# City of Tallahassee Report to the Florida Public Service Commission Pursuant to Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C. Calendar Year 2023

## 1) Introduction

- a) City of Tallahassee Electric Utility
- b) 2602 Jackson Bluff Road, Tallahassee, FL 32304-4408
- c) Contact information: Name, title, phone, fax, email

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- 2) Number of meters served in calendar year 2023 123,845
- 3) Standards of Construction
  - a) National Electric Safety Code Compliance

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at the City of Tallahassee\_comply with the National Electrical Safety Code (ANSI C-2) [NESC]. For electrical facilities constructed on or after January 1, 2017, the 2017 NESC applies. The edition of the NESC in effect at the time of the facility's initial construction governs electrical facilities constructed prior to January 1, 2017.

#### b) Extreme Wind Loading Standard

At this time, the City of Tallahassee facilities are not designed to be guided by the extreme loading standards on a systemwide basis. However, the City of Tallahassee is guided by the extreme wind loading standard for targeted critical infrastructure.

c) Flooding and Storm Surges

The City of Tallahassee is a non-coastal utility, therefore, storm surge/flooding is not an issue.

d) Safe and Efficient Access of New and Replacement Distribution Facilities

Electrical construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at the City of Tallahassee provide for the placement of new and replacement distribution facilities to facilitate safe and efficient access for installation and maintenance. Wherever new facilities are placed (i.e., front, back, or side of property), all facilities are installed so that the City of Tallahassee's facilities are accessible by its crews and vehicles to ensure proper maintenance/repair is performed as expeditiously and safely as possible. The City of Tallahassee decides on a case-by-case basis whether existing facilities must be relocated. If it is determined that facilities must be relocated, they will be placed in the safest, most accessible area.

e) Attachments by Others

The pole attachment agreements between The City of Tallahassee and third-party attachers include language which specifies that the attacher, not the City of Tallahassee, has the burden of assessing pole strength and safety before they attach to the pole. The City of Tallahssee performs follow-up audits of attachments to ensure the attachment is properly installed and maintained.

### 4. Facility Inspections

a) Describe the utility's policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures for inspecting transmission and distribution lines, poles, and structures including, but not limited to, pole inspection cycles and pole selection process.

**Pole Inspection/Treatment Program – Eight-Year Cycle** 

The City of Tallahassee's pole/structure inspection and treatment program was initiated several years ago and has been refined through each inspection cycle. The City's program is defined so that every eight years, a new pole inspection and treatment cycle is initiated to inspect all the distribution and transmission wood poles and structures on the City's system over two to three years. During these inspections, visual inspections are made of the City's concrete and steel structures, and any deficiencies are reported. The inspection/treatment program includes the following: (i) visual inspection for wood poles less than ten years old, (ii) sound and bore inspections for poles greater than ten years old, (iii) internal treatment and fumigant treatment as required (iv) reinforcement/replacement as required (v) assessment and evaluation of poles to determine whether they meet the applicable N.E.S.C. strength standard and (vi) record keeping of data for the GIS database. The City has found this inspection process, used typically throughout the industry, has resulted in high reliability and appropriate maintenance levels at a reasonable cost.

b) Describe the number and percentage of transmission and distribution inspections planned and completed for 2023.

The City of Tallahassee performs a climbing and physical inspection of every transmission structure on its system at least every five years. A plan is developed from the inspections to make all the necessary repairs or refurbishments during periods of the year when load conditions permit the scheduling of line outages (typically fall and spring periods unless it is an emergency repair). In 2019, a complete inspection of 2,956 Transmission Poles was implemented and completed. The number of rejected poles in the inspection was 11, which was 0.4% of the total poles in the system.

In 2020, the City of Tallahassee completed an inspection of the entire Distribution System 53,316 poles were inspected, and the number of rejected poles during the inspection was 1301, which is 2.4% of the total poles on the system that are projected to be replaced in 2024/2025.

c) Describe the number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles failing inspection in 2023 and the reason for the failure.

The City of Tallahassee contractor completed the entire Distribution system pole inspection in 2020, the number of rejected Distribution poles during the inspection was 1301. A large portion of rejects was rot and animal invasion, which is 2.4% of the total poles on the system that will be replaced in 2024/2025. In 2019, a complete inspection of 2,956 transmission Poles was implemented and completed. The number of rejected poles in the inspection was a total of 11. Many of these rejects were rot and animal invasion, which was 0.4% of the total poles in the system.

d) Describe the number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles, by pole type and class of structure, replaced or for which remediation was taken after inspection in 2023, including a description of the remediation taken.

The City of Tallahassee has established an internal maintenance program to address rejected Distribution poles and Transmission Structures. Out of the total rejected Distribution poles, the City has replaced 51% of all rejects. Transmission: The City has currently replaced 100% of all rejects.

Wood Distribution/Transmission Poles Replacements				
Size/Old	Size/New	No.	Percentage Inspected	Remediation Taken
25/5	35/4	3	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
25/6	35/4	3	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
30/3	35/4	3	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
30/4	35/4	5	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
30/5	35/4	14	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
30/5	40/2	3	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
30/5	45/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
30/6	35/4	17	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
30/7	35/4	10	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/2	35/4	2	100%	Replaced
35/2	40/4	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/3	35/3	1	100%	Replaced
35/3	35/4	13	100%	Replaced

35/3	40/2	4	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
30/2	35/4		100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/3	45/2	3	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/4	35/3	2	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/4	35/4	44	100%	Replaced
35/4	40/2	16	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/4	40/3	3	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/4	45/2	6	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/4	50/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/5	35/4	53	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/5	40/2	15	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/5	45/2	3	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/5	50/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/5	55/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/6	35/4	9	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/6	40/2	21	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
35/6	45/2	4	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/2	40/2	10	100%	Replaced
40/2	45/2	6	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/2	50/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/3	35/4	4	100%	Replaced
40/3	40/2	74	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/3	40/3	4	100%	Replaced
40/3	45/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/3	45/2	45	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/3	45/3	2	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/3	45/4	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/3	50/2	5	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/4	35/4	4	100%	Replaced
40/4	40/2	46	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/4	40/3	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/4	45/2	7	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/4	45/3	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/4	50/2	2	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/4	60/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
40/6	35/4	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/2	40/2	5	100%	Replaced
45/2	45/2	19	100%	Replaced

45/2	50/2	4	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/3	35/4	1	100%	Replaced
45/3	40/2	2	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/3	45/2	48	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/3	45/3	3	100%	Replaced
45/3	50/2	18	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/3	45/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/4	40/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/4	45/2	11	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/4	50/2	3	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/4	50/3	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/6	45/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
50/2	35/2	1	100%	Replaced
50/2	40/2	2	100%	Replaced
50/2	50/2	33	100%	Replaced
50/2	55/2	7	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
50/2	60/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
50/3	35/4	1	100%	Replaced
50/3	45/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
50/3	50/2	17	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
50/3	55/2	8	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
50/5	55/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
55/2	50/2	2	100%	Replaced
55/2	55/2	8	100%	Replaced
55/2	60/2	4	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
55/2	65/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
55/3	55/2	16	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
55/3	60/2	2	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
60/2	60/2	8	100%	Replaced
60/2	65/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
60/3	60/2	6	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
60/3	65/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
65/2	60/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
65/2	65/2	8	100%	Replaced
45/2	40/2	5	100%	Replaced
45/2	45/2	19	100%	Replaced
45/2	50/2	4	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/3	35/4	1	100%	Replaced

45/3	40/2	2	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/3	45/2	48	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/3	45/3	3	100%	Replaced
45/3	50/2	18	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/3	45/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/4	40/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/4	45/2	11	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/4	50/2	3	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/4	50/3	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
45/6	45/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
50/2	35/2	1	100%	Replaced
50/2	40/2	2	100%	Replaced
50/2	50/2	33	100%	Replaced
50/2	55/2	7	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
50/2	60/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
50/3	35/4	1	100%	Replaced
50/3	45/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
50/3	50/2	17	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
50/3	55/2	8	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
50/5	55/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
55/2	50/2	2	100%	Replaced
55/2	55/2	8	100%	Replaced
55/2	60/2	4	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
55/2	65/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
55/3	55/2	16	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
55/3	60/2	4	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
60/2	60/2	8	100%	Replaced
60/2	65/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
60/3	60/2	6	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
60/3	65/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
65/2	60/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
65/2	65/2	8	100%	Replaced
65/3	60/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
70/1	70/2	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class
70/2	70/2	1	100%	Replaced
75/1	80/1	1	100%	Replaced w/ larger class

- 5. Vegetation Management
  - a) Describe the utility's policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures for vegetation management, including programs addressing appropriate planting, landscaping, and problem tree removal practices for vegetation management outside of road right-ofways or easements and an explanation as to why the utility believes its vegetation management practices are sufficient.

The City's design standards exceed the National Electric Safety Code requirements for horizontal clearances to all transmission lines. This typically dictates easement widths, providing larger clear zones from trees and other structures. The transmission system is managed on a three-year trim cycle with a target clearance of twenty (20) feet on 115kV lines and thirty (30) feet on 230kV lines. City Line Clearance and Vegetation Management Program maintains a thirty-six-month trimming cycle of all overhead distribution lines, targeting nine to twelve feet of line clearance and removing hazard trees under the City Commission's established guidelines. The City of Tallahassee's vegetation management program also utilizes directional pruning and the selective removal of trees that cannot be maintained professionally. When removing a tree for any reason is necessary, we replace it with a "utility-compatible tree." We also regularly remove those dead, diseased, and dying trees that represent the potential for an outage or endanger the public.

b) Describe the quantity, level, and scope of vegetation management planned and completed for transmission and distribution facilities in 2023.

Transmission – All 230 kV lines were visually inspected annually for dead, diseased, and dying trees and any obvious structural problems. All transmission Rights of Way or easements were mowed during FY2023 and will be mowed annually for the foreseeable future. Those lines that pass through residential areas will be mowed 3-4 times during the growing season to reduce customer complaints regarding "overgrown ROWs". The vegetation along the side of the lines running through rural areas is pruned with a Jaraff mechanical trimmer. We began pruning the transmission lines in January 2021 and finished in December 2024. The Jaraff crew skips over locations where the lines pass near or through residential areas because of the appearance of the trees after being mechanically pruned. Those locations are pruned with aerial lifts to make proper pruning cuts, leaving a more aesthetically pleasing appearance. However, whether mechanical or by hand, target

clearance is twenty feet on 115 kV lines and Thirty feet on 230 kV lines from conductors. A broad-spectrum granular herbicide is applied to the base of all poles, steel structures, guy wires, and cross fences to eliminate the growth of underbrush and vines around the facilities. The City managed 1,116.60 Miles of overhead Distribution Lines in 2023, and vegetation management was performed and completed on 79% of our system. The City does not have a complete system herbicide management program. Still, it does periodic spot spraying or mowing in necessary areas, such as vegetation such as vines, kudzu, or other fast-growing invasive species that must be controlled between our regular scheduled trim cycles.

#### 6. Storm Hardening Research

The City of Tallahassee is a member of the Florida Municipal Electric Association (FMEA), which is participating with all of Florida's electric utilities in storm hardening research through the Public Utility Research Center at the University of Florida. Under separate cover, FMEA will provide the FPSC with a report of research activities. For further information, contact Amy Zubaly, Executive Director, FMEA, 850-224-3314, ext.1, or <u>azubaly@flpublicpower.com</u>.