

**City of Lake Worth Beach Electric Utility  
Report to the Florida Public Service Commission Pursuant to  
Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C.  
Calendar Year 2025**

**1. Introduction**

- b) Name of city/utility  
City of LakeWorth Beach Electric Utility
  
- c) Address, street, city, zip
- d) 1900 Second Avenue, Lake Worth Beach Fl.
  
- e) Contact information: Name, title, phone, fax, email  
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**2. Number of meters served in calendar year 2025 –  
27,842**

**3. Facility Inspections**

**a) Describe the utility’s policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures for inspecting transmission and distribution lines, poles, and structures, including pole inspection cycles and pole selection process.**

**a) Policies, Guidelines, Practices, and Procedures for Inspection of Transmission and Distribution Lines, Poles, and Structures**

The utility maintains and implements documented policies, guidelines, and procedures governing the inspection of transmission and distribution lines, poles, and associated structures. These established practices are designed to systematically identify deteriorating assets, structural deficiencies, safety hazards, and emerging reliability risks. Inspection activities are planned, executed, documented, and reviewed in accordance with internal operational standards to support safe and reliable electric system performance.

**Pole Inspection Cycle**

The utility conducts inspections on a monthly cycle, consisting of both visual and bi annual infrared inspection activities performed during the Winter and Summer operational periods.

**Pole Inspection Methods and Practices**

Inspection activities are performed using both ground based and IR methods to ensure comprehensive system coverage.

Ground based inspections assess pole integrity, structural condition, hardware performance, and observable safety risks.

Infrared inspections conducted in the field to prioritize critical system assets, including distribution feeder backbones, substations, and transmission line paths, based on system importance, load criticality, and historical performance data.

### **Pole Inspection Cycle and Selection Process**

Pole inspections are monthly and are conducted in accordance with established utility practices using a risk-based selection methodology.

Selection criteria include asset age, material composition, environmental exposure, proximity to critical facilities, system importance, and prior inspection findings. Poles exhibiting elevated risk characteristics or previously identified deficiencies are prioritized for inspection and monitoring.

Work orders are created for all remediation to ensure adequate tracking

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## **b) Describe the number and percentage of transmission and distribution inspections planned and completed for 2025.**

### **Planned Inspections**

#### **Planned Inspections**

For calendar year 2025, the utility planned one full inspection cycle consisting of combined visual and infrared inspections performed through both field and aerial drone deployment. The planned inspection scope included distribution feeder backbones, substations, transmission lines, and associated structural and electrical hardware. Inspection planning was developed in accordance with established utility inspection procedures and scheduled to ensure full system coverage within the defined inspection period.

#### **Completed Inspections**

The utility completed one hundred percent of the planned inspections for both transmission and distribution assets during calendar year 2025. All inspections were executed in accordance with established inspection practices and within the scheduled timeframe. Completion status was documented and verified through the utility's inspection tracking and documentation processes to ensure compliance with reliability and infrastructure monitoring objectives.

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## **c) Describe the number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles failing inspection in 2025 and the reason for the failure.**

### **Distribution Poles**

During the 2025 inspection cycle, fewer than five percent of inspected distribution poles were determined to have failed inspection. Failures were identified based on

established utility inspection criteria and condition assessment standards. The primary causes of failure included structural deterioration of wood poles due to rot and material degradation, as well as defective or failing hardware components, including insulators and cross arms. All failed poles and associated deficiencies were documented and evaluated for corrective action in accordance with utility maintenance and reliability practices.

#### **Transmission Poles and Structures**

No transmission poles or structures failed inspection during the 2025 inspection cycle. All inspected transmission assets met applicable structural integrity and operational condition requirements based on established inspection standards and assessment criteria.

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**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.**

#### **Distribution Poles**

During the 2025 inspection cycle, the total number of distribution poles replaced or remediated represented fewer than five percent of the inspected population. All were replaced.

#### **Transmission Poles and Structures**

No transmission poles or structures were replaced or required remediation during the 2025 reporting period, as no transmission assets failed inspection.

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

### **Program Overview**

The utility maintains a formal vegetation management program designed to support the safe and reliable operation of its transmission and distribution facilities and to reduce the risk of vegetation-related outages and public safety hazards.

### **Contractor Selection and City Council Approval**

Vegetation management services are outsourced to Davey Tree, which was **selected through the City's competitive procurement process and approved by City Council**, in accordance with municipal procurement and governance requirements. Davey Tree has provided vegetation management services to the utility for many years.

### **Contractor Qualifications**

Davey Tree was selected based on demonstrated qualifications and experience performing vegetation management work for electric utilities. The contractor employs trained utility line-clearance personnel and certified arborists and performs work in accordance with industry-accepted practices for vegetation management near energized electrical facilities.

### **Utility Program Ownership and Accountability**

Although field work is performed by a contractor, **the utility retains full responsibility and accountability for the vegetation management program.** Program policy development, prioritization, oversight, and verification remain with the utility.

### **Vegetation Management Planning and Standards**

Vegetation management activities are planned and executed using a risk-based and clearance-driven approach that considers voltage class, facility type, vegetation growth characteristics, and historical system performance. Vegetation is managed to maintain required clearances from energized conductors and electrical equipment under normal operating conditions and reasonably foreseeable adverse conditions, including wind and storm events.

### **Utility Oversight and Daily Monitoring**

Vegetation management work performed by Davey Tree is **monitored by utility staff on a daily basis.** Oversight activities include daily review of work locations and scope, field verification of completed work, coordination with contractor crews to address emergent conditions or hazard trees, documentation through work orders and internal tracking systems, and corrective action when deficiencies are identified.

### **Vegetation Management Outside Road Rights-of-Way or Easements**

For vegetation located outside established road rights-of-way or utility easements, the utility applies targeted vegetation management practices focused on system reliability and public safety. These practices include identification and mitigation of hazard trees, coordination with property owners to obtain access permissions when required, selective pruning or removal based on professional arborist assessments, and public guidance regarding appropriate planting and landscaping practices near overhead electric lines.

### **Program Sufficiency**

The utility believes its vegetation management practices are sufficient because they are implemented by a competitively procured and City Council-approved contractor, retain daily utility oversight and verification, follow a proactive and risk-based approach, and include inspection, documentation, and corrective action processes that support safe and reliable electric service.

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**1) Describe the quantity, level, and scope of vegetation management planned and completed for transmission and distribution facilities in 2025.**

**System Coverage and Scope**

During calendar year 2025, the utility conducted vegetation management activities across its transmission and distribution system in accordance with established maintenance cycles and identified risk priorities.

**Transmission Facilities**

Vegetation management activities for transmission facilities included routine inspections, scheduled trimming and removal to maintain required electrical clearances, mitigation of identified hazard trees, and corrective vegetation work associated with storm response or emergent conditions.

**Distribution Facilities**

Vegetation management activities for distribution facilities included routine trimming along overhead feeders and laterals, targeted vegetation work in areas with elevated outage history or accelerated growth, removal of problem trees near poles, conductors, and related equipment, and response to customer-reported vegetation concerns.

**Level of Effort and Documentation**

Vegetation management activities in 2025 were executed using a combination of scheduled maintenance cycles and condition-based corrective work. All activities were documented through work orders, inspection records, and completion verification processes.