



# Resiliency Study

Mitigation of Impact of Threats to Safe and Reliable Utility Service

2021-66-A

South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff | June 3, 2021

# Objectives

- The goals of this presentation are as follows:
  - 1) Provide background information regarding the project.
  - 2) Clearly identify the purpose of the Resiliency Study.
  - 3) Identify the participants.
  - 4) Provide some information on the Process for the project.

# Background

- The extreme weather conditions in February 2021 resulted in interruptions to electric service that left customers in Texas without essential heat and potable water.
- In response, Governor McMaster requested that ORS undertake a comprehensive review of South Carolina's public and private power grid to evaluate the ability to withstand potential ice storms and other dangerous winter weather.

# Purpose

- The purpose of the Resiliency Study is to determine what measures have been, or will be taken to:
  - 1) mitigate the negative impacts of ice storms and other dangerous weather conditions to the provision of safe and reliable utility service, and
  - 2) ensure peak customer demands on the utility system can be met during extreme weather scenarios.

# Timeline

- **February 19** Governor's request to undertake a comprehensive review
- **February 22** ORS files Motion to Solicit Comments
- **March 10** Commission Order No. 2021-163 Establishing Docket
- **June 11** Initial Comments due from utilities and interested parties
- **June 25** Responsive Comments due
- **September** ORS Draft Report
- **December** ORS Final Report

# Process

- All information filed with the PSC can be found on [DMS](https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Dockets) (<https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Dockets>)
- The PSC established a timeline for the docket, which includes filing deadlines.
- [Electronic Filing](https://dms.psc.sc.gov/MyDms/Login) at the PSC can be done through My DMS (<https://dms.psc.sc.gov/MyDms/Login>).
- ORS may serve discovery or information requests on the parties in order to understand the issues and facts. Responses typically will be due two weeks after the date of service.
- “Initial Comments” outlining measures utilities have taken and plan to take to mitigate the negative impacts of potential ice storms and other dangerous weather conditions and ensure peak customer demands on the utility system are due no later than June 11, 2021.



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Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
101 Executive Center Dr., Suite 100  
Columbia, SC 29210  
803-896-5100  
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# Initial Comments Should Include at a Minimum

- Identification of Threats to Utility Service
- Identification of the Impacts to Utility Service
- Assessment of Vulnerabilities
- Assessment of Risks to Utility Service
- Identification of Resiliency Solutions
- Identification of Other Federal and State Reliability Requirements
- Assessment of Current Utility Processes and Systems to Withstand Potential Ice Storms and other Winter Weather Conditions
- Identification of Best Practices, Lessons Learned and Challenges to Utility Service
- *For more information see [Commission Order No. 2021-163](#)*

# Confidentiality

- Pursuant to Section 58-4-55(A), ORS can require public utilities and electric cooperatives to produce books, records, and other information without a confidentiality agreement or protective order.
- ORS must treat the information as confidential or proprietary unless or until the producing party agrees otherwise or there is a ruling from the PSC allowing for different treatment.
- Unless there is a PSC finding to the contrary, all documents designated as confidential or proprietary are exempt from public disclosure under FOIA.
- ORS will work with those entities that are not public utilities or electric cooperatives to address confidentiality concerns

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and





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# Guidehouse's Role

- Perform analyses and develop recommendations
- Perform a review and comparison
- Research and identify best practices
- Perform analyses on the cost impacts
- Assist with the development of ORS recommendations
- Develop, organize, and draft the required comprehensive review
- ORS will convey information between Guidehouse and the parties and will be the point of contact for any questions from the participants

# Guidehouse Assessment Team

**Hector Artze**  
Partner in Charge  
*ES&I Resiliency*



**Ed Batalla**  
Advisory & Quality  
*ES&I Resiliency*



**Quality & Oversight**

**Jamie Bond**  
Project Manager  
*Project Management & Delivery Leader*



- Certified project manager
- Nearly 20 years of energy industry experience with a strong focus on projects, programs and initiatives related to grid modernization, grid resiliency and utility transformation

**Project Delivery Lead**

**Resiliency Assessment Leads**

**Gene Shlatz**  
*Electric Utilities & Infrastructure*



**Paul Moran**  
*Natural Gas Utilities & Infrastructure*



**Bob Ruhlman**  
*Fuel Supply & Generation Systems*



- Over 35 years of energy delivery and power systems experience
- Testified before FERC, utility commissions and U.S. Congress on matters such as transmission open access, DER integration, retail rates, and utility capital plans

- Nearly 20 years of electric and NG industry experience
- Key author of a 2021 American Gas Foundation report, *Building a Resilient Energy Future: How the Gas System Contributes to US Energy System Resilience*

- Over 45 years of power generation experience spanning operations and maintenance, operational excellence predictive analytics and benchmarking
- Conducted 40+ project in the power generation space over the past decade

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# Questions?

**Michael Seaman-Huynh**

Deputy Director – Energy Operations

South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff

[mseamanhuynh@ors.sc.gov](mailto:mseamanhuynh@ors.sc.gov)

803.737.0850

