

Report
03/01/2023

(City of Bartow Electric Utility)
Report to the Florida Public Service Commission Pursuant to
Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C.
Calendar Year 2022

1. Introduction

b) Name of city/utility

City of Bartow

c) Address, street, city, zip

450 North Wilson Avenue, Bartow, FL 33830

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

Roger Murphy
Assistant Director of Electric Utilities
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Email: rmurphy.electric@cityofbartow.net

2. Number of meters served in calendar year 2022

12,562

3. 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.

In 2008 the City of Bartow developed a plan to inspect our facilities based on an eight-year cycle. We chose to elicit the help of a contractor to perform pole inspections on a percentage of our utility system. The contractor we have chosen has many years of experience in pole inspections. Each year said contractor will receive a grouping of facilities based on age determined via the City's facility database. All facilities initially receive a visual inspection with notes made of any problems discovered. Tests are also done to identify shell rot and insect infestation. The facilities are then excavated to a depth of 18 inches while measurements are made to determine the strength remaining. All facilities passing the visual inspection and having 40 percent or greater strength remaining are treated with a life extending process and reported so. Any facilities not meeting these criteria are noted in the report for further action.

In 2016 the City began round two of our eight-year pole inspection cycle and elected to perform pole inspections every other year for the years to follow.

In addition to pole inspection, the City completes distribution line inspections (a.k.a. system rides) each year. Our system rides are performed by an in-house employee. Any issues that are found are turned in and work orders are created. Repairs are then completed by our line crews.

- b) Describe the number and percentage of transmission and distribution inspections planned and completed for 2022.**

The City did not plan or complete any pole inspections for the 2022 calendar year. Instead, the City invested in transformer inspections and painting to help extend the life of the transformer.

- c) Describe the number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles failing inspection in 2022 and the reason for the failure.**

No inspections were completed in 2022.

- 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 2022, including a description of the remediation taken.**

No inspections were completed in 2022.

4. 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.**

We are currently on a 4-year tree trimming cycle. We trim out our distribution at a 6 to 10-foot clearance depending on the situation and type of vegetation. We have a licensed arborist on staff and currently use such practices as basal bark treatment, foliage treatment, cut-stump treatment, & herbicide application along with our regular trimming. We remove problem trees when deemed necessary by our crews or when the history of the tree reveals problems. Our reliability analysis indicates that our vegetation management practices are effective.

- b) Describe the quantity, level, and scope of vegetation management planned and completed for transmission and distribution facilities in 2022.**

We feel that a 4-year trimming cycle is effective for reliability purposes. We are currently contracting additional line clearance personnel to keep us on a 4-year cycle. This along with other vegetation management practices mentioned in 4a are and will be effective in offering great reliability to our customers for now and for years to come.