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From: S. Denise Hill [dhill@publicpower.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2006 2:22 PM
To: Filings@psc.state.fl.us
Subject: Fort Meade Storm Preparedness Report

Attachments: Fort Meade Storm Preparedness Report.doc



Fort Meade Storm
Preparedness ...

Dear Sir/Madam,

Attached is the Implementation Plan for Ongoing Storm Preparedness for the City of Fort Meade

Thank you,

Denise

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Storm Preparedness Report
City of Fort Meade Implementation Plan
May 29, 2006

A. Introduction

This is the Storm Preparedness Report prepared by the City of Fort Meade, located in Polk County, Florida. Information contact:

Ms. Katrina Powell
City Manager
8 W. Broadway
Fort Meade, Florida 33841
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Fort Meade is an inland community not normally directly affected by hurricane strikes. However in 2004, Fort Meade was hit by 3 hurricanes: Charley, Frances & Jeanne.

The eye of these three storms passed over the city of Fort Meade. Charley, a Category 4 hurricane and being the most destructive of the three, put customers out of power for as long as 10 days in Fort Meade. It took 7 days to restore power after Hurricane Frances and 4 days to restore after Hurricane Jeanne. During the 2005 season, Fort Meade was not directly affected by any hurricanes.

Fort Meade's distribution system covers approximately 6 square miles. We serve 2647 customer meters at this time. We have two new subdivisions under construction. Both subdivisions have underground electric. Fort Meade's Land Development Code adopted in 1996, requires all utilities, within the city limits, be placed underground.

Three-Year Vegetation Management Cycle

The City of Fort Meade trims its distribution system every three-four years by grid. Hanging limbs and deteriorated trees in the rights- of- way are removed when needed.

B. Transmission and Distribution Geographic Information System

Fort Meade's entire distribution system is mapped on paper. Since the system is very compact, we do not have a GIS database at this time. However, 75% of our poles are newer than 5 years. We ride our entire distribution system on a frequent basis. We hope to, in the next few years, develop an electronic database that tracks all poles including: type of pole, age, pole attachments by others (i.e., Sprint, Verizon, Comcast), etc.

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Currently, any work done on the poles is tracked by work order and this information is electronically stored.

C. Wooden Transmission vs. Concrete Transmission Structures

This section is not applicable to the City of Fort Meade – the City has no transmission system. The City of Fort Meade receives transmission service through Progress Energy.

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

Outage work orders are generated for every outage on our system. An outage report is created and contains the following information: cause of the outage, corrective actions taken, and any recommended action(s) to prevent a recurrence of the outage. These reports are public record and are retained accordingly. When major outage events occur, utility staff convenes to analyze the causes and recommend equipment and/or operational changes necessary to avoid similar outages in the future.

E. Audit of Joint-Use Pole Attachment Agreements

Fort Meade currently audits pole attachments on City-owned poles. This audit is done every two-three years by utility personnel.

We have not performed rigorous stress calculations on joint use poles, but are currently evaluating doing so. However, during the field audit, our facilities are examined by knowledgeable field personnel to identify obviously overloaded poles. Furthermore, the City of Fort Meade has not experienced any failures of poles due to overloading.

F. Six-year transmission Inspection Program

Fort Meade does not have any transmission facilities. The City of Fort Meade receives transmission service through Progress Energy.

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

The City of Fort Meade does not currently differentiate between overhead and underground outages in collecting outage data. However, it would be relatively easy to calculate separately for overhead and underground outages.

H. Coordination with Local Governments

The City of Fort Meade is the local government. However, we coordinate with Polk County, other municipalities in our area, and FMEA for mutual aid during times of approaching severe weather.

I. Collaborative Research Through the Public Utility Research Center (PURC) at the University of Florida

The City of Fort Meade, 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.