

**(Name of City/Utility)**  
**Report to the Florida Public Service Commission Pursuant to**  
**Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C.**  
**Calendar Year 2023**

**1) Introduction**

- a) City of Starke
- b) 209 N. Thompson, Street, Starke, FL 32091
- c) Stevie Warren, Supervisor of Utilities, swarren@cityofstarke.org

**2) Number of meters served in the calendar year 2023.**  
**Active Meters 2881**

**3) Standards of Construction**

**a) National Electric Safety Code Compliance**

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at the City of Starke comply with the national Electrical Safety Code (ANSI C-2) [NESC]. For electrical facilities constructed on or after February 1, 2007, the 2007 NESC applies. Electrical facilities constructed prior to February 1, 2007, are governed by the edition of the NESC in effect at the time of the facility's initial construction.

**b) Extreme Wind Loading Standards**

The City of Starke participates in the Public Utility Research Centers (PURC) granular wind research study through the Florida Municipal Electric Association. We will consider the NESC standard.

**c) Flooding and Storm Surges**

Flooding and storm surges are not applicable. The City of Starke is an inland community with the nearest coastline being sixty miles away.

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

Every new electrical construction and replacement distribution facility located in the City of Starke is constructed along highway/road right-of way or on easily accessible easements. All residential subdivisions electrical construction is constructed on the front right-of-way. We do not allow rear lot construction.

**e) Attachments by Others**

*The City of Starke allows pole attachments from Century Link, Comcast and Mobilities.*

**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.**

We have started inspecting lines by circuit one at a time. Inspecting for poles, vegetation, low lines, and guying.

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

We completed one of our six circuits.

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

Around twenty-five poles, not sure of percentage.

**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 2023, including a description of the remediation taken.**

We replaced twenty-five poles. Going to all Class 2 poles for storm hardening.

## 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 rights-of-way or easements, and an explanation as to why the utility believes its vegetation management practices are sufficient.**

The City of Starke bids out for a tree trimming company to come in and trim areas that are beyond the city's capabilities of trimming. We also check and trim trees during the years as needed. Areas not trimmed by a tree trimming company are maintained by the electric crew right-of-way staff. We trim one-third of our trees yearly. We have changed to trimming fifteen feet each side of the pole from the ground to the sky. Mow underbrush if possible.

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

The City of Starke trims trees affecting distribution lines throughout the year as needed and when applicable removes dead or decayed trees. Trees that are not on our right-of-way and present a concern or safety issue are addressed with property owner. The Public Utility Research Center has held two vegetation management workshops in 2007 and 2009. Through FMEA, the City of Starke has a copy of their reports and will use the information to continually improve vegetation management practices. We will participate in future best-practice workshops if there is interest.

## 6. Storm Hardening Research

The City of Starke 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 will provide the FPSC with a report of research activities. For further information, contact Amy Zubaly, Executive Director, FMEA, 850-224-3314, ext.1, or [azubaly@flpublicpower.com](mailto:azubaly@flpublicpower.com).