

Review of Electric Utility Hurricane Preparedness and Restoration Actions

Docket No : 20170215-EU

Name : Kathleen Collins

Electric Utility Provider : EC911 - Sumter Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Zip Code : 34788

Category : Power restoration time

Comments : As you are aware, power outages are heavy after storms like Hurricane Irma. Your emergency crew are out working to restore energy as fast as possible, which means long hours and many employees. As you also know, solar energy, with a battery, can restore customers' power more quickly than the existing power grid.

I was one of the few that was without power for only a day, but most people in the area were out for at least a week. My mother was in a nursing home, on oxygen and very weak. She was one of those who were put into the hall where emergency power was available for oxygen users. Even though they had a large fan on both ends of the hall powered by the backup generator, it was not enough to keep her from overheating. Please consider updating the grid to use the latest technology, including solar and batteries, or help customers to buy their own.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Collins