



MICHAEL S. YENNI

Mayor

CITY OF KENNER

PRESS RELEASE

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KENNER OFFICIALS QUESTION ENTERGY ABOUT METAL POWER POLES

Kenner, LA. – Kenner Mayor Michael Yenni said Thursday he has expressed “serious concern” to Entergy officials in light of the metal power pole that apparently was blown down Wednesday night, leaving more than 2,200 customers without power.

Yenni and 4th District Councilman Lenny Cline, whose district was affected by the power outage, did commend Entergy work crews for restoring power to all but 188 customers within an hour, but also noted about 100 customers were without power on the coldest night of the year until 4 a.m. or 5 a.m.

The power outage affected the majority of Chateau Estates subdivision.

But Yenni and Cline said the real concern is whether other metal poles in the city are in similar condition with hurricane season less than five months away.

“I’ve heard from many residents who are worried that the winds we had last night, while significant, weren’t even tropical storm strength,” Yenni said. “Do we have other metal poles about to give out when the next tropical system hits the area?”

Cline and the mayor said they have contacted Public Service Commissioner Eric Skrmetta, who has agreed to also look into the situation. “This is something that cannot be ignored,” Cline said. “This has to be thoroughly investigated now before a hurricane is headed this way.”

“During this morning’s extreme weather our teams worked as quickly and as safely as possible to restore electrical services to the viewing area,” Entergy spokesman Greg Fenn said. “The outage near Chateau Estates was caused by a broken steel pole, which has since been repaired. Our next steps include a complete inspection of all the steel poles in the area to ensure that we can continue to provide our customers with safe reliable energy.”

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