: 1,249 Customers Affected
(28% of Customer Base)
Total number of customers in service territory: 4,529 Customers Served

(b) Number of troubled locations in each geographic area affected listed by county and local political subdivision:

A recloser opened on Line 7 in Milford. Customers were affected in the Borough of Milford; Townships of Milford, Westfall, and Dingman.

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- (c) Reason for interruption or outage, including weather data where applicable:

At approximately 9:49 p.m. on January 3, 2015, a recloser on pole 37159/48289 ("59/89") adjacent to Route 209 tripped opened after sensing a phase-to-phase. The reported weather condition at that time indicated rainy and windy conditions.

- (d) The number of utility workers and others assigned specifically to the repair work:

Two PCL&P overhead electric line crews responded to restore service.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| (e) The date and time of the first notification of a service interruption: | 1/3/2015
<u>9:49 p.m.</u> |
| (f) The actual time that service was restored to the last affected customer: | 1/3/2015
<u>11:59 p.m.</u> |

Remarks:

On January 3 at approximately 9:49 p.m., PCL&P began receiving trouble calls from customers living in the Milford area. Weather conditions at the time were reported as windy with rain. Upon arrival, PCL&P crews found the above referenced recloser in the open position. They performed a thorough patrol of the portion of the circuit downstream from the open recloser. The crews, however, were unable to find or identify the specific cause of the phase-to-phase fault that resulted in the operation of the recloser. Through distribution switching, 808 customers were restored by 11:51 p.m., and the remaining 441 customers were restored by 11:59 p.m.

In addition to the patrols PCL&P conducted the night of the outage, PCL&P conducted follow-up patrols on each of the next two days. None of these patrols were able to identify the specific outage cause.

To further investigate the outage, PCL&P downloaded the Sequence of Events logs from the counting recloser on pole 59/89 and the mid-point recloser located further upstream towards the source on pole 37322/48367 ("22/67"). Information obtained from the Sequence of Events log from

recloser 22/67 was used to validate the information obtained from recloser 59/89. Recloser 59/89 is downstream of Recloser 22/67 and is programmed to open after sensing overcurrent followed by a loss of voltage three times. These settings, in conjunction with the upstream mid-point recloser 22/67, allow for the coordination of the two reclosers in an area that does not have sufficient fault current for a conventional over-current only protection scheme.

Analysis of the logs revealed that both reclosers recorded three instances of fault current simultaneously on two phases (phase-to-phase fault) before Recloser 59/89 operated to lock out.

Based upon analysis of these data from the recloser logs, PCL&P has concluded that, despite finding no physical evidence, a transient phase-to-phase fault was present for a period long enough for the two reclosers described above to operate and clear faulted conditions. While it is not common to have unknown causes attributable to outages, they do occur, particularly during stormy, weather-related conditions. Vegetation that can brush against, or be blown into the conductors on a short-term basis due to windy conditions can exist long enough to trip fuses or operate breakers. The presence of excessive moisture can induce temporary tracking conditions that can then be cleared through the release of fault energy at the tracking site.

The Company has concluded that the Line 7 protection scheme operated in a manner consistent with its design. The cause of the January 3, 2015 outage is attributed to temporary conditions that initiated a phase-to-phase fault on the Line 7 conductors that were present as a result of the rainy and windy weather.

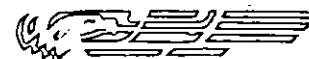


J. Carley
Law Dept. 1815S

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