

Review of Electric Utility Hurricane Preparedness and Restoration Actions

Docket No : 20170215-EU

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Electric Utility Provider : EI806 - Tampa Electric Company

Zip Code : 33604

Category : Power restoration time

Comments : Hurricane Irma showed again how undependable the power grid is when a big storm hits. Where I live was not as hard hit as other areas. We lost power for 52 hours.

I have heard stories about families and businesses that were able to use solar and batteries to generate power after the storm. To me this seems like the smart way forward. I think the utilities need to invest in more solar and batteries near our neighborhoods. Or make it easier for customers to buy their own equipment and be able to use it when the grid goes down. Those kinds of technology should be used wherever they can to prepare for hurricanes. We need to make sure TECO is building the grid with modern technology and clean energy to make it more dependable, not just rebuilding the same old power lines that keep going down when we need them the most. By the way, I realize TECO is, apparently, changing from coal to natural gas. However, that is just exchanging one fossil fuel for another, which isn't much cleaner.