

Lower Makefield Township
Electric Reliability Committee (ERC)
August 13, 2015
Meeting Minutes

Present: Kristin Tyler
Bernard Griga
John Kingham
James Kirlin
Richard Gorelick
James Ferraro

The August 13, 2015 meeting of the Lower Makefield Township Electric Reliability Committee (ERC) was called to order at 7:05 PM in the Township Offices by Chairman Kingham.

Agenda: The meeting agenda is appended to these minutes. ([Attachment 1](#)).

1. Approval of past minutes: The minutes of the meeting of April 16, 2015 were approved.

2. William Bogdan:

- a. The resignation of William Bogdan on June 17, 2015, for health reasons was noted with regret. Supervisor Tyler reminded the committee that Bill was the prime mover behind the formation of the ERC and noted that he has worked tirelessly on developing the ways and means of pursuing a reliable electric power supply.
- b. The committee agreed that, since Bill has lobbied hard for an improved PECO power outage information system, it viewed with pleasure the recent release of the PECO system outage map. [https://www.peco.com/ layouts/peco/outagemap.aspx](https://www.peco.com/layouts/peco/outagemap.aspx)

3. Meeting with PECO – LMT – August 20, 2015

The upcoming meeting with PECO was discussed at length. Mr. Gorelick stated that, if he were able to attend, he would ask whether the recent improvement in power reliability is due to the absence of severe weather events or whether it is due to system upgrades. From this standpoint it was agreed that the following questions from the ERC would be sent to Senator McIlhinney's office for submittal to PECO prior to the meeting.

- a. Please describe what upgrade work has been carried out by PECO in relation to "pocket outage" areas in LMT, for example in the areas of:
 - i. Sandy Run 2
 - ii. Kings/Queens Roads
 - iii. Gordon Drive
- b. In 2014, at the beginning of its improvement plan, PECO stated that it would invest \$10m in system upgrades. How much did PECO actually spend?
- c. Does the reliability monitoring carried out by PECO for its routine reports to the PUC reflect any improvement for the circuits feeding LMT?

- d. What has PECO done in LMT as part of its upgrade plan? Did it include the measures previously identified by PECO such as intellirupters and Hendrix lines?
- e. What is next and does it include the full implementation of the “Smart Grid”?
- f. Although weather hardening was cited by PECO as a key element in its upgrade plan, the reliability reports to the PUC list equipment failure as a more significant factor in power outages. What is being done to replace obsolescent equipment?
- g. For the benefit of its residents, LMT has consistently offered to work with PECO toward enhancing PECO’s public relations efforts. In this respect what aspects of LMT’s website are of interest to PECO?

4. PECO Vegetation management – LMT Arborist Meeting

The actions identified by the LMT arborist in the Boucher & James report were discussed as follows:

a. Arborist Report & Recommendations

i. Short Term:

- a. *PECO maintenance request form* – it was agreed that a link to the PECO maintenance form would be placed on the LMT website. <https://www.peco.com/CustomerService/ServiceRequest/TreesPowerlines/Pages/Request.aspx>
- b. *Work with PECO on public education*- It was agreed that in an anticipated summary letter following the meeting on August 20, 2015, LMT will propose a public meeting to PECO aimed at educating residents on “power friendly” vegetation.

ii. Medium Term

- a. *Ordinance considerations*- It was agreed that this recommendation would be shelved to later date when a complete review of the LMT vegetation ordinances will be initiated.
- b. *Utility rights-of-way analysis* – Similar to the previous item, given the size of the task, it was agreed to shelve this recommendation to a later date.

iii. Long Term

- a. *Hazardous tree survey* – Given the scope and size of the task it was also agreed to shelve this item for future consideration.
- b. *Questions to ask PECO – Meeting with PECO arborist* – It was agreed that in the anticipated letter to PECO following the August 20, 2015, meeting that a joint meeting with the PECO arborist would be requested.

5. PECO outage questionnaire development – It was agreed that, given the poor response from residents to a previous outage questionnaire, this item will no longer be considered.

6. *1st Quartile reliability achievement – Municipality Empowerment* – The work done by Mr. Bogdan in relation to the ways of means of empowering LMT toward the goal of achieving PECO circuit reliability levels in first quartile was recognized. It was agreed that the anticipated discussion with PECO on August 20, 2015, under the reliability monitoring question (3.c. above) would determine the future direction of this issue as far as the ERC is concerned.

7. **Next ERC Meeting:**

It was agreed that the next meeting will be on September 3, 2015 at 7:00pm.

8. **Motion for Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Attachments:

1. Agenda

ERC Agenda August 13, 2015 Meeting:

1. Approval of minutes of April 16, 2015 meeting
2. William Bogdan – resignation
3. Meeting with PECO – LMT – August 20, 2015
 - a. Questions for prior submittal
4. PECO Vegetation management – LMT Arborist Meeting
 - a. Arborist Report & Recommendations
 - i. Short Term:
 1. PECO maintenance request form
 2. Work with PECO on public education
 - ii. Medium Term
 1. Ordinance considerations
 - a. Utility rights-of-way analysis
 - iii. Long Term
 1. Hazardous tree survey
 - b. Questions to ask PECO - Meeting with PECO arborist
5. PECO outage questionnaire development
6. 1st Quartile reliability achievement – Municipality Empowerment
7. Set date, time, place for next ERC meeting
8. Motion for adjournment