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I wanted to search more locally in my hometown San Antonio, TX, for communities who were struggling with accessing safe drinkable water, but instead, I decided to focus on a time when everyone experienced the lack of clean water, emphasizing how no change has really gone forward with the main cause of it. I hope that's okay! I cited the websites where I got all my factual information from down below.

Greg Abbott,

With the upcoming election and everything, many people would love to know your stance on energy efficiency and adequate access to safe clean water. Especially when the power grids failed during the snowstorm last February, many families lost access to drinkable water, including my family.

Although this is not the current situation, the effects and the trauma of not being able to access proper drinking water still linger, and many of your constituents are wondering what you will do to ensure that this won't happen again- especially with climate change. Many families, like mine, had pipes that were broken or frozen, so water couldn't traverse, and were stuck melting snow in bath tubs or buying plastic water bottles out of desperation. There was even a boil water notice that went into effect, and that lasted for a week. People had to boil their water, if they had any, and use the already scarce electricity and water to live again. When we lost power, the water treatment plant shutdown. Why was this able to happen? Why aren't we suited for extreme temperatures in the cold, when we experience such temperatures in the heat?

People died because they didn't have access to safe drinking water or electricity. In addition, when the treatment plant shut down, the demand for water increased as people, like me, tried to prevent their pipes from freezing by using the drip method. This loss in pressure can result in dangerous bacteria in the water supply, which is why the boil method was implemented. But the problem with that is you need electricity or a gas stove to do that and not every home in Texas is suited for that! I was lucky enough to have a gas stove and a fireplace, but others can't say the same. They should be able to or they shouldn't have to ever experience this catastrophe.

People went without safe drinking water for days, and that's because of the failure of the power grids, but also the failure of your leadership.

In addition, low-income communities were hit the hardest because they already are struggling to provide themselves with food and water, so when both supplies got cut off, where were they supposed to get these basic necessities? The after-effects of this storm resulted in peoples' houses flooding, leaving them without safe drinking water for weeks, and that is due to the failure of the power grids. Energy independence shouldn't exist. ERCOT shouldn't exist. Why don't we join forces with other interstate grids? This isolating power grid is the reason for the misery of so many Texans that week, and that misery still exists to this day. ERCOT will act on its own accord, which is dangerous and could put even more Texans at risk for the future. Although weather regulations were placed after this incident, independent energy grids shouldn't exist, because look at what happens when it does.

Sincerely,
Voter

Research sources/Credit:

<https://www.vox.com/2021/3/1/22305616/water-texas-winter-storm-outage-california-fire-climate-change-infrastructure>

<https://cz.boell.org/en/2021/03/19/texas-power-grid-failure-causes-lessons-learned-and-implications-eu-energy-market>

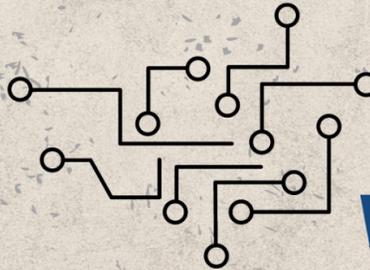
Poster down below

WANTED

ercot 

FOR THE MISERY OF MILLIONS OF TEXANS

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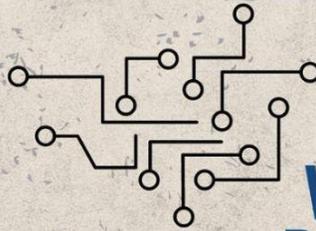


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archoncamp I was one of those families who were stuck at home, freezing, with no warm food or safe drinking water, wondering when we would get electricity back. We can use our voices and our votes to make sure it never happens again. I'm glad I turned 18 this year. @turninggreenorg @governorabbott @betoorourke #pgc2022 #ercot #texaswinterstorm2021 #vote #votevotevote #yourvotematters