87R11375 BRG-D

By:  Beckley H.B. No. 2877

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to notice to elected officials of a widespread power, water, or natural gas outage or emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Subchapter A, Chapter 31, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 31.006 to read as follows:

Sec. 31.006.  NOTICE TO ELECTED OFFICIALS REQUIRED. As soon as practicable after an electric utility, municipally owned utility, or electric cooperative experiences a widespread power outage or a widespread electric service emergency, the utility or cooperative shall notify by telephone and e-mail each:

(1)  United States senator who represents this state;

(2)  member of the United States House of Representatives who represents a district affected by the disruption or emergency;

(3)  statewide elected official;

(4)  member of the legislature who represents a district affected by the disruption or emergency;

(5)  elected official of a county government who represents an area affected by the disruption or emergency; and

(6)  elected official of a municipal government who represents an area affected by the disruption or emergency.

SECTION 2.  Subchapter A, Chapter 104, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 104.009 to read as follows:

Sec. 104.009.  NOTICE TO ELECTED OFFICIALS REQUIRED. As soon as practicable after a gas utility, municipally owned utility, or electric cooperative experiences a widespread natural gas shortage or a widespread natural gas service emergency, the utility or cooperative shall notify by telephone and e-mail each:

(1)  United States senator who represents this state;

(2)  member of the United States House of Representatives who represents a district affected by the disruption or emergency;

(3)  statewide elected official;

(4)  member of the legislature who represents a district affected by the disruption or emergency;

(5)  elected official of a county government who represents an area affected by the disruption or emergency; and

(6)  elected official of a municipal government who represents an area affected by the disruption or emergency.

SECTION 3.  Subchapter E, Chapter 13, Water Code, is amended by adding Section 13.1397 to read as follows:

Sec. 13.1397.  NOTICE TO ELECTED OFFICIALS REQUIRED. As soon as practicable after a retail public utility experiences a widespread water service outage or a widespread water service emergency, the utility shall notify by telephone and e-mail each:

(1)  United States senator who represents this state;

(2)  member of the United States House of Representatives who represents a district affected by the disruption or emergency;

(3)  statewide elected official;

(4)  member of the legislature who represents a district affected by the disruption or emergency;

(5)  elected official of a county government who represents an area affected by the disruption or emergency; and

(6)  elected official of a municipal government who represents an area affected by the disruption or emergency.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.