

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 135

By Powell

A RESOLUTION to request that the Tennessee Valley Authority address energy issues as they pertain to winter weather events in order to avoid rolling blackouts and power outages.

WHEREAS, during a historically cold winter storm on Friday, December 23, 2022, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) announced temporary energy load reductions or "rolling blackouts" for the first time in ninety years to stabilize their regional power grid that serves ten million customers in seven states; and

WHEREAS, limited warning was given to customers from Memphis to Mountain City before blackouts began that Friday morning, leaving thousands of homes without power and heat in the sub-zero temperatures due to the mandatory power load reductions; and

WHEREAS, as TVA worked to maintain the power grid, the rolling blackouts continued for a number of electric utilities across the State until around noon on Saturday, December 24, 2022; and

WHEREAS, news reports stated that TVA had to reduce strain on its grid as demand for energy ran nearly thirty-five percent higher than expected on a normal winter day, while at the same time a number of the power operator's coal and gas energy facilities were down because of the freezing temperatures; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEEN GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we request that the Tennessee Valley Authority address energy issues as they pertain to winter weather events in order to avoid rolling blackouts and power outages in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that appropriate copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the board of directors and the chief executive officer of the Tennessee Valley Authority and to each member of the Tennessee Congressional delegation.