

- PEC Communication Issues
  - PEC has requested a single point of contact within BCP to address their requests. They were referred to Kimberlee Harvey, BCCP Infrastructure Coordinator. Any time we received communications from PEC she began the dialog. Field visits were often requested with specific questions and Ms. Harvey also recruited appropriate subject matter experts from BCP staff to participate in those discussions in the field.
  - Nina Walther (PEC Utility Forester) reached out for a meeting to “talk about communication issues we may be having with PEC” regarding BCCP regulations. She expressed concern with the lack of internal PEC communications across their different region offices. Nina said she hoped to change PEC processes so that she would be the internal PEC BCP/BCCP primary contact.
  - We have observed that when PEC staff did not receive answers that they were satisfied with, they initiated contacts with other BCP staff members, primarily Sherri Kuhl, BCP Program Manager.
  - When PEC challenged Endangered Species regulations Ms. Kuhl facilitated a conference call meeting between USFWS, PEC, and BCP
  - In one case PEC split a project that we were supporting them on and split it into two separate projects with separate project managers. When BCP contacted those managers, neither had been given prior information relative to requirements of working within BCP.
- In an effort to help with PEC BCP/BCCP work, COA staff created ArcGIS Online accounts for Nina Walther and Maria Gonzalez (PEC Line Inspector) so they could access the BCCP maps in the office and field using smart devices. Last login by Nina was 3/24/2014, and Maria never did use it.
- BL230
  - PEC claimed Emergency maintenance was necessary in the Lake Perspectives & McGregor BCP tracts all along the BL230 feeder, due to fire risk.
  - PEC began trimming on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and ceased on June 3<sup>rd</sup> when crews were shut down by BCP staff due to it being the golden-cheeked warbler nesting season. COA BCP staff received notification from PEC of prior activities on June 18, 2013. They estimated three more days of work would be needed.
  - COA staff discussed that emergency maintenance is usually limited to one or two trees in the immediate risk area, and it is not to be used for an entire line to be maintained.
  - A Travis County biologist noted that in the area of previous clearing, they found a pair of GCWA’s with 5-day old fledglings within 10 meters of one of the cleared areas.
  - PEC agreed to wait until after September 1 to complete the maintenance.
- Karnik Richards Horse Thief Ranch BCP
  - Without notification, PEC began a rebuild project on the Karnik and Richards Travis County BCP tracts. When the tree trimming crew was questioned in the field, they said they had been working in the area for 3 weeks. They said that originally 2 poles were

burning and so they were replacing all the poles. COA BCP staff was then notified on 11/1/13.

- TC staff noted that cuts on oaks were not treated for oak wilt through the entire work area; three bore holes were dug where new poles were to be placed, some brush had been piled and some chipped, and a cigarette butt was observed under the power line.
- Willy worked with Richard Arellano (with PEC) and agreed to the emergency maintenance work.
- SW150 Franklin BCP
  - On 11/23/13, communications between PEC and COA BCP staff started, regarding minimal clearing needed for maintenance/rebuild of electrical service on the BCP Franklin tract. However, the work was not completed.
  - On 4/23/14, PEC contacted COA BCP staff to discuss intended emergency maintenance work on the Franklin BCP tract, but was notified that it didn't fit the requirements for emergency maintenance just because it wasn't completed before the breeding season.
  - COA staff notified PEC that the project was in the newly listed salamander habitat zone and pole replacement should use a concrete pole coating. PEC was not interested in that option due to added costs.
  - PEC then submitted a vegetation work plan requesting to clear to the ground, a 20' swath of vegetation along the power line. The request was denied on 10/28/14 because the requested clearing fell outside of acceptable guidelines established by USFWS.
  - PEC notified COA staff on 10/03/14 saying they decided to hold off on the project
  - PEC transferred the project to Bob Beckmann (PEC distribution design tech) in another regional office, and he had no knowledge of BCP or past project issues.
  - We worked with Bob and Nina and accepted a preapproved veg plan to clear 8' of vegetation under the line every 4 years. The existing poles were used and the equipment was changed out.
- Village of Volente
  - A resident of Volente required new PEC electrical service to a new construction home off of Lime Creek Road, adjacent to a preserve.
  - PEC told the resident that "BCCP is too hard for us to work with" and instructed the private homeowner to submit a BCCP habitat assessment application for infrastructure.
  - The private resident contacted Volente City Administrator, Barbara Wilson, and she submitted the application, with notations about her confusion and frustration with PEC.
  - COA staff spoke with Ms. Wilson and offered guidance. She decided to work with PEC and put the application on hold.
  - As far as BCP staff knows, this project was never completed.