

By: Representatives Guice, Bentz, Bounds,
Broomfield, Carlton, Compretta, Davis,
Dedeaux, Fillingane, Formby, Fredericks,
Hamilton (109th), Ishee, Janus, Lane, Lott,
Parker, Patterson, Peranich, Read, Robinson
(84th), Simpson, Snowden, Staples, Stringer, Upshaw, Walley, Warren,
Watson, Wells-Smith, Young, Zuber

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 50

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING MISSISSIPPI POWER FOR ITS
2 DILIGENCE, COMMITMENT AND SUCCESS IN RESTORING POWER TO SOUTHEAST
3 MISSISSIPPI AFTER HURRICANE KATRINA.

4 WHEREAS, Mississippi Power demonstrated untiring commitment,
5 diligence and service to its customer base, as well as the state
6 as a whole, by restoring power in an efficient and prompt manner
7 after Hurricane Katrina; and

8 WHEREAS, Mississippi Power, which is led by its dedicated
9 President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Anthony J. Topazi,
10 faced a seemingly daunting task of restoring electricity to its
11 195,000 customers who cover 23 counties in Southeast Mississippi;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast of
14 Mississippi on August 29, 2005, 100% of Mississippi Power's
15 customers were left with no service; and

16 WHEREAS, Mississippi Power had 65% of its transmission and
17 distribution facilities damaged with 23,500 spans of downed wire,
18 300 downed transmission structures, 9,000 downed distribution
19 poles and 2,300 damaged transformers; and

20 WHEREAS, the first day after Hurricane Katrina, all of
21 Mississippi Power's substations and its two major power plants
22 were out of service, and only 3% of 3,000 MW of generation were
23 available; and

24 WHEREAS, in the midst of the company's having to deal with
25 its damaged infrastructure, Mississippi Power also had over 700 of
26 its employees who suffered personal losses; and

27 WHEREAS, despite all of the overwhelming challenges
28 Mississippi Power faced, it took only 12 days after Hurricane
29 Katrina hit the coast, for Mississippi Power to have 100% of its
30 customer base, who could receive power, back on line; and

31 WHEREAS, the incredible feat of restoring power to Southeast
32 Mississippi could not have occurred without CEO, Anthony J.
33 Topazi, and his capable staff, along with nearly 11,000 outside
34 personnel who helped Mississippi Power restore power in such an
35 efficient and prompt manner; and

36 WHEREAS, it is with great gratitude that the Legislature
37 commends Mississippi Power for its excellent work in restoring
38 power to the citizens of Southeast Mississippi during such a
39 trying and dark time in this great state's history:

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
41 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
42 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend Mississippi Power and its CEO,
43 Anthony J. Topazi, for their tireless efforts in ensuring that
44 power was restored, which in turn, helped those in Southeast
45 Mississippi, who were devastated by Hurricane Katrina, to begin
46 the healing process.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
48 furnished to Mississippi Power and to the members of the Capitol
49 Press Corps.