



ESCAMBIA RIVER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
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April 6, 2026

Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0872

Re: Rule 25-6.0343, Municipal Electric Utility and Rural Electric Cooperative Reporting Requirements

Dear Penelope Buys:

Pursuant to Rule 25-6.0343, attached is Escambia River Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s Municipal Electric Utility and Rural Electric Cooperative Report filed electronically.

Please call me at (850) 463-7139 should you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

Lanie Sells

Lanie Sells
Director of Engineering

Attachment

Escambia River Electric Cooperative
Report to the Florida Public Service Commission
Pursuant to Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C.
Calendar Year 2025

1) Introduction

Escambia River Electric Cooperative is located in Santa Rosa County and serves the Northern parts of Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. EREC serves approximately 13,591 meters with approximately 1870 miles of distribution line and no transmission lines or structures. EREC owns all the distribution, which operates at 12,470 V, and our generation and transmission partner owns all the transmission lines and substations that are used to serve our members.

Contact Information

For additional information contact:

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GM/CEO

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2) Number of meters served in the calendar year 2025

Escambia River Electric Cooperative served approximately 13,503 meters in 2025.

3) Standards of Construction

a. National Electric Safety Code Compliance

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at Escambia River Electric Cooperative comply with the National Electrical Safety Code (ANSI C-2) [NESC]. For electrical facilities constructed on or after February 1, 2017, the 2017 NESC applies. Electrical facilities constructed prior to February 1, 2017, are governed by the edition of 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 Escambia River Electric Cooperative are guided by the extreme wind loading standards specified by Figure 250-2(d) of the 2017 edition of the

NESC for major planned work, including expansion, rebuild, or relocation of existing facilities, assigned on or after December 10, 2006.

- 1. New construction;**
- 2. Major planned work, including expansion, rebuild, or relocation of existing facilities, assigned on or after the effective date of this rule;**
- 3. Targeted critical infrastructure facilities and major thoroughfares taking into account political and geographical boundaries and other applicable operational considerations.**

c. Flooding and Storm Surges

Escambia River Electric Cooperative is a non-coastal utility; therefore, storm surge is not an issue.

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

Electrical construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at Escambia River Electric Cooperative provide for placement of new and replacement distribution facilities so as 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 Escambia River Electric Cooperative's facilities are accessible by its crews and vehicles to ensure proper maintenance/repair is performed as expeditiously and safely as possible. Escambia River Electric Cooperative 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 Escambia River Electric Cooperative and third-party attachers include language which specifies that the attacher, not the cooperative, has the burden of assessing pole strength and safety, as set forth in the NESC, before they attach to the pole. Escambia River Electric Cooperative performs follow-up audits of attachments to ensure the attachment is properly installed, maintained, and meet NESC requirements for pole attachments.

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.

Escambia River Electric Cooperative inspects each distribution pole on an 8 year cycle using visual, sound and boring techniques in accordance with RUS standards. Additionally, Escambia River Electric Cooperative uses data gathered during outages to proactively identify troubled lines, poles, equipment, and right-of-way. All of the data feeds back to our pole selection process, which provides a method to determine which poles not to purchase.

b. The number and percentage of transmission and distribution inspections planned and completed.

We planned for 2980 (8%) of distribution poles to be inspected for the 2025 year. The number of poles inspected in 2025 was 2980 (8%) of distribution poles.

Escambia River Electric Cooperative does not own any transmission poles.

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

Approximately 222 poles or 7.5% did not pass inspection. The common reason for rejection was pole rot at the top and bottom of poles.

d. Describe the number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles, by type and class of structure, replaced or for which remediation was taken after inspection in 2023, including a description of the remediation taken.

Poles replaced were of various size and class, and have been or will be replaced with the appropriate size and class. Rejected poles were replaced.

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.

Escambia River Electric Cooperative began a 3-year vegetation management cycle for all distribution lines. The primary reason for this is that the right-of-way is cleared 15 feet on both sides of 3 phase lines making a total clearance of 30 feet. While the crews are managing vegetation on a line they look for foreseeable future problems and take care of them at that time. If at any time there is a problem tree or landscaping, Escambia River Electric Cooperative works with the home owner toward trimming, if possible, or removal, if necessary, while providing restitution if necessary for trees or landscaping that is outside the easement or rights-of-way. In all cases, our current policy is providing the necessary vegetation management needed to reduce outages due to vegetation.

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

As described in question 5(a), Escambia River Electric Cooperative planned to manage vegetation on 33.3% or 452 miles of the overhead distribution power lines. In 2025, we managed vegetation of approximately 745 miles of distribution power lines, or 54.8%.