**Outline for**
**City of Leesburg Electric Report to the Florida Public Service Commission Pursuant to Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C.**
**Calendar Year 2018**

**Deadline to the Florida Public Service Commission:**
**March 1, 2019**
**Penelope Buys: pbuys@PSC.STATE.FL.US**

## 1) Introduction

a) Name of city/utility

**City of Leesburg Electric Department (Leesburg Electric)**

b) Address, street, city, zip

**2010 Griffin Road, Leesburg, FL 34748**

c) Contact information: Name, title, phone, fax, email


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## 2) Number of meters served in calendar year 2018

Leesburg Electric served 25,786 meters in the year 2018

## 3) Standards of Construction

### a) National Electric Safety Code Compliance

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at Leesburg Electric comply with the National Electrical Safety Code (ANSI C-2) [NESC]. All new construction is governed by the latest edition of the NESC.

### b) Extreme Wind Loading Standards

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at Leesburg Electric are guided by the extreme wind loading standards as specified by *http://windspeed.atcouncil.org/* as recommended by the 2018 NESC for all construction.

### c) Flooding and Storm Surges

Leesburg Electric is a non-coastal utility; therefore, storm surge/flooding is not an issue.

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

The City of Leesburg has a standard policy of not allowing any new rear lot line overhead lines. The majority of locations with rear lot line overhead lines have been either converted to underground, or relocated to street side. The City of Leesburg continues to convert many areas of overhead to underground. The City of Leesburg is currently greater than 60% underground. New line extensions are only designed where there is vehicle access.

### e. Attachments by Others

Pole attachment agreements between the City of Leesburg and joint users include written safety, pole loading, and procedures for attachments by others on the distribution poles. We inspect these poles on an 8-year cycle.

## 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.

Leesburg Electric's eight (8) year inspection cycle began in 2015, but inspections did not start until 2016. The system was broken into 5 regions (each being roughly 20% of the system), with each region assigned an inspection year. In 2016 the first region was inspected. In 2017, Leesburg Electric entered into a new pole inspection contract with Osmose. In 2018, three regions were inspected, thus leaving only one more region to be inspected by the end of the eight (8) year cycle. During the inspection, each pole is identified as good, needing

maintenance, or is rejected. Leesburg Electric selects the pole size and class by the design standards set forth in the NESC.

**a) Describe the number and percentage of transmission and distribution inspections planned and completed for 2018.**

The City of Leesburg completed the three regions in 2018. . 8,765 out of 11,592 distribution poles were inspected.

**b) Describe the number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles failing inspection in 2018 and the reason for the failure.**

City of Leesburg had a failure rate of a little over 3.77% or 331 distribution poles out of the 8,765 poles that were inspected/tested. The rejects were due to several factors including but not limited to ground line rot and wood pecker damage.

Leesburg Electric has no transmission poles.

**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 2018, including a description of the remediation taken.**

Leesburg Electric has replaced or removed approximately 93 of the 331 distribution poles that were found to be rejects. Designs are ongoing to replace the remaining 238 poles. Poles were replaced with the appropriate size and class of pole to meet the current NESC requirements. In some areas, poles were removed. These poles included inactive rental light poles, or inactive services. In some areas, underground distribution infrastructure was installed in place of the reject poles.

Leesburg Electric has no transmission poles.

## 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.**

Leesburg Electric has instituted a 4-year Vegetation Management Plan. This ensures the Leesburg Electric distribution system is covered every 4 years. Lines that are deemed to be a priority are addressed immediately ("Hot Spotting"). Leesburg Electric uses the Shigo Method for vegetation management. Leesburg Electric does have a program for educating

our customers that receive trees as part of the City of Leesburg Tree USA (Tree Give-a-Way Program). Leesburg Electric also attends the Florida Vegetation Management Association Annual (FVMA) Meeting to obtain the latest policies, tools, and methods. The area supervisor for Leesburg Electric's tree contractor also attends this annual meeting. The Public Utility Research Center has held two vegetation management workshops in 2007 and 2009. Through FMEA, Leesburg Electric has a copy of their reports and uses the information to continually improve vegetation management practices. We will participate in future best-practice workshops.

**b) Describe the quantity, level, and scope of vegetation management planned and completed for transmission and distribution facilities in 2018.**

Leesburg Electric's 4-year Vegetation Management Plan currently addresses 194 miles of overhead distribution lines. This requires that 48.5 miles of distribution lines be trimmed every year of the 4-year cycle. To accomplish this level of vegetation management, Leesburg Electric's tree trimming contractor is required to accomplish 48.5 miles per year minimum. The contractor, per contract, is required to provide sufficient staffing to meet this requirement as well maintain a minimum staffing level in the event that additional services are required by Leesburg Electric. The scope of work is agreed upon at the beginning of each year so that priority trimming areas are addressed and allows for the contractor to meet his annual minimum trimming requirements. Leesburg Electric, per contract, has the ability to further define the scope of their Vegetation Management Plan through the use of an hourly tree trimming crews that is required to be provided by the contractor. This crew can be directed to areas that Leesburg Electric deems to be a priority that could be outside the scope of the annual contract trimming requirement.

In 2017, Leesburg Electric's Vegetation Management Plan requirement of 48.5 miles of overhead distribution lines was met by our contractor. Leesburg Electric has confidence that the annual trimming requirement will be met by our contractor each year.

## 6. Storm Hardening Research

The City of Leesburg 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 Amy Zubaly, Executive Director, FMEA, 850-224-3314, ext. 1, or azubaly@publicpower.com.