

City of Wauchula
Report to the Florida Public Service Commission Pursuant to
Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C.
Calendar Year 2023

1) Introduction

City of Wauchula
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2) Number of meters served in calendar year 2023

In 2023, the City of Wauchula served 2,206 residential meters and 491 commercial meters.

3) Standards of Construction

a) National Electric Safety Code Compliance

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at the City of Wauchula comply with the National Electrical Safety Code (ANSI C-2) [NESC] For electrical facilities constructed on or after January 1, 2017, the 2017 NESC applies. The edition of the NESC in effect at the time of the facility's initial construction governs electrical facilities constructed prior to January 1, 2017.

b) Extreme Wind Loading Standards

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at the City of Wauchula are guided by the extreme wind loading standards specified by <http://windspeed.atcouncil.org/> as recommended by the 2017 NESC for:

- a) New construction.
- b) Major planned work, including expansion, rebuild, or relocation of existing facilities, assigned on or after December 10, 2006.
- c) Targeted critical infrastructure facilities and major thoroughfares.

c) Flooding and Storm Surges

The City of Wauchula is a non-coastal utility; therefore, storm surge/flooding is not an issue.

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

Electrical construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at the City of Wauchula provide for placement of new and replacement distribution facilities to facilitate safe and efficient access for installation and maintenance. Wherever new facilities are placed (i.e., front, back or side of property), all facilities are installed so that The City of Wauchula's facilities are accessible by its crews and vehicles to ensure proper maintenance/repair is performed as expeditiously and safely as possible. The City of Wauchula decides on a case-by-case basis whether existing facilities need to be relocated. If it is determined that facilities need to be relocated, they will be placed in the safest, most accessible area available.

e) Attachments by Others

The pole attachment agreements between The City of Wauchula and third-party attachers include language which specifies that the attached, not the City of Wauchula, has the burden of assessing pole strength and safety before they attach to the pole. The City of Wauchula performs follow-up audits of attachments to ensure the attachment is properly installed and maintained.

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.**

The City of Wauchula has a third-party contractor inspect the substation yearly. The City of Wauchula has had a third-party contractor inspect all poles on the distribution system between 2016-2018. Our next pole inspection will be in 2025.

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

The City of Wauchula has had an outside third-party contractor inspect the substation in 2019. The City of Wauchula has had a third-party contractor inspect all poles between the years 2016-2018. They have been treated and should have a minimum of 10 years of service left. Our next pole inspection will be in 2025.

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

The City of Wauchula has an approx. 2% failure rate for 2023 due to rot.

- 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.**

54 distribution poles were replaced in 2023 due to the poles rotting and vehicle accidents.

20ea - 35' class 4 replaced with class 3 cca
30ea - 40' class 4 replaced with class 3 cca
1ea - 45' class 4 replaced with class 3 cca
1ea - 50' class 4 replaced with class 3 cca
2ea - 55' class 4 replaced with class 3 cca

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.**

The City of Wauchula policy on vegetation management consists of tree trimming and herbicide spraying the distribution system annually or as needed.

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

The City of Wauchula's policy on vegetation management consists of tree trimming and herbicide spraying for vines annually or as needed. The Public Utility Research Center has held two vegetation management workshops in 2007 and 2009. Through FMEA, the City of Wauchula 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. City of Wauchula trimmed and sprayed 70% of the distribution system (approximately 4 square miles).

6. Storm Hardening Research

The City of Wauchula 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.

