LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, EX PARTE

In re: Investigative Audit into Southwestern Electric Power Company's Service Quality.

NOTICE OF AUDIT PROCEEDING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that this docket is being initiated per the unopposed directive of the Louisiana Public Service Commission at its June 19, 2024 Business and Executive Session to open said audit and to retain outside counsel and consultants, as deemed necessary. Specifically, Commissioner Campbell's directive was as follows:

Since the beginning of this year, SWEPCO's service territory has experienced numerous system-wide outages. In fact, since April, no less than five weather-related events have resulted in peak outages of 17,000 or greater per event. Given these frequent outages, and the impacts they are having on SWEPCO's customers, I direct staff to open a service quality investigation into SWEPCO, focusing on these outage events, the underlying causes, as well as SWEPCO's vegetation management practices and historical spending for vegetation management and distribution maintenance. Staff shall also review SWEPCO's SAIDI and SAIFI reports, as well as those of its neighboring electric service providers. Finally, I further direct Staff to solicit a bid from UPC to assist with this investigation. UPC is currently retained to review SWEPCO's FRP filings and in those filings, SWEPCO has specifically requested to retain additional revenues from over collections for vegetation management and resilience work.

Therefore, this notice is being provided for publication in the Commission's next Official Bulletin, for informational purposes only, while Commission Staff conducts the audit. Once the audit is complete and Staff files its audit report, this matter will be republished in the Official Commission Bulletin for intervention and comment.

Baton Rouge, Louisiana, this 1st day of July, 2024.

Lauren Temento Evans (Bar Roll No. 35576)

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cc: