

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS

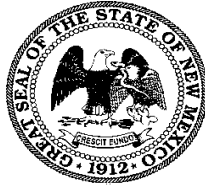
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NEWS RELEASE

PNM Files Incident Report With PRC Regarding August 7 Power Outage

SANTA FE – Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) on Thursday afternoon, August 11, filed a report with the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) regarding a major interruption of service that occurred on Sunday, August 7, at 7:40 p.m., per NMPRC Rules.

PNM reports that the duration of interruption lasted between 35 minutes and three hours and 49 minutes in various areas of service.

The cause of this outage is still under investigation, however, the company states that it experienced a lightning strike in the vicinity of the West Mesa 115 kV Station No. 3 during a significant weather event in north-central New Mexico Sunday evening. Lightning has been confirmed to have tripped the West Mesa-Los Morros 115 kV Line.

The outage was self-contained on the PNM system, and did not cascade.

After the fault was cleared, restoration of transmission, distribution, and loads was initiated within minutes and all load was restored within three to four hours, according to PNM.

Utility facilities directly affected by this event include the West Mesa 115 kV switching station and number of transmission lines and distribution substations located in Albuquerque, Sandoval County, Santa Fe County and Valencia County and Albuquerque load-side generation.

Currently, PNM estimates 170,000 customers were impacted.

Once the investigation has been completed, PNM will undertake any identified necessary or appropriate actions, according to the reported filed with NMPRC.

About the NMPRC

The NMPRC regulates public utilities, telecommunications companies and motor carriers operating in the State of New Mexico. It also administers the State Fire Marshal's Office, the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy in Socorro, N.M., and the Pipeline Safety Bureau.

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