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ELECTRIC
DISTRICT HEAT
WATER
WASTEWATER
SOLID WASTE

NEWS RELEASE: For immediate release, 10/24/06

The Board of Public Utilities' control and monitoring system indicated that a circuit out of Newland Avenue Substation opened at 8:45 PM and re-closed almost instantaneously as it is designed to do.

The BPU Control Room was notified by 911 at 9:00 PM that an automobile had crashed into a utility pole at 270 Cole between Myrtle and Park, snapping the pole in half and people were trapped inside the vehicle with power lines lying across the car.

The BPU Electric Supervisor at once authorized the control room operator to remotely open the circuit, de-energizing the power lines. Immediately following that action, the supervisor went to the accident scene.

After confirming with emergency personnel at the scene that there were no life-threatening injuries, the BPU supervisor waited the extra moments for a BPU line truck to arrive at the scene to confirm the lines were de-energized.

The line crew followed standard procedure for clearing downed power lines by confirming the line was de-energized and the occupants were removed from the vehicle.

The line crew proceeded to take steps to clear the downed lines and restore power to as many affected customers as possible. One hour after receiving the initial report of downed lines, 60% of the power was restored.

Crews continued to work throughout the night to rebuild the downed lines, replace the pole and restore the remaining power by 6:30 AM.