



Public Service Commission

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE: June 12, 2006
TO: C. Edward Mills, Chief, Bureau of Safety, Tallahassee
FROM: Tony Velazquez, Electric Safety Supervisor, Tampa
RE: 2006 Annual Power Pole Integrity Program Summary

The purpose of this power pole survey was to identify rotted, damaged or otherwise structurally compromised wood power poles that may be prone to failure during severe weather events. The survey focused on feeder lines and other facilities that influence a greater number of customers and if damaged would influence system reliability. From December 2005 to March 2006, the Commission's electric safety group conducted a visual survey of investor owned utility (IOU) poles. No poles were found with any significant visible rot. The survey results did not identify any trends that might cause future reliability problems for customers.

The survey found two poles belonging to Florida Power and Light Company (FPL) that showed severe and obvious damage. One pole bearing number 8-6380-9583 was located at 2P1 S north of NW 8th Street on the east side of NW 136th Avenue in Sunrise. The pole supports a bank of two transformers and is coming apart near the base. It appears that it may have been struck by a heavy vehicle. The other pole, bearing number 8-6882-5450 was located at 8411 NW 24th Court in Fort Lauderdale and is severely deteriorated near the top insulator which supports a single-phase conductor. See attached pictures for visual detail.

A total of 2,500 poles were selected for direct survey and documentation. Based on the total sample size there is 95% confidence that the sample results are representative of the population. The number of poles selected for each utility was weighted by the utility's percentage of the total IOU customer base. For example, there are approximately 6,920,328 IOU customers in Florida and 63% of them are served by FPL. Therefore, 1,560 (63% of 2500) FPL poles were selected for inspection. Furthermore, the 1,560 poles selected for FPL were allocated to various counties according to the percentage of FPL customers located in each county. For example, Brevard County contains 6.47% of all FPL customers so 100 poles (6.47% of 1,560) were selected for inspection in Brevard. The same pole selection methodology was applied to Progress Energy-Florida, Tampa Electric Company and Gulf Power Company. The survey included all of Florida's investor owned electric utilities with the exception of Florida Public Utilities, which only accounts for 0.39% of the IOU customer base.

The following tables highlight the four investor owned electric utilities and the number of poles selected in the counties that were included.

Florida Power and Light			
County	Number of Customers	% of Total Customers	Poles to Inspect
Brevard	273,909	6.47%	100
Broward	880,373	20.81%	320
Charlotte	95,737	2.26%	35
Collier	177,961	4.21%	65
Dade	969,676	22.92%	350
Flagler	46,327	1.09%	20
Indian River	45,719	1.08%	25
Lee	208,331	4.92%	75
Manatee	161,585	3.82%	60
Martin	85,663	2.02%	35
Palm Beach	677,523	16.01%	245
Sarasota	233,831	5.53%	85
Seminole	46,143	1.09%	20
St. Johns	62,033	1.47%	25
St. Lucie	104,010	2.46%	40
Volusia	162,647	3.84%	60
Total	4,231,468	100.00%	1,560

Progress Energy - Florida			
County	Number of Customers	% of Total Customers	Poles to Inspect
Citrus	43,306	2.91%	25
Highlands	50,407	3.38%	20
Lake	67,769	4.55%	25
Marion	54,812	3.68%	20
Orange	310,804	20.86%	115
Osceola	28,388	1.91%	10
Pasco	115,204	7.73%	45
Pinellas	525,936	35.31%	190
Polk	78,954	5.30%	30
Seminole	142,264	9.55%	55
Volusia	71,803	4.82%	35
Total	1,489,647	100.00%	570

Tampa Electric Company			
County	Number of Customers	% of Total Customers	Poles to Inspect
Hillsborough	547,471	89.80%	205
Polk	62,189	10.20%	25
Total	609,660	100.00%	230

Gulf Power Company			
County	Number of Customers	% of Total Customers	Poles to Inspect
Bay	86,388	23.91%	35
Escambia	135,516	37.51%	50
Okaloosa	82,677	22.88%	30
Santa Rosa	56,701	15.69%	25
Total	361,282	100.00%	140



FPL
Pole coming apart near ground level.
Pole supports a two transformer bank.
Pole # 8-6380-9583 2 poles north of NW 8th St.
on east side of NW 136th Ave. in Sunrise.



**FPL
Top of pole severely deteriorated.
Pole supports single phase line.
Pole # 8-6882-5450 at 8411 NW 24th Ct. in Fort Lauderdale.**