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From: S. Denise Hill [dhill@publicpower.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2006 2:18 PM
To: Filings@psc.state.fl.us
Subject: Alachua Ongoing Storm Preparedness Report
Attachments: Alachua.OngoingStormPreparednessReport053106.doc

Dear Sir/Madam,

Attached is the Implementation Plan for Ongoing Storm Preparedness for the City of Alachua.

Denise

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City of Alachua
Outline of Ongoing Storm Preparedness
Implementation Plan
May 31, 2006

A. Introduction

This is a Storm Preparedness Implementation Plan report by the City of Alachua located in Alachua County, Florida. For information contact:

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Alachua is an inland community that serves 3,600 electric customers. The City is not normally directly affected by hurricane strikes. During 2004 Hurricanes Francis and Jeanne affected the City of Alachua with minor damage to the distribution system. In both events, power was restored to all customers within four days of the onset of the storm event. In total, the City's electric system experienced pole failures on less than 1% of its poles.

B. Three-Year Vegetation Management Cycle

The City of Alachua maintains its overhead distribution system by trimming vegetation along each circuit on a three (3) year cycle. A contractor performs this work. In some cases, the City also uses its own personnel to perform trimming on an as needed basis.

C. Transmission and Distribution Geographic Information System

The City of Alachua has completed two years of a four-year implementation of GIS mapping of our electric system. Approximately 75% of our overhead electric system has been mapped. The information collected in our mapping process includes pole, conductor, transformer, switch, and sectionalizer data as well as pole attachments. Once complete, the City will migrate to utilization of an electronic outage management system.

D. Wooden Transmission vs. Concrete Transmission Structures

This section is not applicable to the City of Alachua – the City has no transmission system. The City of Alachua receives transmission service from Gainesville Regional Utilities of Gainesville, Florida.

E. Post-Storm Data Gathering, Data Retention and Forensic Analysis

When major outage events occur, utility staff meets to analyze the situation and recommend equipment and/or operational changes necessary to avoid similar outages in the future.

F. Audit of Joint-Use Pole Attachment Agreements

The City of Alachua currently audits pole attachments on city-owned poles. Electric System personnel perform the audit every three years.

The City has not performed rigorous stress calculations on joint use poles. However, during our pole attachment audit, experienced field personnel examine our poles to identify obviously overloaded poles. The City has not experienced any failures of poles due to overloading.

G. Six-year transmission Inspection Program

The City of Alachua does not have any transmission facilities. The City of Alachua receives transmission service through Gainesville Regional Utilities.

H. Collection of Outage Data Differentiating Between the Reliability Performance of Overhead and Underground Systems

The City of Alachua differentiates between overhead and underground when tracking outages. We do not differentiate between the two for the various indices.

I. Coordination with Local Governments

The City of Alachua is a local government. Our electric utility, as a department of the City, practices a continuous, cooperative and appropriate level of coordination with other departments of the City.

The City of Alachua has established lines of communication with Alachua County Emergency Operations beginning 48 hours prior to the estimated arrival of a storm event. Upon arrival of a storm event, communications is maintained continuously until the electric system is satisfactory restored.

The City of Alachua has established lines of communications with our electric power supplier, Gainesville Regional Utilities.

J. Collaborative Research Through the Public Utility Research Center at the University of Florida

The City of Alachua, through its membership in the Florida Municipal Electric Association (FMEA) and its involvement with Public Utility Research Center (PURC) at the University of Florida, participates in PURC activities related to storm hardening research.
