

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Outage Report Information

INITIAL NOTICE

Pursuant to PUC Substantive Rules, Section 25.52 (e)(1)

Each utility must send the following information to the Public Utility Commission as soon as reasonably possible after a significant interruption of service has occurred.

Utility name: El Paso Electric Company

Utility contact person: Joe Nevarez Phone: (915)543-5719

Date and time of significant interruption: July 5, 2009 02:10 AM MDT

Estimated date and time of full restoration: July 5, 2009 09:11 AM MDT

Suspected cause of the interruption: EPE experienced a fault on 24 KV distribution line Farmer-21 at 2:10 AM MDT. This distribution line is located in Van Horn, Tx. Severe weather in the Van Horn area caused a pole on this distribution line to fail. This failed distribution structure was located directly under the 69 kV transmission line that provides electric service to Van Horn, TX. There is evidence to indicate that the resulting electrical flash from the 24 KV fault caused the overhead 69 KV transmission line to fault. This 69 KV transmission line is radially fed from Neely Switching Station. A damaged trip coil on the circuit breaker at Neely Station prevented the line from clearing normally and caused the transmission line to be cleared by Alamo Substation, approximately 50 miles from Neely Switching Station. This caused a loss of service to Sierra Blanca, Fort Hancock, and Van Horn. EPE crews re-energized the Alamo to Neely section of transmission line and restored service to Sierra Blanca and Fort Hancock at 3:37 AM MDT. Field crews were dispatched to Van Horn and restored the remaining section of transmission line at 8:23 AM MDT. The failed distribution pole was replaced and all affected customers were restored by 9:11 AM MDT.

Location, substation and feeder identifiers of all affected facilities (if known at time of report): Neely Switching Station, (Sierra Blanca, TX), Sierra Blanca Substation, Feeders: SB-1, SB-20. Van Horn Substation, Feeders Van Horn-1, Van Horn-2. Farmer Substation, Feeder: Farmer-21 (Van Horn, TX).

Estimated total number of customers affected: Approximately 3,000 retail customers were affected in the towns of Sierra Blanca, Fort Hancock, and Van Horn. One wholesale customer – Rio Grande Electric Cooperative.

Local authorities that have been notified of the interruption: The mayor of Van Horn was notified of the interruption.

Local media that are aware of the interruption: None at this time.