

City of Jacksonville Beach, Florida
dba/Beaches Energy Services
Report to the Florida Public Service Commission Pursuant
to Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C.
Calendar Year 2023

1) Introduction

a) Name of city/utility:

City of Jacksonville Beach, Florida/dba Beaches Energy Services

b) Address, street, city, zip:

1460 Shetter Ave.
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

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

Contact person: Allen Putnam
Title: Director, Beaches Energy Services
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Email: aputnam@beachesenergy.com

Contact person: Don R. Cuevas, PE
Title: Electrical Engineering Supervisor
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2) Number of meters served in calendar year 2023

As of December, 31st, 2023 the number of electric meters served by Beaches Energy Services was 35,584 or:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Residential Meters | 30,377 |
| General Service Non-Demand Meters | 4,436 |
| General Service Demand Meters | 332 |
| Net Meter (Solar/PV, etc.) | 318 |
| City Accounts (GS Non-Demand Meters) | 102 |
| City Accounts (GS Demand Meters) | 19 |
| Total | 35,584 |

3) Standards of Construction

a) National Electric Safety Code Compliance

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at Beaches Energy Services comply with the National Electrical Safety Code (ANSI C-2). For electrical facilities constructed after 2017, the 2017 NESC applies. Electrical facilities constructed prior to NESC 2017 effective date are governed by the edition of the NESC in effect at the time of the facility’s initial construction.

b) Extreme Wind Loading Standards

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at Beaches Energy Services 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, assigned on or after August 1, 2017; and
- 3) Targeted critical infrastructure facilities and major thoroughfares.

In order to accommodate these 120 mph wind loads, Beaches Energy Services implemented various required changes to our distribution line standards, such as:

- a) The use of stronger concrete poles, rather than wood poles for critical feeders; and,
- b) The elimination of static lines, with shorter distribution structures, as necessary to reduce moment loads on the structures.

Beaches Energy Services currently has a Capital Funding Program in place where, over the fifteen (15) year period between 2008 and 2023 all wood poles on main distribution feeder circuits are scheduled to be replaced with stronger concrete poles (Wood poles may still be used for single phase laterals) or the power lines are converted to underground. This program is scheduled to be completed in 2024 as soon as pad mount transformers are delivered which were not received in 2023 due to the Supply Chain issues.

WOOD POLES TO CONCRETE POLES OR UNDERGROUND CONVERSION

| YEAR | WOOD POLES REMOVED | REPLACED WITH |
|------|--------------------|---|
| 2008 | 140 | 92 concrete poles and 55 new wood poles |
| 2009 | 142 | 88 concrete poles and 23 new wood poles |
| 2010 | 74 | 68 concrete poles and 9 new wood poles |
| 2011 | 93 | 89 concrete poles and 3 new wood poles |

| | | |
|------|-----|--|
| 2012 | 101 | 71 concrete poles and underground lines |
| 2013 | 168 | 138 concrete poles and underground lines |
| 2014 | 53 | 34 concrete poles and underground lines |
| 2015 | 11 | 7 concrete poles and underground lines |
| 2016 | 56 | 39 concrete poles and underground lines |
| 2017 | 77 | 38 concrete poles and underground lines |
| 2018 | 63 | 33 concrete poles and underground lines |
| 2019 | 100 | 62 concrete poles and underground lines |
| 2020 | 44 | 15 concrete poles and underground lines |
| 2021 | 41 | 18 concrete poles and underground lines |
| 2022 | 19 | 16 concrete poles and underground lines |
| 2023 | 52 | 31 concrete poles and underground lines |

Also, Beaches Energy Services implemented a Capital Funding Program where in the ten (10) year period between 2008 and 2017, all overhead distribution lines, within approximately three city blocks of the Atlantic Ocean, were scheduled to be replaced with underground conductors, pad mounted transformers, switches and junction cabinets.

- During calendar year 2008, Beaches Energy Services replaced all of the remaining City of Neptune Beach overhead lines, within approximately three city blocks of the Atlantic Ocean, with underground conductors, pad mounted transformers, switches and junction cabinets.
- At this time, Beaches Energy Services has replaced all overhead lines, within approximately three city blocks of the Atlantic Ocean, with underground conductors, pad mounted transformers, switches and junction cabinets beginning at the north end of our Service Territory, from the City of Neptune Beach, south through the City of Jacksonville Beach.
- At this time, Beaches Energy Services has replaced all overhead lines, between state road A1A and the Atlantic Ocean, with underground cables, pad mounted transformers, switches and junction cabinets from the City of Jacksonville

Beach, south through the Ponte Vedra Beach and St. Johns County, to the southern end of our Service Territory.

Beaches Energy Services is also participating in the Public Utility Research Center's (PURC) granular wind research study through the Florida Municipal Electric Association (FMEA).

c) Flooding and Storm Surges

Electrical construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at Beaches Energy Services address the effects of flooding and storm surges on underground distribution facilities and supporting overhead facilities.

For instance, for underground distribution facilities:

- 1) Beaches Energy Services eliminated "live-front" connected transformers. All exposed, "live-front" connected transformers have been replaced. In addition, the high voltage cables are connected to the transformers with sealed, "dead front" elbows instead of exposed, "live-front" terminations that could be "faulted" by flood waters;
- 2) All exposed, "live-front" air-insulated pad mounted switchgear has been replaced with sealed pad mounted switchgear utilizing solid-dielectric or insulating oil as the insulation. In addition, high voltage cables are connected to the switchgear with sealed, "dead front" elbows instead of exposed, "live-front" terminations that could be "faulted" by flood waters; and,
- 3) Beaches Energy Services has discontinued the use of fiberglass foundations for pad mounted equipment and now only utilizes thick, heavy concrete foundations in order to act as a more secure "anchor" to insure equipment is less easily moved by flood waters.

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

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

Consideration is also taken when designing circuits to ensure that our line crews and vehicles will have a suitable means of approach in order to reach the facilities and equipment safely and efficiently for the purpose of operation and maintenance. Beaches Energy Services' 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.

In addition:

- 1) "Back lot line" electric utility construction has been eliminated;

- 2) Construction standards require all electric kWh meters be located outside and near the front corner of buildings. This ensures easier access to kWh meters that were previously blocked by fences, possible dangerous dogs, etc.
- 3) All replacement or new URD underground conductors are installed in conduits rather than being direct buried. This allows easier installation; and, in the event of a cable failure, faster and easier cable replacement is possible;
- 4) All replacement or new URD underground cables have a plastic, jacketed sheath over the outer concentric neutral conductors. This eliminates corrosion and deterioration of the concentric neutral conductors on our URD underground cables;
- 5) Construction standards require all pad mounted equipment located near buildings to have minimum access clearance around the equipment; and,
- 7) Construction standards and requirements for Beaches Energy Services are readily available at <http://www.beachesenergy.com/> by clicking the link “Electric Service Procedure Manual” at the bottom of the page. This allows architects, engineers and contractors easy access to our Construction Standards and assists in eliminating misunderstandings and issues during the design phase of a construction project.

e) Attachments by Others

Electrical construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at Beaches Energy Services include written safety, pole reliability, pole loading capacity, and engineering standards and procedures for attachments by others to electric transmission and distribution poles.

Currently, any party requesting new attachments to transmission and distribution poles must provide loading calculations sealed by a licensed Professional Engineer, to determine if the pole strength complies with the current edition of the NESC.

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.**

Transmission - Beaches Energy Services has 138kV transmission circuits. All of Beaches Energy Services’ transmission structures are spun or cast concrete poles, except for thirteen (13) monotube steel poles and two (2) H-frame steel structures. As a result, there is little structural deterioration. Beaches Energy Services line crews perform the transmission line inspections, which are performed on an annual basis. They typically inspect the transmission structure’s insulators, down guys, grounding and pole integrity.

Distribution - During 2007, Beaches Energy Services contracted with Osmose Utilities Services, Inc., to perform a general pole by pole inspection (sound and bore with excavation) for all distribution wood poles using the NESC standards for decay and reject status. Osmose Utilities Services, Inc., inspected 100% of our distribution wood poles. Poles 10 years and older were also treated at ground level for rot and/or decay. In addition to the required documentation and treatment, Osmose tagged and provided GPS coordinates for all of our wood and concrete distribution structures.

- It has been initially determined that this inspection process by Osmose Utilities Services, Inc., will continue to be performed on a cycle of once every eight (8) years. After (8) years, Osmose was considered again, however, Beaches Energy Services decided to buy the IML inspection equipment and Beaches Energy Services started performing the inspections.
- In 2015 Beaches Energy Services started using the IML PD600 Resistograph for wood pole testing and inspection.

WOOD POLES INSPECTION USING IML

| YEAR | WOOD POLES TESTED AND INSPECTED |
|------|---------------------------------|
| 2015 | 800 |
| 2016 | 300 |
| 2017 | 75 |
| 2018 | 150 |
| 2019 | 165 |
| 2020 | 485 |
| 2021 | 100 |
| 2022 | 151 |
| 2023 | 335 |

Twenty-one poles were replaced in 2023. Four poles failed to meet requirements during 2023 inspection and seventeen poles failed to meet requirements during 2022 inspection.

b) Describe the number and percentage of transmission and distribution inspections planned and completed for 2023.

Transmission - 100% of Beaches Energy Services 424 transmission structure inspections were scheduled and completed.

Distribution - 100% of Beaches Energy Services 4,657 distribution wood and concrete pole inspections were scheduled and completed in 2007 (4,021 distribution wood pole inspections and 636 distribution concrete pole inspections).

NEW POLES INSTALLED AND INSPECTED

| YEAR | NEW POLES INSTALLED AND INSPECTED |
|------|-------------------------------------|
| 2008 | 92 concrete poles and 55 wood poles |
| 2009 | 88 concrete poles and 23 wood poles |
| 2010 | 68 concrete poles and 9 wood poles |
| 2011 | 89 concrete poles and 3 wood poles |
| 2012 | 71 concrete pole |
| 2013 | 138 concrete poles |
| 2014 | 34 concrete poles |
| 2015 | 7 concrete poles |
| 2016 | 39 concrete poles |
| 2017 | 38 concrete poles |
| 2018 | 33 concrete poles |
| 2019 | 62 concrete poles |
| 2020 | 15 concrete poles |
| 2021 | 18 concrete poles |
| 2022 | 16 concrete poles |
| 2023 | 31 concrete poles |

In 2015, Beaches Energy Services started using the IML PD600 Resistograph for wood pole testing and inspection.

PERCENT OF POLES TESTED AND INSPECTED USING IML

| YEAR | TOTAL POLES | POLES TESTED | PERCENT OF POLES TESTED |
|------|-------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| 2015 | 5145 | 800 | 15.55% |
| 2016 | 5354 | 300 | 5.60% |
| 2017 | 5307 | 75 | 1.41% |
| 2018 | 5304 | 150 | 2.83% |
| 2019 | 5266 | 165 | 3.13% |
| 2020 | 5239 | 485 | 9.26% |
| 2021 | 5212 | 100 | 1.92% |
| 2022 | 5209 | 151 | 2.89% |
| 2023 | 5011 | 335 | 6.68% |

c) Describe the number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles failing inspection in 2023 and the reason for the failure.

Transmission – Four (4) transmission poles have some structural damage. These poles are included in the planned Transmission Line Hardware Renewal and Replacement Project for 2024.

Distribution – Four (4) distribution structures failed inspection due to wood pecker holes and were replaced in 2023.

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, including a description of the remediation taken.

Transmission – Four of the Four hundred twenty-four or 1% of the total transmission poles are included in the planned Transmission Line Hardware Renewal and Replacement Project for 2024.

Distribution - 100% of all of our 4,657 distribution wood and concrete pole inspections were scheduled and completed in 2007 (4,021 distribution wood pole inspections and 636 distribution concrete pole inspections). Rather than repair them, all 164 of the distribution wood pole structures that failed inspection in 2007 were replaced. The 164 wood poles that were replaced represent approximately 3.5% of our total distribution poles.

In 2015, three (3) poles were replaced.

In 2016, no pole failed inspection and no pole was replaced.

In 2017, no pole failed inspection and no pole was replaced.

In 2018, no pole failed inspection and no pole was replaced.

In 2019, three (3) poles were replaced.

In 2020, sixteen (16) wood poles were replaced.

In 2021, one (1) wood pole was replaced

In 2022, six wood poles were replaced and seventeen will be replaced in 2023.

In 2023, the seventeen poles that failed in 2022 were replaced plus four more.

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 - Beaches Energy Services maintains transmission line clearances in accordance with the NERC Reliability Standard FAC-003 requirements.

All transmission lines are inspected and trees trimmed as needed prior to the start of each hurricane season.

Transmission line Rights-of-Way are mowed and maintained on an annual basis.

Beaches Energy Services believes our vegetation management practices are sufficient since we maintain the NERC standard.

Distribution - Beaches Energy Services has tree trimming crews/contractors, working year-round in our Electric Service Territory. The objective is to maintain a two to three year vegetation management cycle for transmission and distribution lines.

b) Describe the quantity, level, and scope of vegetation management planned and completed for transmission and distribution facilities in 2023.

Beaches Energy Services fully completed all FY2023 vegetation management activities described above. Vegetation management activities for FY2024 are on schedule.

6. Storm Hardening Research

Beaches Energy Services 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. 1001, or AZubaly@PublicPower.com.