City of Lake Worth Beach FLORIDA

ELECTRIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
1900 2ND AVENUE NORTH
LAKE WORTH BEACH, FL 33461

# City of Lake Worth Beach Utilities Report To the Florida Public Service Commission

**Pursuant to Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C.**
**Calendar Year 2020**

**I. Introduction**

City of Lake Worth Beach
Utilities Administration
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**2. Number of Meters served in calendar year 2020** - 27,842

**3. Standards of Construction**

**a) National Electric Safety Code Compliance**

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices and procedures at the City of Lake Worth Beach comply with the National Electric Safety Code (ANSI C-2) (NESC) for electrical facilities constructed on or after January 1, 2017, the 2017 NESC applies. Electrical facilities constructed prior to January 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**

At this time, City of Lake Worth Beach (CLWB) facilities are not designed to be guided by the extreme wind loading standards on a system wide basis. However, CLWB is guided by the extreme wind loading standard for new

construction, major planned work including expansion, rebuild or relocation for existing facilities assigned on or after December 10, 2006.

### c) Flooding and Storm Surges

Underground distribution construction practices at CLWB require installation of dead front pad-mounted equipment in areas susceptible to flooding and storm surges. No special design or construction practices for overhead facilities have been deemed necessary.

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

Electrical construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at CLWB provide for placement of new distribution facilities so as to facilitate safe and efficient access for installation and maintenance. Policies for new construction require placement in front easements. Underground installations require placement in conduit. CLWB practice is to maintain existing overhead laterals in rear lot easements.

### e) Attachments by Others

Electrical construction standards, policies, and guidelines at CLWB provide space for attachment of communications facilities by others. The communication utility is responsible for the design of communication facilities including meeting NESC clearance requirements and providing structure guying. CLWB construction practice is to provide sufficient pole strength capacity such that NESC strength requirements are normally met after attachments by others.

## 4. Facility Inspections

CLWB performs a visual inspection of all transmission facilities on an annual basis. All transmission poles are concrete and steel and no pole testing is performed.

CLWB performs an inspection of all distribution facilities on an 8 year cycle that was completed in 2014. The pole inspection practices at CLWB in 2020 was a continuation of section testing pole tests consist of hammer sounding and pole prod penetration six (6) inches below ground line. Poles are replaced when pole prod penetration exceeds two (2) inches or there is evidence of severe pole top shell rot. 2020 data:

| | |
|---|---|
| Inspected: | 490 |
| Satisfactory: | 305 |
| Unsatisfactory: | 185 |
| Replaced: | 170 |
| Pending replacement: | 15 |

**5. Vegetation Management**

CLWB has an ongoing management plan and has entered into a line clearance contract with Davey Tree Experts. Trees are trimmed to obtain maximum clearance considering rate of tree growth, symmetry, tree health, and the rights and interests of property owners and the public. A minimum clearance of ten (10) feet in any direction from CLWB conductors is obtained. The contractor attempts to obtain permission from property owners to remove trees described in the following categories:

- Small trees which the property owner does not value, but which will require trimming in future years.
- Dead or defective trees which are a hazard to CLW conductors.
- Trees that are unsightly as a result of the necessary trimming and that have no chance for future development.
- Fast growing soft-wooded or weed trees located under or dangerously close to CLW conductors.
- Trees that are non-native, invasive, and subject to removal as declared by the Palm Beach County Resources Department.

**6. Storm Hardening Research**

CLWB 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.