



Entergy Mississippi Pursuing Ways to Minimize Storm Costs

Recovery plan aimed at reducing hurricane restoration costs to customers

Minimizing the impact of storm costs from hurricanes Katrina and Rita to customers is the basis of a recovery plan being implemented by Entergy Mississippi.

"Entergy Mississippi is pursuing every avenue to reduce the costs of hurricane recovery to customers," said Entergy Mississippi CEO Carolyn Shanks. "Our company put forth a monumental effort to restore power promptly following these storms and we are just as determined to keep restoration costs for our customers as low as possible."

Katrina, which made landfall August 29, plowed directly through Entergy Mississippi's service area, leaving more than 300,000 of the company's 410,000 customers without power and spurring the largest mobilization of

resources in Entergy's history. That effort resulted in power being restored in an unprecedented 11 days. Less than one month later, Entergy Mississippi's service area was impacted again by Hurricane Rita, which caused an additional 30,000 outages.

Now the company is working hard to reduce the projected \$120 million cost of storm recovery to customers. As a regulated utility, Entergy Mississippi is permitted to recover costs of providing service, including those incurred during storm recovery. The Mississippi Public Service Commission's approval process assures these costs are fair and prudent.

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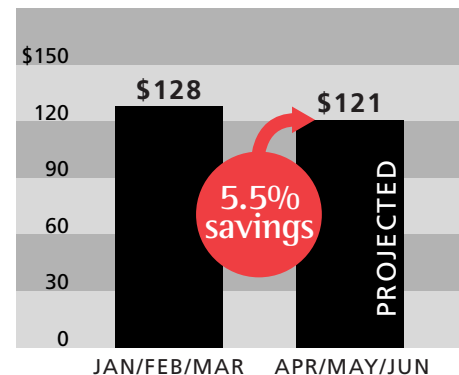


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Entergy Mississippi has filed insurance claims on a portion of the hurricane costs. Additionally, the Mississippi Legislature passed and the governor signed into law House Bill 1498 which authorizes Entergy to securitize Hurricane Katrina storm restoration costs and increases in storm damage reserve funds.

The company is also applying for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds being made available to the state by the federal government in connection with Hurricane Katrina costs.

DOLLARS PER KILOWATT-HOUR



Entergy Mississippi Announces Drop in Electricity Rates

Lower fuel costs result in savings for customers

Lower natural gas prices mean Entergy Mississippi customers will be paying less for electricity this spring.

Darron Case, manager of business and energy management for Entergy Mississippi, said an average residential bill for the months of April, May and June will be \$121 per 1,000 kilowatt-hours compared to \$128 in January, February and March. These numbers reflect a 5.5 percent savings to customers.

"We are very glad to see the price of natural gas finally take a downturn," said Case. "We understand the impact of high utility bills on our customers, and we are pleased to be passing on the savings of lower natural gas prices to them."

More than half of Entergy Mississippi's generating plants are powered by natural gas. In the face of a national energy crisis, Entergy officials have been aggressively pursuing ways to mitigate the impact of soaring natural gas prices on customers.

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Keep Electrical Safety in Mind While Doing Spring Chores

Entergy reminds customers to put safety on their checklist

Spring brings showers, flowers, and the urge to spruce up our spaces. But household chores can be hazardous, especially if you are working near power lines. When you pull out the pruners, shovels, paint brushes and ladders, remember to look up, down and around before you start your task.

"Safety is a core value at Entergy, and we continually reinforce that message with our workers. The message is equally as important for customers," said Darryl Daves, senior engineer in Entergy's safety department.

Every year, hundreds of Americans lose their lives simply doing household projects such as cleaning swimming pools, installing television antennas, pruning trees and painting houses — all because they forget to look out for power lines.

Safety experts at Entergy say that gardeners and do-it-yourselfers can avoid danger by following a few simple rules.

"The most important thing to do is to be aware of your surroundings," said Daves. "Also, be sure that children know to stay away from potential hazards."

Gardeners and do-it-yourselfers can avoid danger by following a few simple rules.



Make these safety tips a part of your project checklist:

- Never climb a utility pole (electric or telephone) for any reason.
- Use caution around utility boxes. Do not dig or plant around them or allow children to play on these boxes.
- Be aware of overhead power lines when carrying ladders and garden tools, especially if they are made of metal.
- Use extreme caution when installing antennas near overhead lines.
- Warn children to watch for power lines when climbing trees or flying kites.
- If installing a swimming pool or hot tub (whether above or below ground), never build near power lines. If an existing pool is near lines, use extreme care when cleaning it with long-handled tools.
- Always phone Mississippi One Call (800-227-6477) to check for underground utility lines before any digging project.
- Do not use electric-powered mowers and other tools in the rain, on wet grass or in wet conditions.
- Inspect power tools and electric lawn mowers before each use for frayed power cords, broken plugs and cracked or broken housings. If damaged, stop using it immediately.
- Always use an extension cord marked for outdoor use and rated for the power needs of your tools.
- Remember to unplug all portable power tools when not in use.

"Home improvement tasks are among the most satisfying projects you can undertake when completed safely," Daves said. "Make sure to be aware of your surroundings and take sensible precautions to protect yourself and your family."

For more information on electrical safety, visit Entergy's Web site at www.entergy-mississippi.com.

electricity rates CONTINUED

One way is by using less expensive fuels such as fuel oil and coal to generate electricity. Another is hedging on natural gas prices, which assists in stabilizing the extreme fluctuations in natural gas prices. Both methods resulted in savings to customers last year of more than \$60 million.

We are pleased to be passing on the savings of lower natural gas prices to our customers.

In addition, Entergy Mississippi recently acquired a new, highly efficient generating plant in Attala County which will benefit customers throughout the service area. Entergy also is on schedule to be the first company in the nation to obtain an early site permit for a new nuclear unit at Grand Gulf near Port Gibson in Claiborne County.

"Entergy Mississippi is committed to being the power company of the future," said Case. "Our goal is to provide reliable, affordable electric service to our customers. We are exploring every method of meeting that goal."

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