ANC 3B Resolution On Response to Pepco Power Outages

WHEREAS, Pepco customers in the Glover Park area have experienced six power outages within the past 18 months, including an outage that affected almost the entire neighborhood and lasted for 5 days following the June 2012 Derecho storm; and

WHEREAS, 443,000 Pepco customers in D.C. and Maryland, including approximately 66,000 customers in the District, lost power for electricity and Ward 3 was one of the most heavily affected areas of the District during the June 2012 Derecho storm; and,

WHEREAS, Following this storm, Pepco failed to restore power within a timely manner and thousands of customers, including those in Glover Park, which has a sizeable elderly population, suffered in extreme heat for 5 days before power was restored; and,

WHEREAS, Power outages during extreme weather events not only cause major disruptions and economic loss, but create significant risks for public health and safety,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3B, representing Glover Park and Cathedral Heights, requests that the District of Columbia Council, using all appropriate powers, launch an investigation of the causes of Pepco’s consistent pattern of power outages during both blue sky and extreme weather events such as the recent Derecho storm, and determine whether the company’s policies and practices place the public’s health and safety at risk;

FURTHERMORE, ANC 3B requests that such investigation shall determine if Pepco has consistently failed to provide reliable electrical power service for its customers because it has severely under-invested in improving infrastructure, upgrading equipment, and maintaining an adequate work force for maintenance and extreme weather events and,

FURTHERMORE, ANC 3B requests that such investigation shall determine if Pepco has paid highly generous dividends to its investors and high salaries to its top executives while neglecting investments in modernizing infrastructure and,
FURTHERMORE, ANC 3B requests that the Council hold Pepco to its promise to investigate and report on the causes of the numerous extreme weather and blue-sky outages that have plagued Glover Park over the last 18 months;

FURTHERMORE, ANC 3B requests that the Council’s full investigation of Pepco’s reliability problems shall conclude with appropriate recommendations for legislators, regulators, and Pepco to implement changes necessary to improve the reliability of electricity service in the District of Columbia, including the outage problems specific to Glover Park.

The resolution was **Approved** by a vote of **14 to 0** on July 12, 2012

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**Ben Thielen**
Secretary, ANC 3B

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*Commissioner Cohen abstained from this vote*