

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

ENTERGY MISSISSIPPI, LLC
EC123008200

DOCKET NO. 2019-UA-071

IN RE: PETITION BY ENTERGY MISSISSIPPI, LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO ACQUIRE, CONSTRUCT, EXPAND, OWN, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN A 115 KV SUBSTATION AND RELATED TRANSMISSION LINES AND OTHER FACILITIES AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY IN HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

ORDER

THIS CAUSE came before the Mississippi Public Service Commission (the “Commission”) on the Petition for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (“Certificate” or “CCN”) (the “Petition”) filed by Entergy Mississippi, LLC (“Entergy Mississippi”, “EML”, or the “Company”), pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 77-3-1 *et. seq.* (Revised 2018), as amended (the “Act”), and RP 7.102 of the Commission’s Public Utilities Rules of Practice and Procedure (“Procedural Rules”) seeking authorization from the Commission for Entergy Mississippi to acquire, construct, expand, own, operate, and maintain a new substation near the University of Mississippi Medical Center (“UMMC”) Campus in Jackson, Mississippi, rebuild the 115 kilovolt (“kV”) transmission line from the existing Rex Brown Substation to the Proposed Substation, and reconfigure the 115 kV transmission line from the existing Fondren Substation to the Proposed Substation. This project is located within the certificated public utility service area of the Company in Hinds County, Mississippi. The Commission, having considered the Petition and all evidence submitted, including all testimony and documents filed with the Commission, and being fully advised in the premises, and upon the recommendation of the

Mississippi Public Utilities Staff (the "Staff"), finds as follows:

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

1. The Petition was filed on May 15, 2019. In support of the Petition, Entergy Mississippi filed as Attachments the pre-filed Direct Testimony of Chad J. Ladner, the pre-filed Direct Testimony of Anastacia Santos, and the pre-filed Direct Testimony of Edmond Himel.

2. Notice of the matter was given as required by law by publication in *The Clarion-Ledger*, being a newspaper of general circulation published in Jackson, Mississippi, on May 17, 2019, and by mailing notice to each "interested person" as defined in Procedural Rule 2.115 and to each public utility that may be affected by an order resulting from the Petition and hearing, said notice having been in strict compliance with the law and having been, in the judgment of the Commission, such reasonable notice to all persons interested therein as is necessary under the law and under the rules and regulations of the Commission.

3. The Staff propounded its First Set of Data Requests to Entergy Mississippi on June 10, 2019, and the Company responded thereto.

4. The Staff propounded its Second Set of Data Requests to Entergy Mississippi on July 10, 2019, and the Company responded thereto.

5. No interventions were filed in this Docket. After the deadline for filing interventions had passed, the Commission considered the Petition at its regularly scheduled public meeting on September 10, 2019, without requiring a hearing, as provided in Procedural Rule 7.105.9 for uncontested Certificate proceedings.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

6. Chad J. Ladner, who is Manager for Transmission Planning for Entergy Services,

LLC¹ (“ESL”), testified in his pre-filed Direct Testimony that Entergy Mississippi is seeking authorization from the Commission for the company to acquire, construct, own, operate, and maintain a new 115/13.8 kV Substation, to be named Mill Street Substation (“Proposed Substation”), a rebuilt 115 kV transmission path from the existing Rex Brown Substation to the Proposed Substation (“Proposed Transmission Line”), rights-of-way, optical ground wire fiber optic cable, and the related substation terminal facilities and other related equipment and facilities (all of the foregoing being referred to as the “Proposed Electrical Facilities”), all within the certificated public utility service area of the Company in Hinds County, Mississippi.

7. Mr. Ladner testified in his pre-filed Direct Testimony that the primary purpose of the Proposed Electrical Facilities is to maintain compliance with mandatory North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”) reliability standards by mitigating the potential for a cascading service interruption. Modeling indicated that in a P6 event (“Loss of a transmission line followed by the loss of a transformer”) the simultaneous loss of Rex Brown - Monument Street 115 kV transmission line and the South Jackson 230-115 kV autotransformer could result in an unacceptable, uncontrolled load shed event across the central EML footprint including most of the metropolitan Jackson, Mississippi area. The Proposed Electrical Facilities will satisfy NERC transmission planning standards and reduce the likelihood or severity of such a potential outage event.

8. The Proposed Electrical Facilities are also needed to enhance the electrical supply and service reliability for existing commercial and residential customers in the Fondren area of

¹ ESL (formerly Entergy Services, Inc.) is an affiliate of the Entergy Operating Companies that provides engineering, planning, accounting, legal, technical, regulatory, and other administrative support services to each of the Entergy Operating Companies. The Entergy Operating Companies are Entergy Mississippi, Entergy Texas, Inc., Entergy Louisiana, LLC, Entergy Arkansas, LLC, and Entergy New Orleans, LLC.

Jackson, Mississippi, and to meet the projected load growth in the area. The Proposed Electrical Facilities are expected to provide enhanced reliable service and benefit to customers in this area, including UMMC, which is the State's only academic medical center offering the only Level I trauma center, children's hospital and organ transplant service, and educates and trains physicians, nurses and other health professionals at its six health science schools located on the Jackson, Mississippi campus. As such, the Proposed Electrical Facilities also will serve the public interest of customers and the State. Additionally, EML is seeing increasing need for electric supply in the Fondren, Jackson, Mississippi area that would be served by the Proposed Electrical Facilities. Expansion of UMMC's Children's Hospital is underway as is construction of a nearby anticipated 125-room hotel and 4,000 square foot retail space. The Proposed Electrical Facilities will help meet the anticipated load growth from these projects and other planned construction in the surrounding area. The Proposed Electrical Facilities are necessary for Entergy Mississippi to continue to meet its obligation to provide safe, affordable, and reliable electric service to its customers in this area.

9. The Proposed Electrical Facilities will also add automatic sectionalizing capabilities to the critical loads currently served by the Monument Street, Fondren, Medical Center, Lawson Street, and East Jackson loop.

10. Mr. Ladner testified in his pre-filed Direct Testimony that ESL, working under EML's oversight, evaluated alternatives to address potential transmission system limitations, and after extensive analysis, it was determined that the Proposed Electrical Facilities were a potential solution for maintaining reliable transmission service to EML customers. Mr. Ladner further testified that ESL Transmission Planning personnel, in coordination with EML, submitted the Proposed Electrical Facilities as a solution to the identified limitations in the MISO Transmission

Expansion Plan (“MTEP”) planning process. According to Mr. Ladner’s pre-filed Direct Testimony, the Proposed Electrical Facilities were evaluated by MISO planning personnel who determined that the Proposed Electrical Facilities provide the most effective alternative to remedy the identified limitations, and the Proposed Electrical Facilities were approved by the MISO Board of Directors in December 2017.

11. Anastacia Santos, who is employed by POWER Engineers, Inc. (“POWER”) as Project Manager II, offered pre-filed Direct Testimony in support of the document entitled *University Mississippi Medical Center 115 kV Critical Issues Analysis* (“Critical Issues Analysis”). The Critical Issues Analysis, which was attached to the Direct Testimony of Ms. Santos as EXHIBIT AS-2, supports the Proposed Transmission Line that will be constructed from the existing Rex Brown Substation to the Proposed Substation.

12. Entergy Mississippi requested in the Petition that the Commission grant Entergy Mississippi a CCN to acquire, construct, expand, own, operate and maintain the Proposed Electrical Facilities, including:

- A new 115 kV substation, with a five-breaker ring bus configuration to accommodate three line terminals (with an ultimate arrangement of four line terminals and six transmission breakers), which will be built on property located on the southwest corner of North Mill Street and Lorenz Boulevard in the area of Jackson, Mississippi.
- The Proposed Substation will have two new 115 kV/13.8 kV, 40 mega volt-ampere (“MVA”) transformers connected to a 13.8 kV bus that includes eight feeder breakers, two main breakers, and one bus tie breaker.

- A new 115 kV line terminal will be constructed at Rex Brown Substation with a rebuilt 115 kV double-circuited transmission line from Rex Brown to the corner of Forest Avenue and Watkins Drive on existing right-of-way. From that point, approximately 2.9 miles of the existing transmission line on Watkins Drive will be rebuilt from Hico Substation to the Proposed Substation.
- Approximately 0.63 miles of transmission line will be altered from the corner of Mill Street and Mitchell Avenue to the existing Fondren Substation and integrated with distribution facilities.
- The existing overhead static wire from the Monument Street Substation to the Proposed Substation 115 kV transmission line will be replaced with 48-fiber optical ground wire.

13. Mr. Edmond Himel, who is employed by ESL as a Manager in the Capital Projects for Transmission Department, testified in his pre-filed Direct Testimony that the total estimated cost of the Proposed Electrical Facilities is \$43.7 million. According to Mr. Himel's pre-filed Direct Testimony, the project is currently planned with an in-service date of December 2020. Mr. Himel also testified in his pre-filed Direct Testimony that all labor, materials, property, and services to be rendered for the Proposed Electrical Facilities will be supplied at competitive and reasonable prices.

14. There are presently on file with this Commission the financial statements of the Company that indicate the Company is financially able to complete the construction described and set out in this Petition.

15. The Company is an electric public utility as defined in Miss. Code Ann. § 77-3-3(d)(i) and is qualified as an entity to which the Legislature has granted the power of eminent

domain pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 11-27-1, *et seq.*

16. The Company attached to, addressed in, or incorporated by reference into the Petition, all of the information required by Appendix A, Schedule 3 of the Procedural Rules, with the exception of part of the requirements of Appendix A, Schedule 3, Item 7, for which the Company requested a Procedural Rule waiver. The Commission finds that good cause exists and has been shown for a temporary waiver of plans and specifications, but orders Entergy Mississippi submit to the Public Utilities Staff a complete set of engineering plans and specifications as they are completed.

17. The Commission finds that Entergy Mississippi is ready, willing, and able to acquire, construct, expand, own, operate, and maintain the Proposed Electrical Facilities that are the subject of the Petition. The Commission finds that there is substantial evidence before it in this proceeding to find and determine that there is a need for Entergy Mississippi to construct and install the Proposed Electrical Facilities, as set out and described in this Order and the Petition, which are necessary to maintain transmission operations reliability and to meet mandatory NERC reliability standards. The public convenience and necessity require and will require the acquisition, construction, expansion, ownership, operation, and maintenance of the Proposed Electrical Facilities, and require the issuance by the Commission of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity authorizing such.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Commission that:

1. The Commission hereby does grant unto the Company permission for deviation from and does waive the Procedural Rule requirements referenced herein and in Paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Petition, subject to the provisions of Paragraph 16 of this Order.
2. The Commission approves the cost estimate of the Proposed Electrical Facilities

and hereby does grant the Company a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to, acquire, construct, expand, operate, own, and maintain the Proposed Electrical Facilities in Hinds County, within the State of Mississippi, and as particularly described and set out herein and in the Petition and Testimony filed by the Company.


3. This Order shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its Entry and shall be deemed issued on the day it is served on the parties herein by the Executive Secretary of the Commission who shall note the service date in the file of this Docket.

COMMISSION VOTE

Chairman Brandon Presley voted	Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nay <input type="checkbox"/>
Vice Chairman Cecil Brown voted	Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Nay <input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Samuel F. Britton voted	Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nay <input type="checkbox"/>

SO ORDERED, this the 10th day of September 2019.


MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


BRANDON PRESLEY, CHAIRMAN


CECIL BROWN, VICE CHAIRMAN


SAMUEL F. BRITTON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: A True Copy


Katherine Collier, Executive Secretary

Effective this the 10th day of September 2019.

