

**City of Wauchula  
Report to the Florida Public Service Commission Pursuant to  
Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C.  
Calendar Year 2014**

**1) Introduction**

- a) City of Wauchula
  
- b) 126 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Wauchula, FL 33873
  
- c) Contact information: Andy Maddox, Director of Public Works, 863-773-3535,  
andy@cityofwauchula.com

**2) Number of meters served in calendar year 2014**

In 2014, the City of Wauchula served 2,148 residential meters and 607 commercial meters.

**3) Standards of Construction**

**a) National Electric Safety Code Compliance**

The City of Wauchula did have standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures in place in calendar year 2014.

**b) Extreme Wind Loading Standards**

The City of Wauchula follows the NESC standards for extreme wind loading.

**c) Flooding and Storm Surges**

The City of Wauchula is approximately 60 miles from the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, and therefore is not affected by flooding or storm surges.

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

The City of Wauchula has the ability for crews to be able to access distribution facilities on or behind customer's property if work needs to be done.

**e) Attachments by Others**

The pole attachment agreements between the City of Wauchula and third-party contractors include language which specifies that the contractor, not the City, has the burden of assessing pole strength and safety before they attach to the pole.

**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.**

The City of Wauchula does not have a policy in place for inspecting distribution lines, poles, and structures. The City of Wauchula plans to have an outside third-party contractor inspect the lines, poles, and structures.

**b) Describe the number and percentage of transmission and distribution inspections planned and completed for 2014.**

The City of Wauchula has not had distribution inspections in 2014. The City of Wauchula will budget for an outside third-party contractor to begin inspections in 2016.

**c) Describe the number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles failing inspection in 2014 and the reason for the failure.**

The City of Wauchula has less than 1% failure (out of 1,800 poles). Failure is due to poles rotting.

**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 2014, including a description of the remediation taken.**

Ten poles were replaced in 2014. Four due to damage caused by traffic accidents. Six due to the poles rotting.

## **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-of-ways or easements, and an explanation as to why the utility believes its vegetation management practices are sufficient.**

The City of Wauchula policy on vegetation management consists of tree trimming and herbicide spraying for vines on a schedule of one-third of the distribution per year.

- b) Describe the quantity, level, and scope of vegetation management planned and completed for transmission and distribution facilities in 2014.**

The City of Wauchula's policy on vegetation management consists of tree trimming and herbicide spraying for vines on a schedule of one-third per year. The Public Utility Research Center has held two vegetation management workshops in 2007 and 2009. Through FMEA, the City of Wauchula has a copy of their reports and will use the information to continually improve vegetation management practices. We will participate in future best-practice workshops if there is interest.

## **6. Storm Hardening Research**

The City of Wauchula 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 is providing the FPSC with a report of research activities. For further information, contact Barry Moline, Executive Director, FMEA, 850-224-3314, ext.1, or [bmoline@publicpower.com](mailto:bmoline@publicpower.com).