

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 8, 2009

TO: Honorable Burt R. Solomons, Chair, House Committee on State Affairs

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB681 by Ogden (Relating to the ability of electric utilities to provide electric service during a major power outage.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would authorize the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to require an electric utility, municipally owned utility, electric cooperative, qualifying facility, power generation company, exempt wholesale generator, power marketer, or retail electric provider to sell electricity and provide interconnection service to another electric utility, municipally owned utility, electric cooperative, or retail electric provider that is unable to supply power to meet customer demand due to a natural disaster or other emergency. The bill would require the PUC to submit to the legislature a report describing the reasons that it did not issue an order in the case that the commission does not order the sale of electricity during a declared emergency.

Based on the analysis of the PUC, the duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished by utilizing existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 473 Public Utility Commission of Texas

LBB Staff: JOB, KJG, MW, ES, JRO