

Council Takes Proactive Steps  
To Ensure Neighborhoods & Business Operations Are Restored

*Monitors Entergy New Orleans Progress &  
Passes Emergency Public Safety Focused Ordinance*

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New Orleans  
City Council

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New Orleans, LA - September 4, 2008 - Today, City Council President Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson led the City Council to continue its proactive efforts to ensure power is restored to businesses and homes and that public safety protections are stepped up.

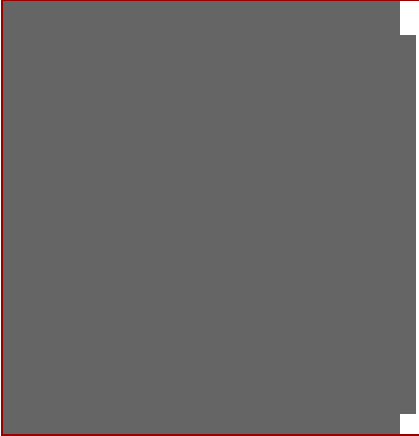
The Council expects to receive twice daily briefings from Entergy New Orleans until full power is restored across the City.

According to Council President Clarkson, the Council has requested that Entergy set up a constituent neighborhood-by-neighborhood report for Council offices to use in helping their constituents. These reports will also be available to the public through Entergy New Orleans.

Clarkson said, "The Council is meeting twice daily with Entergy New Orleans and we expect to report - neighborhood to neighborhood - to our constituents where and when electrical power will be restored."

The Council has taken immediate steps to address citizen public safety issues. In an Emergency Special Session on Wednesday, the Council adopted an Ordinance which establishes a municipal offense for anyone who files false theft or burglary reports. During this critical time, this Ordinance frees law enforcement from being distracted from vital public safety responsibilities.

"We felt it was paramount to assist law enforcement as much as possible to do their jobs. This legislation addresses important public safety issues - that will free law enforcement personnel to prioritize their duties and not spend critical time dealing with false incident reports," Clarkson continued.



Earlier today, the Council met in special Executive Session to hear briefings/updates from the Administration on the status of re-entry and restoration of all City services. Councilmembers will spend time in the field today, observing the re-entry of citizens and business owners entering Orleans Parish, assessing power outages in neighborhoods and monitoring the progress of the removal of debris and fallen power and cable lines. The Council is expected to attend the Mayor's briefing this evening.

#### New Orleans City Council

The New Orleans City Council is the legislative branch of New Orleans city government. The Council considers and enacts all local laws that govern the City of New Orleans. The Council also approves the operating and capital budgets for the City, as recommended by the mayor, and continually monitors revenues and expenditures for local government operations. The City Council is also the regulatory body for public utilities. It also reviews and has final say on many land use and zoning matters, as well as considers major economic development projects for the City. As a Board of Review for Orleans Parish, the Council examines appeals of property tax assessments for real estate taxes, and certifies tax rolls to the Louisiana Tax Commission. Other responsibilities of the Council include overseeing the operation of the public access television in Orleans Parish.

The City Council is comprised of five districts and two councilmembers-at-large. Council President and Councilmember-at-Large Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson; Council Vice-President and Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow; District "A" Councilmember Shelley Midura; District "B" Councilmember Stacy S. Head; District "C" Councilmember James Carter; District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell; and District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis.