Before winter storm, Lina Hidalgo warned of Category 5 hurricane conditions. Was she right?
Before winter storm, Lina Hidalgo warned of Category 5 hurricane conditions. Was she right?

Before winter storm, Lina Hidalgo warned of Category 5 hurricane conditions. Was she right?

dangerous conditions outside, road closures. The same type of thing we would see in a Category 5 hurricane,” Hidalgo said at a press conference.

Her critics were quick to paint the comparison as hyperbolic.

“Typical scare tactics,” one person wrote on
The toll of last week's winter storm still is coming into focus, but it already has become clear the damage rivals that of a major hurricane. Roughly 1.4 million customers lost power in the Houston metro area. Nearly 80 people across Texas died from hypothermia, carbon monoxide poisoning and other storm-related causes, according to an Associated Press tally as of Monday. Grocery stores, facing food shortages, imposed limits on certain items including eggs, milk and bread even days after power was restored. And a water crisis unfolded as nearly the entire Houston area — and more than 14 million people across the state — were ordered to boil their water before drinking it, even as many lacked running water or the electricity to operate their stoves.
Before winter storm, Lina Hidalgo warned of Category 5 hurricane conditions. Was she right?
“You think about the wind from a hurricane blowing a tree into your house,” said Jim Blackburn, co-director of Rice University’s Severe Storm Prediction, Education and Evacuation from Disasters Center. “That’s nothing different than a pipe bursting in your attic and the entire roof collapsing in on you.”
Before winter storm, Lina Hidalgo warned of Category 5 hurricane conditions. Was she right?

Before winter storm, Lina Hidalgo warned of Category 5 hurricane conditions. Was she right?

Before winter storm, Lina Hidalgo warned of Category 5 hurricane conditions. Was she right?

Before winter storm, Lina Hidalgo warned of Category 5 hurricane conditions. Was she right?
Before winter storm, Lina Hidalgo warned of Category 5 hurricane conditions. Was she right?
Before winter storm, Lina Hidalgo warned of Category 5 hurricane conditions. Was she right?
Before winter storm, Lina Hidalgo warned of Category 5 hurricane conditions. Was she right?

Before winter storm, Lina Hidalgo warned of Category 5 hurricane conditions. Was she right?