

JEA
Report to the Florida Public Service Commission Pursuant to
Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C.
Calendar Year 2019

1) Introduction

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2) Number of meters served in calendar year 2019

JEA served approximately 455,000 electric meters in 2019.

3) Standards of Construction

a) National Electric Safety Code Compliance

JEA's construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures comply with the National Electrical Safety Code (ANSI C2) [NESC]. For electrical facilities constructed on or after February 1, 2017, the 2017 NESC applies. Electrical facilities constructed prior to February 1, 2017, are governed by the edition of the NESC in effect at the time of the facility's initial construction

b) Extreme Wind Loading Standards

JEA's construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures are guided by the extreme wind loading standards specified by Figure 250-2(d) of the 2017 edition of the NESC for 1) new construction; 2) major planned work, including expansion, rebuild, or relocation of existing facilities, constructed on or after February 1, 2017; and 3) targeted critical infrastructure facilities and major thoroughfares. These standards primarily affect electric transmission structures 60 feet and taller, and require those structures to withstand winds up to 120 mph for JEA's service territory.

JEA has participated in the Public Utility Research Center's (PURC) granular wind research study through the Florida Municipal Electric Association (FMEA).

c) Flooding and Storm Surges

JEA historically has experienced very little flooding of our distribution or substation facilities, even during storms and consequently has not developed specific policies or guidelines addressing the effects of flooding and storm surges on our underground *Florida PSC Storm Hardening Report: Rule 25-6.0343* distribution or supporting overhead facilities. JEA does have a written Storm Policy and associated procedures that address shutting down specific generating plants when a Category 3 storm or greater causes flooding or storm surges that threaten the safe operation of the plants.

JEA has participated in the Public Utility Research Center's (PURC) study on the conversion of overhead electric facilities to underground and the effectiveness of undergrounding facilities in preventing storm damage and outages through FMEA.

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

Electrical construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at JEA provide for placement of new and replacement distribution facilities so as to facilitate safe and efficient access for installation and maintenance.

During the design process, traffic patterns, trees, lot lines, environmental hazards and future customer needs in undeveloped areas are taken into consideration when determining the best location for poles and equipment. Consideration is also taken when designing circuits to ensure that line crews and troubleshooters will have a suitable means of approach in order to reach the facilities and equipment for the purpose of operation and maintenance. JEA's standard construction of vertical framing at the right-of-way line reinforces this by preventing overhang into private property and allowing bucket truck access to equipment on the back of the pole due to phase separation requirements. JEA has very few facilities requiring rear property line entrance and has not constructed any rear-entrance facilities in over 30 years.

e) Attachments by Others

JEA requires permits for all attachments by others to our poles. This permit requires the entity requesting to attach to a JEA pole to provide the design calculations to insure the addition of their attachment does not violate the requirements of the NESC

in effect at the time of the request. In addition, attachments are generally limited to 7% of the total wind load capacity of the structure.

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.**

Distribution - JEA utilized internal line maintainer staff in calendar year 2019 to perform a general pole by pole inspection for approximately 1/8 of the distribution system annually using the NESC standards for decay and reject status. The wood poles are drilled at ground level with a Resistograph for all poles that are installed 20-years or older. JEA crews perform a visual inspection on all poles for insulators, arrestors, cross arms, transformers and pole integrity. Ohm readings are measured on the ground rods.

Transmission - JEA owns and maintains 240KV, 138KV and 69KV transmission circuits. Every transmission circuit is inspected on a 5-year cycle with the exception of "critical" N-1, 240KV circuits which are inspected on a 2-year cycle. JEA inspects on average approximately 20 transmission circuits per year. JEA's transmission circuit inspections are performed in accordance with the JEA "Transmission Circuit Inspection Practices and Procedures" manual. JEA utilized a contractor to perform transmission circuit inspections prior to February 2013. In February 2013 JEA created, equipped, and staffed a five (5) man, one (1) foreman, "Transmission Crew" and self-performed transmission circuit inspections until October 2016 when JEA began utilizing a contractor to perform circuit inspections again.

- b) **Describe the number and percentage of transmission and distribution inspections planned and completed for 2019.**

Distribution - In 2019, JEA completed approximately 16 circuits for pole inspection.

Transmission - JEA is currently using a 5 year transmission circuit inspection cycle except for three (3) critical N-1 circuits. JEA completed 22 circuit inspections in calendar year 2019.

c) Describe the number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles failing inspection in 2019 and the reason for the failure.

Distribution - Based on 2019 inspections: 15% of poles failed inspection. Approximately 7% of the failures are for ground decay, 92% of the failures are for pole top decay and 1% for middle decay.

Transmission - Based on previous inspections twenty-six (26), wood poles were identified requiring replacement. The deteriorated pole conditions include damage at the ground line and pole top positions exhibiting extensive damage created by wildlife.

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 2019, including a description of the remediation taken.

Distribution – Based on 2019 Inspections: The poles listed as emergency poles (under 1%) are replaced immediately. The priority 2 poles are put on a list and scheduled for repair. In 2019, 1684 poles were replaced.

Transmission – Based on previous circuit inspections: JEA replaced sixty (60) poles, eight (8) 138KV and fifty-two (52), 69 KV transmission poles in 2019.

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.

Transmission - JEA maintains transmission line clearances and reporting in accordance with the NERC Reliability Standard FAC-003 requirements.

Distribution - JEA has maintained a 3-year trim cycle on feeder and lateral circuits until FY2007 (October 2006). The cycle was verified by benchmarking and an engineering study performed in 2000. In an effort to improve reliability even further – as requested by our customers – JEA started a 2.5 year trim cycle for the feeder and laterals in FY2007 (October 2006) and completed the first 2.5 year trim cycle in April 2009. FY2017 (October 2016), the 2.5 year trim cycle remains in effect.

b) Describe the quantity, level, and scope of vegetation management planned and completed for transmission and distribution facilities in 2019.

JEA fully completed all 2019 vegetation management activities described above. In 2014, the FRCC audited JEA for the NERC standard for vegetation management, FAC-003-1, for the past 3-year period. JEA was found fully compliant. In January 2017, JEA self-certified compliance for the FAC-003-3. In November 2017 FRCC completed an audit for NERC Standards and FAC-003-4 was identified as the only “Noteworthy” standard audited. In Vegetation management activities for 2019 remained on schedule.

6. Storm Hardening Research

JEA 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, Interim Executive Director, FMEA, 850-224-3314, ext.7, or azubaly@publicpower.com.