

Dear Chair Paulin and Chair Parker,

On behalf of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, I would like to express our residents' deep frustration with Con Edison's response to Hurricane Isaias. Essential facilities, including the Municipal Building (home to the Police Department), did not have electricity restored until August 10, six days after the storm. Some residents were left without power a full week after the storm.

Despite publicizing expensive and extensive upgrades to their networks in the near-decade that's passed since Hurricane Sandy (2012) and Hurricane Irene (2011), it's unclear what improvement, if any, there has been in reliability by Con Edison. Nonetheless, Con Edison steadily booked billions of dollars in revenue, disbursed dividends to their investors and paid their executives millions of dollars annually.

Enclosed is a memo from our Village Manager detailing the response of Con Edison to Hurricane Isaias in the Village of Croton-on-Hudson. The Manager details a lack of coordination between Con Edison and its crews in the field. The long standing issue of inaccurate Estimated Times of Restoration (ETR) from the utility also affected many residents in 2020.

Earlier this month, Con Edison was fined by the \$10.75 million for some 40 violations arising from its response to the 2018 winter storms that struck our area. What

message, if any, does such a sum send to a company that books more than \$12B in annual revenue?

Based on Con Edison's lackluster response to the recent hurricane, it's clear that a proverbial slap on the wrist is inadequate. We need systemic root and branch reform. I ask the legislature to be both bold and deliberate in the steps it takes to protect the public and ensure that New Yorkers get the services they need and deserve.

Sincerely,

Brian Pugh

Brian Pugh

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