



Board of Chosen Freeholders

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JCP&L Not Meeting Standards Of BPU Order For Restoring Power

Saying that Jersey Central Power and Light's (JCP&L) advising customers that power will not be restored in some cases until August 19th is totally unreasonable and in violation of a Board of Public Utilities order, Hunterdon County Freeholder Board Director Shaun C. Van Doren has called for immediate BPU action to hold JCP&L to the standards established by the BPU's July 2018 Order on Reliability and Security.

The July 2018 Order, which resulted from poor utility performance following the wind storms in March 2018, calls for JCP&L to 'provide a global Estimated Time of Restoration (ETR)' separately at the operating districts, divisions or regions level instead of a system-wide global ETR.

Van Doren stated, "Telling customers that power will not be restored for the next 13 days is way too broad a time period and is not in compliance with the order. It seems like each time that Hunterdon County is hit with a weather event, the power company is starting over."

Van Doren noted that the BPU report also called for improved infrastructure investment and allocation of resources during storms by utility companies, including improvements in Outage Response and Restoration Timeline and Workforce Deployment.

"Residents are facing challenging hot summer weather in the days ahead and in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic finding alternative accommodations is difficult. Power must be restored sooner, without excuses," the Freeholder Board Director said.

A copy of the July 2018 BPU order can be found here;

<https://www.bpu.state.nj.us/bpu/pdf/boardorders/2018/20180725/7-25-18-6A.pdf>