

Laura Crawford

From: Laura Crawford [lcrawford@downersgrove.org]
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2011 10:39 AM
To: 'mtully@downers.us'
Cc: 'dfieldman@downers.us'; 'rbarnett@downers.us'
Subject: Com Ed

Mayor Tully,

At the last Council meeting, you requested any unanswered questions submitted for the Com Ed Town Hall meeting, be re-submitted. Below is correspondence sent at the general request of Commissioner Barnett. As of today, I have received no response.

I know you are aware that Com Ed was unable to delegate *any* of their staff to address the business community at our multi-chamber event on Wednesday. The town hall meeting held last September on a Saturday morning was appropriately scheduled for residents; but not for the business community. Should the Village or Com Ed decide to host such a meeting geared toward your business community, I would be happy to offer any assistance to promote it.

Thank you for your support,

Laura Crawford
President & CEO
Downers Grove Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry
2001 Butterfield Rd., Suite 105
Downers Grove, IL
630-968-4050 x 14
www.downersgrove.org

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From: Laura Crawford [mailto:lcrawford@downersgrove.org]
Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2011 1:22 PM
To: 'rtbarnett@comcast.net'
Cc: 'mcassa@dgedc.com'; 'dfieldman@downers.us'; 'dmalon@midwestern.edu'
Subject: VoDG/ComEd Town Hall Meeting - This Thursday

Commissioner,

Thank you for sending this email. With your permission, I will forward it to several businesses who have had major Com Ed problems. It should be noted that most of the businesses in Downers Grove 'come in under the Com Ed radar screen' due to how Com Ed defines outages. I was told by John McLennan (referred by Ed Sitar) of Com Ed, that business customers that do not operate out of large spaces, experiencing brown-outs and outages are not 'tracked' by Com Ed. The definition of a power outage provided in the Reliability Report, completely excludes most small businesses (see below) – per Com Ed's own criteria.

Definition of a Power Outage

The ICC Administrative Code for Electricity Reliability defines ‘interruption’ (outage) as electrical service being lost or reduced to 50 percent less than standard to one or more customers for a duration of one minute or more and requiring human intervention for service restoration.

Many customers that have contacted the Village have expressed frustration because they define an outage based on a different set of criteria, where even a momentary disruption that causes an inconvenience for them creates concerns about the reliability of the electrical system. For the purposes of preparing this report, staff used the data provided by Com Ed based on their definition of an outage, since other sources of information regarding electricity outages are not readily available.

As a business owner Bob, you know very well what a one minute or more interruption means to a business and its systems. If your plant is less than the designated square footage, your business will not be included nor counted in this report. How can we take this Reliability Report as being reliable based on the criteria of study – by the Village staff and Com Ed?

Submitted by LoveJoy, below is just one example of loss due to recent outages:

My estimate puts Lovejoy's costs easily at \$82,000.

Here is the break-down:

- We incurred \$32,000 of labor costs on the day power was lost... much of which had to be made up at time and a half overtime.
- We lost an estimated \$30,000 worth of non-recoverable incoming orders, lost due to our phone & computer systems going down (after our uninterrupted power source wore out).
- We incurred \$10,000 of premature wear to our powder metal furnace.... and 3 days of run time (this furnace is built to run continuously, and letting it cool down causes an enormous amount of fatigue/wear on the baffle).
- We spent another \$10,000 buying a backup generator and installing it to cover our phone & computer systems should there be another extended outage.

While this meeting may be geared for residents only, businesses also suffer greatly in Downers Grove and quite frankly, it has become an economic development issue. If I can be of any assistance to ensure business losses are accounted for – perhaps in a separate report, please let me know.

Thank you for your Membership,

Laura Crawford
President & CEO
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From: Bob Barnett [mailto:rtbarnett@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, September 12, 2011 9:07 PM
To: lcrawford@downersgrove.org
Subject: VoDG/ComEd Town Hall Meeting - This Thursday

NOTICE of ComEd Reliability Town Hall Meeting

Thursday, September 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Downers Grove Park District Recreation Center, 4500 Belmont Road.

Has your household experienced one or more of the almost 1,500 power outages since 2007?

Please join us on Thursday evening, as your Village will be presenting a Reliability Report to ComEd representatives and will begin the process of trying to find reasonable solutions to address electric service issues identified in the report. This Town Hall meeting will include opportunities for public comment so we would love it if you or someone from your household or neighborhood came to be heard.

Mayor Tully will facilitate the meeting. Our own Village resident and State Senator Ron Sandack as well as State Representative Sandy Pihos – both long time advocates for Downers Grove – will be in attendance as well.

If you are unable to attend, please consider sending me an email (*at the address below*) with your experiences and/or opinions on the reliability of your electric supply. I'll make sure your opinions are printed and given to the ComEd representatives – so your voice and concerns are heard.

At all times we have assumed all of our residents, directly engaged or not, desire and rightly expect consistent and reliable electric service. Please take some time to visit the links below and follow up with additional suggestions ... all are welcome and appreciated. We're all residents of this community and genuinely want to do what we can to help solve this problem, so please join us Thursday, or email me your thoughts, so that we can try to speak with one Village voice on this matter. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bob

Bob Barnett, *Commissioner*

Village of Downers Grove

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More Information

VoDG Town Hall Meeting Press Release - <http://bit.ly/pgyAKX>

VoDG Reliabilty Report Study - <http://bit.ly/ok8Olc>

ComEd Website - <http://bit.ly/gicgsL>

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