

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUANCE SYSTEM

Mayor's Order 2012-130
August 16, 2012

SUBJECT: Establishment — Mayor's Power Line Undergrounding Task Force

ORIGINATING AGENCY: Office of the Mayor

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the District of Columbia by section 422(11) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, 87 Stat. 790, Pub. L. No. 93-198, D.C. Official Code § 1-204.22(11) (2012 Supp.), it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

I. **ESTABLISHMENT**

There is hereby established within the executive branch of the government of the District of Columbia the Mayor's Power Line Undergrounding Task Force ("Task Force").

II. **PURPOSE**

The Task Force shall advise the Mayor on the general causes of storm-related power outages in the District, actions that may be taken to reduce future storm-related power outages, and the undergrounding of power lines.

III. **FUNCTIONS**

The Task Force shall:

- A. Investigate the general causes of storm-related power outages in the District;
- B. Obtain and examine information related to major storm-related power outages in the District in the past ten (10) years, including the number of customers impacted by the outages and the duration of the outages;
- C. Investigate the cost and feasibility of undergrounding existing overhead power lines in the District, including undergrounding all power lines, undergrounding only mainline primary lines, and undergrounding targeted assets, and the impacts of undergrounding on reliability and restoration time;

- D. Examine other potential impacts of the undergrounding of power lines, including impacts on the environment, infrastructure, health and safety, and quality of life;
- E. Examine options that may be taken instead of or in addition to undergrounding power lines to reduce the number of customers impacted by power outages due to storms and to reduce the duration of such power outages; and
- F. Transmit to the Mayor no later than January 31, 2013, a written report setting forth the findings and recommendations of the Task Force.

IV. **MEMBERSHIP**

The Task Force shall be comprised of the following fifteen (15) members:

- A. The City Administrator, who shall serve as co-chairperson of the Task Force;
- B. The Chief Executive Officer of Pepco Holdings, LLC, who shall serve as co-chairperson of the Task Force;
- C. The Chairperson of the Council's Committee on Public Services and Consumer Affairs;
- D. The Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice;
- E. The Chief Financial Officer for the District of Columbia;
- F. The Director of the District Department of Transportation (DDOT);
- G. The Director of the Department of the Environment;
- H. The Director of the Department of Public Works;
- I. The Director of the Mayor's Office of Budget and Finance;
- J. The Chairman of the Public Service Commission;
- K. The People's Counsel;
- L. The following (2) representatives of entities using overhead lines:
 - 1. One (1) representative of an entity utilizing a significant number of overhead telephone lines in the District; and

2. One (1) representative of an entity utilizing a significant number of overhead cable television lines in the District; and

M. Two (2) residents of areas of the District that have traditionally been significantly impacted by storm-related power outages, to be appointed by the Mayor.

V. **TERMS**

Each member of the Task Force shall serve until the Task Force ceases to exist pursuant to section VIII of this Order, unless earlier removed by the designating or appointing authority.

VI. **COMPENSATION**

The members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation.

VII. **ADMINISTRATION**

A. Meetings of the Task Force shall be held at such times and locations as are designated by the co-chairpersons. Each meeting shall include a period of time for the public to comment on issues being considered by the Task Force.

B. The Office of the City Administrator and DDOT may enter into agreements with experts and consultants and for other purposes to assist the Task Force in carrying out its purpose and functions.

C. DDOT and Pepco Holdings, LLC, shall provide administrative and clerical support to the Task Force.

D. Pepco Holdings, LLC, and each District agency shall, at the request of the co-chairpersons, provide technical support to the Task Force.

VIII. **SUNSET**

The Task Force shall cease to exist on the sixtieth (60th) day after it transmits to the Mayor the report required by section III.6 of this Order.

IX. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Order shall be effective immediately.


VINCENT C. GRAY
MAYOR

ATTEST: 
CYNTHIA BROCK-SMITH
SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA