



From the Office of  
Texas State Senate Candidate Dist 15  
Joseph L Trahan

August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

**RE: CENTERPOINT ENERGY has made sure we are worse off now, than ever before**

Dear Future Constituents,

Our family business for decades was electrical construction, power plant building, grid stability and line work. We became the largest Electrical Contractor in the nation and world. Until my father's retirement and my move to hi-tech, space and defense, power grid resiliency was our life's work. Following the events surrounding Centerpoint Energy and the storm Beryl, we in the greater Houston Metroplex are in worse shape than ever for any upcoming storm and are sitting ducks for a catastrophe of massive proportions.

This is unacceptable, needless and planned destruction and suffering.

Jason Wells, Centerpoint CEO knowingly and with great zeal made 1000 decisions to:

- STOP cutting back limbs & trees in the power line right of ways
- STOP purchasing and keeping on hand transformers, switchgear and line disconnect fuses sufficient to recover from a storm
- STOP drilling and practicing Emergency Recovery systems, software and training for "soon as possible" power recovery
- STOP following decades old "Known Good Practice" of thousands of outside line crews deployment to immediately roll through turning on power for homes and businesses, similar to a marching army which is the decades old "STANDARD FOR THE INDUSTRY"

And, by cutting these known good essential elements from the balance sheet, POST a massive \$6 Billion Dollar Earning in 2023 for shareholders and bonus for himself and others.

Money which should rightfully have been spent on upgrades and resilience was diverted to temporal profits.

This must be recalled as it is criminal act of profiteering espionage conducted by a company trusted to ensure reliability of service that orchestrated financial raiding for self-gain.



Just as he did at PG&E in California, where Jason Wells, caused massive wildfires, killing 86 human beings, livestock, pets and burning to the ground 1000's of homes, cars, businesses and wildlife, Wells has decimated Houston Metro.

CENTERPOINT's Board of Directors knew this, hired him anyway as CEO with his team and RAIDED the CENTERPOINT ASSET BASE like LOOTING PIRATES for their personal benefit.

As a result, more than 2 million Houstonians languished without power for 7 to 14 days and some still now, nearly a month are still without power.

Right of ways are not cleared of overgrown trees, shrubs and known interference to reliable electric power. The storm, Hurricane Beryl was a category 1 when it made landfall, but, by the time it arrived in Houston, 56 miles from the coast, it was down-graded to a tropical storm that lost its organization and sustained winds were no more than 60 mph for an hour or less.

By all accounts of seasoned professional restoring power along the Gulf and Atlantic coastlines from storms, a properly maintained metropolitan power grid should have been a 2-3 day total recovery event.

Due to DEI hires, mismanagement, lack of known good care expressed above, millions of Houston area residents and businesses needlessly suffered as line crews sat in parking lots frustrated frustrated that they were not being assigned work tickets in normal fashion and left the Houston area after days of no meal, motel or work assignments.

Many of those crews that we desperately need for disaster recovery vowed never to return to Houston as long a Wells and Centerpoint were in charge. Centerpoint's Board of Directors, Executives and management complicity in this scheme to profiteer at the expense of Harris County residents, willfully caused them to suffer needlessly for weeks, some died due to heat related torment and businesses were ruined.



Jason Wells and Centerpoint et al...have prepared the greater Houston area for the worst case scenario disaster should a real storm make landfall which would be at total catastrophic event for the region.

Wells smug strategy was to again profiteer by selling generators rather than deploying known good grid stability tactics.

What the Centerpoint Board of Directors, Wells and executives and compliant management that DID NOT WHISTLEBLOW are guilty of manifold civil and criminal felonies against the people of Harris County.

To further add insult to the injury, Wells smugly retorted to the Texas State Senators who called him into a Texas Senate Investigation Committee hearing on the matter that only he and his team that just willing abused Houston area residents should be allowed to remedy the situation with promises made after the fact when caught. The poison giver can NEVER become the healer.

They have all earned civil and criminal charges and the Texas Attorney General MUST be directed to pursue that.

Furthermore, the Greater Houston Area is too important to the economy of Texas and the USA and CAN NOT sustain a stronger storm direct hit.

Smart industry analytics rightfully inform us that this market must be divided up by court order to others with stake holder citizens on the boards of directors to help manage resilience and share resources for disaster recovery.

In other words, we must put power resilience in the hands of the community and the people and hold all accountable such that no raiding profiteers EVER betray good known practice for a public utility service.

If we do not do as prescribed herein, we are fools and deserve the fools fate similar to New Orleans in Rita or any third world nation.



We can and must do better and it is solely each of our responsibility to demand, insist and force change for best outcome of this community.

We must organize for Texas to lead the nation and our state and nation needs our leadership badly right now.

**Texas First and Texans First,**

**Joseph L Trahan**

[www.JosephLTrahan.com](http://www.JosephLTrahan.com)