

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Proposed repeal of Rule 25-6.0342,  
F.A.C., Electric Infrastructure Storm  
Hardening.

DOCKET NO. 20200063-EI  
ORDER NO. PSC-2020-0145-FOF-EI  
ISSUED: May 14, 2020

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

GARY F. CLARK, Chairman  
ART GRAHAM  
JULIE I. BROWN  
DONALD J. POLMANN  
ANDREW GILES FAY

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RULE

BY THE COMMISSION

NOTICE is hereby given that the Florida Public Service Commission, pursuant to Section 120.54, Florida Statutes, has repealed Rule 25-6.0342, Florida Administrative Code.

The rule repeal was filed with the Department of State on May 13, 2020, and will be effective on June 2, 2020. A copy of the rule repeal as filed with the Department is attached to this Notice.

This docket is closed upon issuance of this Notice.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 14th day of May, 2020.



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ADAM J. TEITZMAN  
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Florida Public Service Commission  
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Copies furnished: A copy of this document is provided to the parties of record at the time of issuance and, if applicable, interested persons.

AEH

**25-6.0342 Electric Infrastructure Storm Hardening.**

(1) Application and Scope. This rule is intended to ensure the provision of safe, adequate, and reliable electric transmission and distribution service for operational as well as emergency purposes; require the cost-effective strengthening of critical electric infrastructure to increase the ability of transmission and distribution facilities to withstand extreme weather conditions; and reduce restoration costs and outage times to end-use customers associated with extreme weather conditions. This rule applies to all investor-owned electric utilities.

(2) Storm Hardening Plans. Each utility shall, no later than 90 days after the effective date of this rule, file with the Commission for its approval a detailed storm hardening plan. Each utility's plan shall be updated every 3 years, unless the Commission, on its own motion or on petition by a substantially affected person or utility, initiates a proceeding to review and, if appropriate, modify the plans. In a proceeding to approve a utility's plan, the Commission shall consider whether the utility's plan meets the desired objectives of enhancing reliability and reducing restoration costs and outage times in a prudent, practical, and cost-effective manner to the affected parties.

(3) Contents of Plan: Each utility storm hardening plan shall contain a detailed description of the construction standards, policies, practices, and procedures employed to enhance the reliability of overhead and underground electrical transmission and distribution facilities in conformance with the provisions of this rule. Each filing shall, at a minimum, address the extent to which the utility's storm hardening plan:

(a) Complies, at a minimum, with the National Electric Safety Code (ANSI C-2) [NESC] that is applicable pursuant to subsection 25-6.0345(2), F.A.C.

(b) Adopts the extreme wind loading standards specified by Figure 250-2(d) of the 2007 edition of the NESC for the following distribution facilities:

1. New construction;

2. Major planned work, including expansion, rebuild, or relocation of existing facilities, assigned on or after the effective date of this rule; and

3. Critical infrastructure facilities and along major thoroughfares taking into account political and geographical boundaries and other applicable operational considerations.

(c) Is designed to mitigate damage to underground and supporting overhead transmission and distribution facilities due to flooding and storm surges.

(d) Provides for the placement of new and replacement distribution facilities so as to facilitate safe and efficient access for installation and maintenance pursuant to Rule 25- 6.0341, F.A.C.

(4) Deployment Strategy: Each utility storm hardening plan shall explain the systematic approach the utility will follow to achieve the desired objectives of enhancing reliability and reducing restoration costs and outage times associated with extreme weather events. The utility's storm hardening plan shall provide a detailed description of its deployment strategy including, but not limited to the following:

(a) A description of the facilities affected; including technical design specifications, construction standards, and construction methodologies employed.

(b) The communities and areas within the utility's service area where the electric infrastructure improvements, including facilities identified by the utility as critical infrastructure and along major thoroughfares pursuant to subparagraph (3)(b)3. are to be made.

(c) The extent to which the electric infrastructure improvements involve joint use facilities on which third-party attachments exist.

(d) An estimate of the costs and benefits to the utility of making the electric infrastructure improvements, including the effect on reducing storm restoration costs and customer outages.

(e) An estimate of the costs and benefits, obtained pursuant to subsection (6) below, to third-party attachers affected by the electric infrastructure improvements, including the effect on reducing storm restoration costs and customer outages realized by the third-party attachers.

(5) Attachment Standards and Procedures: As part of its storm hardening plan, each utility shall maintain written safety, reliability, pole loading capacity, and engineering standards and procedures for attachments by others to the utility's electric transmission and distribution poles (Attachment Standards and Procedures). The Attachment Standards and Procedures shall meet or exceed the edition of the National Electrical Safety Code (ANSI C-2) that is applicable pursuant to Rule 25-6.034, F.A.C. so as to assure, as far as is reasonably practicable, that third-party facilities attached to electric transmission and distribution poles do not impair electric safety, adequacy, or pole reliability; do not exceed pole loading capacity; and are constructed, installed, maintained, and operated in accordance with generally accepted engineering practices for the utility's service territory.

(6) Input from Third-Party Attachers: In establishing its storm hardening plan and Attachment Standards and

Procedures, or when updating or modifying such plan or Attachment Standards and Procedures, each utility shall seek input from and attempt in good faith to accommodate concerns raised by other entities with existing agreements to share the use of its electric facilities. Any third-party attacher that wishes to provide input under this subsection shall provide the utility contact information for the person designated to receive communications from the utility.

(7) Dispute Resolution: Any dispute or challenge to a utility's storm hardening plan, construction standards, deployment strategy, Attachment Standards and Procedures, or any projects implementing any of the above by a customer, applicant for service, or attaching entity shall be resolved by the Commission.

(8) Nothing in this rule is intended to conflict with Title 47, United States Code, Section 224, relating to Federal Communications Commission jurisdiction over pole attachments.

*Rulemaking Authority 350.127(2), 366.05(1) FS. Law Implemented 366.04(2)(c), (5), (6), 366.05(1) FS. History—  
New 2-1-07, Repealed.*

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