

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

NOTICE OF DEVELOPMENT OF RULEMAKING

TO

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

DOCKET NO. 20210138-PU

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF RULE 25-18.020, F.A.C., POLE INSPECTION AND
MAINTENANCE.

ISSUED: September 21, 2021

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 120.54, Florida Statutes, that the Florida Public Service Commission staff has initiated rulemaking to adopt Rule 25-18.020, F.A.C., Pole Inspection and Maintenance, to enact rules to administer and implement section 366.04(9), Florida Statutes, concerning pole attachment maintenance and inspections.

A staff rule development workshop will be held at the following time and place:

October, 5, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.
Betty Easley Conference Center, Room 148
4075 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

The draft rule and the agenda for the workshop are attached. One or more Commissioners may be in attendance and participate in the workshop. The person to be contacted regarding the rule development is Adria E. Harper, Office of the General Counsel, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850 (850) 413-6082, aharper@psc.state.fl.us.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate at this workshop should contact the Office of Commission Clerk no later than five days prior to the workshop at 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard., Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850 or 850-413-6770 (Florida Relay Service, 1-800-955-8770 Voice or 1-800-955-8771 TDD). Assisted Listening Devices are available upon request from the Office of Commission Clerk, Gerald L. Gunter Building, Room 152.

If a named storm or other disaster requires cancellation of the workshop, Commission staff will attempt to give timely notice. Notice of cancellation will also be provided on the Commission's website (<http://www.psc.state.fl.us/>) under the Hot Topics link found on the home

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page. Cancellation can also be confirmed by calling the Office of the General Counsel at 850-413-6199.

By DIRECTION of the Florida Public Service Commission this 21st day of September,
2021.



ADAM J. TEITZMAN
Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 413-6770
www.floridapsc.com

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

1 25-18.020 Pole Inspection and Maintenance

2 (1) Each communications services provider as defined in Section 366.02(5), F.S., that
3 owns poles as defined in Section 366.02(6), F.S., must conduct inspections of its poles and
4 adhere to vegetation management requirements as set forth in its Commission-approved Pole
5 Inspection and Maintenance Plan.

6 (2) This rule does not apply to poles used solely to support wireless communications
7 service facilities or poles with no public utility electrical facilities attached.

8 (3) For the purposes of this rule, “overhead facilities” are defined as fixtures, conductors,
9 wires, cables, and other devices owned by public utilities that are attached to poles owned by a
10 communications services provider.

11 (4) Each communications services provider must file a petition with the Commission for
12 approval of its Pole Inspection and Maintenance Plan as required in subsection (5) of this rule.
13 In addition, each communications services provider must file an Annual Status Report as
14 required in subsection (6) of this rule.

15 (5) Contents of Pole Inspection and Maintenance Plan. Each communications services
16 provider must provide the following information in its Pole Inspection and Maintenance Plan:

17 (a) A description of the pole inspection procedures and protocols to be used in the
18 immediate three-year planning period, including:

19 1. The current number of poles owned in whole or part by the communications services
20 provider;

21 2. The number of poles to be inspected in each of the three calendar years covered by the
22 Plan;

23 3. The pole inspection techniques;

24 4. The pole strength testing methods;

25 5. The frequency of pole inspections; and

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- 1 6. A description of its pole repair or replacement program for the poles that fail inspection.
- 2 (b) A description of the emergency response and storm restoration procedures and
- 3 protocols.
- 4 (c) A description of pole relocation procedures and protocols.
- 5 (d) A description of the vegetation management procedures and protocols for the
- 6 immediate three year planning period, including:
- 7 1. The vegetation management techniques and frequency to be used on the affected
- 8 overhead facilities;
- 9 2. The total miles of overhead facilities requiring vegetation management; and
- 10 3. The total miles of overhead facilities for which vegetation management will be
- 11 conducted for each of the three years covered by the Plan.
- 12 (6) Contents of Annual Reports. By June 1 of each year, each communications services
- 13 provider must file with the Commission Clerk an Annual Status Report.
- 14 (a) The Annual Status Report must include the following information for the prior calendar
- 15 year:
- 16 1. The number of poles owned in whole or in part by the communications services
- 17 provider at the beginning and at the end of the calendar year;
- 18 2. The number of poles that were scheduled for inspection under the Plan;
- 19 3. The number of poles actually inspected;
- 20 4. The number of poles that failed inspection;
- 21 5. The number of poles strength tested;
- 22 6. The number of poles that failed strength testing;
- 23 7. The number of poles repaired and a summary of the repairs;
- 24 8. The number of poles replaced and reason for replacement;
- 25 9. The total miles of vegetation management conducted; and

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1 10. The total miles of vegetation management conducted for each technique used.
2 (b) The Annual Status Report must include the following information for the upcoming
3 calendar year:
4 1. The number of poles to be inspected;
5 2. The total miles of overhead facilities for which vegetation management will be
6 conducted; and
7 3. The total miles of each vegetation management technique to be used.
8 (6) A willful violation or refusal to comply with this rule will result in monetary penalties
9 pursuant to section 366.095, F.S.
10 Rulemaking Authority 350.127(2), 366.04(8)(g), 366.095 FS. Law Implemented 366.04(8)
11 FS. History-New_____
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AGENDA FOR RULE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

1. Staff overview of draft rule.
2. Comments and alternative suggestions from interested persons.
3. Timeframes for next steps.
4. Adjournment.