



Attorneys and Counselors at Law  
123 South Calhoun Street  
P.O. Box 391 32302  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
P: (850) 224-9115  
F: (850) 222-7560  
[ausley.com](http://ausley.com)

June 3, 2024

**VIA: ELECTRONIC FILING**

Mr. Adam J. Teitzman  
Commission Clerk  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Storm Protection Plan Annual Status Report  
Dkt. 20240000-OT

Dear Mr. Teitzman:

Attached for filing is Tampa Electric Company's 2023 Storm Protection Plan Annual Status Report.

Thank you for your assistance in connection with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Malcolm N. Means'.

Malcolm N. Means

MNM/bml  
Attachment

cc: Marissa Ramos – [mramos@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:mramos@psc.state.fl.us) (w/encl.)  
Penelope Buys – [pbuys@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:pbuys@psc.state.fl.us) (w/encl.)  
Paula Brown – [pbrown@tecoenergy.com](mailto:pbrown@tecoenergy.com) (w/encl.)



**TECO**<sup>®</sup>  
**TAMPA ELECTRIC**  
**AN EMERA COMPANY**

**2023**  
**STORM PROTECTION PLAN**  
**ANNUAL STATUS REPORT**

**FILED: June 3, 2024**



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## **SUMMARY OF 2023**

### **STORM PROTECTION PLAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Tampa Electric’s Storm Protection Plan (“Plan” or “SPP”) sets out a systematic and comprehensive approach to storm protection focused on those Programs and Projects that provide the highest level of reliability and resiliency benefits for the lowest relative cost. The company believes that these activities will achieve the Florida Legislature’s goals of “reducing restoration costs and outage times associated with extreme weather events and enhancing reliability” in a cost-efficient manner.

Tampa Electric’s 2023 Storm Protection Annual Status Report covers the second full year of the company’s 2022-2031 Storm Protection Plan, which provides a comprehensive approach to protect and strengthen its electric utility infrastructure to withstand extreme weather conditions as well as to reduce restoration costs and outage times in a prudent, practical, and cost-effective manner. Protecting and strengthening Tampa Electric’s transmission and distribution electric utility infrastructure against extreme weather conditions can effectively reduce restoration costs and outage times to customers and improve overall service reliability for customers. Tampa Electric received approval of its 2022-2031 Storm Protection Plan in Docket No. 2022-0048-EI, Order No. PSC-2022-0386A-FOF-EI, issued December 1, 2022.

## Distribution Lateral Undergrounding

Tampa Electric's Distribution Lateral Undergrounding Program aims to strategically underground existing overhead lateral primary, lateral secondary and service lines.

The expected benefits from this Program are:

- Reducing the number and severity of customer outages during extreme weather events;
- Reducing the amount of system damage during extreme weather;
- Reducing the material and manpower resources needed to respond to extreme weather events;
- Reducing the number of customer complaints from the reduction in outages during extreme weather events; and
- Reducing restoration costs following extreme weather events.

In addition to the many benefits that should be realized from distribution lateral undergrounding during extreme weather events, it will also provide additional blue-sky benefits such as:

- Reducing the number of momentary and prolonged unplanned outages;
- Reducing the number of customer complaints from outages; and
- Improving customer reliability and power quality.

Table DLU.1 below shows the number of distribution lateral undergrounding projects that were designed and constructed in 2023. Table DLU-2 shows the Distribution Lateral Undergrounding revenue requirements that occurred in 2023.

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Table DLU.1 – 2023 Distribution Lateral Undergrounding

2023 Distribution Lateral Undergrounding			
	Projects Planned	Projects Initiated	Projects Completed
Engineering Design and Right of Way Obtainment	198	28	121
Construction	201	74	89

Table DLU.2 – 2023 Distribution Lateral Undergrounding Revenue Requirements

2023 Distribution Lateral Undergrounding Revenue Requirements Projected versus Actual		
	Projected	Actual
Distribution Lateral Undergrounding	\$20,655,104	\$26,679,524

### **Vegetation Management**

Tampa Electric's Vegetation Management Program (“VMP”) combines a continuation of its existing filed and approved distribution and transmission VMP activities with three additional strategic VM initiatives.

In 2023, Tampa Electric utilized approximately 39 contracted tree trim personnel to manage the company’s transmission tree trimming requirements. In addition, Tampa Electric’s Transmission Vegetation Management Program (“TVMP”) continues to comply with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”) standard for Transmission Vegetation Management FAC-003-4.

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For 2023, Tampa Electric has 294 dedicated distribution tree trim personnel throughout the company's seven service areas. These dedicated resources are broken out into two categories: Proactive and Reactive. The proactive resources are utilized for circuit tree trimming activities and consist of 256 personnel. The reactive resources consist of 38 personnel and are employed for customer requested work and work orders associated with circuit improvement process.

Tampa Electric continued its efforts toward effective vegetation management as part of a coordinated plan with local governments and communities. Tampa Electric's Line Clearance Department and Regional Affairs Department hold periodic meetings with local governments and communities related to vegetation maintenance activities, upcoming projects, and emergency recovery strategies. Tampa Electric's Regional Affairs Department is tasked with communicating with local and state government officials, residential and commercial customers on several topics, including vegetation management. The company's goal is to keep governmental officials aware and briefed on relevant issues regarding these topics while working with internal Tampa Electric departments to resolve vegetation management issues in and around the company's infrastructure in a timely and responsive manner.

During the fourth quarter 2023, Tampa Electric submitted its renewal application to the National Arbor Day Foundation's Tree Line USA Program and received endorsement in the first quarter of 2024. This will be the sixteenth consecutive year Tampa Electric has received the National Arbor Day Foundation's prestigious Tree Line USA Program designation.

### **Distribution:**

Tampa Electric trims the company's distribution system on a four-year cycle. This approach was approved by the Commission in Docket No. 20120038-EI, Order No. PSC 12-0303-PAA-EI, issued June 12, 2012. The four-year cycle is flexible enough to allow the company to change circuit prioritization utilizing the company's reliability-



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based methodology. Table VM.1 below shows the number of Four-Year Cycle VM miles completed in 2023:

Table VM.1 – 2023 Distribution Four-Year Cycle

2023 Distribution Vegetation Management Four-Year Cycle (Miles Trimmed)								
3rd Cycle, Year 3								
	Company Service Area							
	CSA	DCA	ESA	PCA	SHA	WSA	WHA	Total
4-Year VM Miles Goal	260.1	90.8	208.6	311.4	184.5	278.2	230.7	1,564.3
4-Year VM Miles Actual	255.8	92.5	115.6	320.2	195.2	285.8	239.7	1,504.8

Some area goals were adjusted during the year to account for customer demand and storm response.

**Reactive:**

Tampa Electric supports internal and external customer requests through its reactive initiative. Customer requested work and work orders associated with circuit improvement process are the primary categories of reactive work. Work is tracked through the company’s work management software. Each work request (“WR”) is reviewed by Tampa Electric or contract staff. Those requiring trimming are issued to contract reactive crew. Table VM.2 below shows the Reactive work requests reviewed and completed in 2023:

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Table VM.2 – 2023 Reactive Vegetation Management

2023 Reactive Vegetation Management (Work Requests)								
	Company Service Area							
	CSA	DCA	ESA	PCA	SHA	WSA	WHA	Total
Reactive Work Requests Reviewed	879	125	541	314	290	1,012	326	3,487
Reactive Work Requests Trimmed	398	78	272	149	120	510	167	1,694

**Transmission:**

Tampa Electric trims the company’s transmission lines utilizing a comprehensive vegetation management strategy. The company operates four categories of transmission 230kV, 138kV, 69kV, and 34kV. For circuits with voltages above 200kV, the company complies with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) standard FAC-003-4. This standard imposes performance-based, risk-based, and competency-based requirements for vegetation management on these circuits. The company imposes a two-year vegetation management cycle for 230kV and 138kV circuits, and a three-year cycle for 69kV and 34kV circuits. The company’s vegetation management strategy for its transmission system includes the maintenance of the transmission ROW’s. Table VM.3 below shows the Transmission VM completed in 2023 compared to the annual goal:

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Table VM.3 – 2023 Transmission Vegetation Management

2023 Transmission Vegetation Management				
	Bulk Transmission (miles)	Non-Bulk Transmission (miles)	Right of Way Transmission (acres)	Total Transmission (miles)
Transmission VM Miles Goal	276.7	258.9	8,000	535.6
Transmission VM Miles Actual	276.7	258.9	6,251	535.6

**New Vegetation Management:**

Tampa Electric initiated two additional distribution VM initiatives and one additional transmission VM initiative within the company’s 2020-2029 SPP. The purpose of these additional VM initiatives is to enhance the company’s current cycles, specifically for the purpose of system storm hardening. These additional VM initiatives are:

- Initiative 1: Supplemental Distribution Circuit VM
- Initiative 2: Mid-Cycle Distribution VM
- Initiative 3: 69 kV VM Reclamation

Initiative 1: Tampa Electric initiated 700 miles of supplemental distribution circuit VM to enhance the current four-year distribution VM cycle to reduce the proximity between vegetation and electrical facilities. Circuit prioritization and selection was centered around storm resiliency and mitigating outage risk on those circuits most susceptible to storm damage. Table VM.4 below shows the number of miles of supplemental VM by Service Area that was conducted in 2023:

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Table VM.4 – 2023 Supplemental Distribution Circuit Vegetation Management

2023 Supplemental Vegetation Management (Miles Trimmed)								
	Company Service Area							
	CSA	DCA	ESA	PCA	SHA	WSA	WHA	Total
Supplemental Miles Goal	127.1	44.9	149.8	31.1	138.9	155.8	53.2	700.8
Supplemental Miles Actual	138.5	27.6	82.5	35.5	107.6	144.6	55.2	591.5

Initiative 2: Tampa Electric initiated Mid-Cycle VM which is an inspection-based approach and is designed to identify and mitigate hazard trees and areas where vegetation cannot be controlled effectively following a four-year distribution VM cycle. In 2023, the company performed VM on 1,480 spans of feeder and removed 912 hazard trees as part of the Mid-Cycle Initiative. Table VM.5 below shows the number of miles of Mid-Cycle VM by Service Area that was conducted in 2023:

Table VM.5 – 2023 Mid-Cycle Distribution Vegetation Management

2023 Mid-Cycle Distribution Vegetation Management (Miles Inspected)								
	Company Service Area							
	CSA	DCA	ESA	PCA	SHA	WSA	WHA	Total
Mid-Cycle Inspection Miles Goal	233.3	0.0	102.4	158.0	202.2	152.8	120.3	969.0
Mid-Cycle Inspection Miles Actual	203.5	0.0	37.1	85.9	202.2	152.8	120.3	801.8

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Initiative 3: Tampa Electric added the 69kV Reclamation Initiative to “reclaim” specific areas of the company’s 69kV system that are particularly problematic due to vegetative conditions. The focus of this Initiative is to clear the vegetation undergrowth and remove hazard trees. The company will clear the vegetation within the boundaries of the easement or property but outside of the current 15-foot vegetation-to-conductor clearance specification. In 2023, the company completed the remaining surveying, as well as all vegetation work. Table VM.6 below shows the number of miles of 69kV Reclamation VM that was conducted in 2023:

Table VM.6 – 2023 69 kV Reclamation Initiative

2023 69 kV Reclamation Initiative			
	Real Estate Research (miles)	Survey (miles)	Vegetation Management (miles)
69 kV Reclamation Initiative Goal	0.0	11.1	65.2
69 kV Reclamation Initiative Actual	0.0	11.1	65.2

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### Tampa Electric’s Vegetation Management Metrics:

2023 - System Vegetation Management Performance Metrics – SYSTEM							
	Feeders			Laterals			Total
	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Diff.	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Diff.	
(A) Number of Outages							
(B) Customer interruptions							
(C) Miles Cleared		601.6			1,494.8		2,096.4
(D) Remaining Miles		1,210.5			2,891.2		4,101.7
(E) Outages per Mile [A ÷ (C + D)]							
(F) Vegetation CI per Mile [B ÷ (C + D)]							
(G) Number of Mid-Cycle trims		447			1,033		1,480
(H) All Vegetation Management Costs							\$31.9M
(I) Customer Minutes of Interruption							
(J) Outage restoration costs							
(K) Vegetation Proj. (current year)							\$29.4M
(L) Vegetation Goal (current year)							2,265.0
(M) Vegetation Proj. (next year)							\$30.8M
(N) Vegetation Goal (next year)							2,269.0
(O) Trim-Back Distance							10'

**Notes:**

(G) Mid-Cycle trims are shown in spans.

(H) All Vegetation Management Costs - SERVICE AREA - include ONLY contractor costs, All Vegetation Management Costs - SYSTEM - include ALL costs

(L) & (N) Vegetation Goal shown in miles

(O) 10' Represents an average, however, to comply with ANSI A300, actual trim distances may vary.

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2023 - System Vegetation Management Performance Metrics - CSA							
	Feeders			Laterals			Total
	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Diff.	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Diff.	
(A) Number of Outages							
(B) Customer Interruptions							
(C) Miles Cleared		143.4			250.8		394.2
(D) Remaining Miles		212.2			422.4		634.6
(E) Outages per Mile [A ÷ (C + D)]							
(F) Vegetation CI per Mile [B ÷ (C + D)]							
(G) Number of Mid-Cycle trims		205			387		592
(H) All Vegetation Management Costs							\$5.9M
(I) Customer Minutes of Interruption							
(J) Outage restoration costs							
(K) Vegetation Proj. (current year)							
(L) Vegetation Goal (current year)							387.2
(M) Vegetation Proj. (next year)							
(N) Vegetation Goal (next year)							392.0
(O) Trim-Back Distance							10'

**Notes:**

(G) Mid-Cycle trims are shown in spans.

(H) All Vegetation Management Costs include ONLY contractor costs.

(L) & (N) Vegetation Goal shown in miles.

(O) 10' Represents an average, however, to comply with ANSI A300, actual trim distances may vary.

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2023 - System Vegetation Management Performance Metrics - DCA							
	Feeders			Laterals			Total
(A) Number of Outages							
(B) Customer Interruptions							
(C) Miles Cleared		18.2			102.0		120.2
(D) Remaining Miles		38.6			211.7		250.3
(E) Outages per Mile [A ÷ (C + D)]							
(F) Vegetation CI per Mile [B ÷ (C + D)]							
(G) Number of Mid-Cycle trims		0			0		0
(H) All Vegetation Management Costs							\$719K
(I) Customer Minutes of Interruption							
(J) Outage restoration costs							
(K) Vegetation Proj. (current year)							
(L) Vegetation Goal (current year)							135.7
(M) Vegetation Proj. (next year)							
(N) Vegetation Goal (next year)							101.0
(O) Trim-Back Distance							10'

**Notes:**

(G) Mid-Cycle trims are shown in spans.

(H) All Vegetation Management Costs include ONLY contractor costs.

(L) & (N) Vegetation Goal shown in miles.

(O) 10' Represents an average, however, to comply with ANSI A300, actual trim distances may vary.



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2023 - System Vegetation Management Performance Metrics - ESA							
	Feeders			Laterals			Total
(A) Number of Outages							
(B) Customer Interruptions							
(C) Miles Cleared		63.5			134.6		198.1
(D) Remaining Miles		240.7			399.6		640.3
(E) Outages per Mile [A ÷ (C + D)]							
(F) Vegetation CI per Mile [B ÷ (C + D)]							
(G) Number of Mid-Cycle trims		57			100		157
(H) All Vegetation Management Costs							\$3.4M
(I) Customer Minutes of Interruption							
(J) Outage restoration costs							
(K) Vegetation Proj. (current year)							
(L) Vegetation Goal (current year)							358.3
(M) Vegetation Proj. (next year)							
(N) Vegetation Goal (next year)							337.0
(O) Trim-Back Distance							10'

**Notes:**

- (G) Mid-Cycle trims are shown in spans.
- (H) All Vegetation Management Costs include ONLY contractor costs.
- (L) & (N) Vegetation Goal shown in miles.
- (O) 10' Represents an average, however, to comply with ANSI A300, actual trim distances may vary.

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2023 - System Vegetation Management Performance Metrics - PCA							
	Feeders			Laterals			Total
(A) Number of Outages							
(B) Customer Interruptions							
(C) Miles Cleared		75.5			280.2		355.7
(D) Remaining Miles		189.5			700.3		889.8
(E) Outages per Mile [A ÷ (C + D)]							
(F) Vegetation CI per Mile [B ÷ (C + D)]							
(G) Number of Mid-Cycle trims		72			267		339
(H) All Vegetation Management Costs							\$3.3M
(I) Customer Minutes of Interruption							
(J) Outage restoration costs							
(K) Vegetation Proj. (current year)							
(L) Vegetation Goal (current year)							342.6
(M) Vegetation Proj. (next year)							
(N) Vegetation Goal (next year)							409.0
(O) Trim-Back Distance							10'

**Notes:**

(G) Mid-Cycle trims are shown in spans.

(H) All Vegetation Management Costs include ONLY contractor costs.

(L) & (N) Vegetation Goal shown in miles.

(O) 10' Represents an average, however, to comply with ANSI A300, actual trim distances may vary.

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2023 - System Vegetation Management Performance Metrics - SHA							
	Feeders			Laterals			Total
(A) Number of Outages							
(B) Customer Interruptions							
(C) Miles Cleared		83.3			219.5		302.8
(D) Remaining Miles		131.1			285.6		416.7
(E) Outages per Mile [A ÷ (C + D)]							
(F) Vegetation CI per Mile [B ÷ (C + D)]							
(G) Number of Mid-Cycle trims		0			0		0
(H) All Vegetation Management Costs							\$2.4M
(I) Customer Minutes of Interruption							
(J) Outage restoration costs							
(K) Vegetation Proj. (current year)							
(L) Vegetation Goal (current year)							323.3
(M) Vegetation Proj. (next year)							
(N) Vegetation Goal (next year)							306.0
(O) Trim-Back Distance							10'

**Notes:**

- (G) Mid-Cycle trims are shown in spans.
- (H) All Vegetation Management Costs include ONLY contractor costs.
- (L) & (N) Vegetation Goal shown in miles.
- (O) 10' Represents an average, however, to comply with ANSI A300, actual trim distances may vary.

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2023 - System Vegetation Management Performance Metrics - WSA							
	Feeders			Laterals			Total
(A) Number of Outages							
(B) Customer Interruptions							
(C) Miles Cleared		160.8			269.5		430.3
(D) Remaining Miles		199.0			452.5		651.5
(E) Outages per Mile [A ÷ (C + D)]							
(F) Vegetation CI per Mile [B ÷ (C + D)]							
(G) Number of Mid-Cycle trims		18			36		54
(H) All Vegetation Management Costs							\$6.4M
(I) Customer Minutes of Interruption							
(J) Outage restoration costs							
(K) Vegetation Proj. (current year)							
(L) Vegetation Goal (current year)							434.0
(M) Vegetation Proj. (next year)							
(N) Vegetation Goal (next year)							359.0
(O) Trim-Back Distance							10'

**Notes:**

(G) Mid-Cycle trims are shown in spans.

(H) All Vegetation Management Costs include ONLY contractor costs.

(L) & (N) Vegetation Goal shown in miles.

(O) 10' Represents an average, however, to comply with ANSI A300, actual trim distances may vary

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2023 - System Vegetation Management Performance Metrics - WHA							
	Feeders			Laterals			Total
	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Diff.	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Diff.	
(A) Number of Outages							
(B) Customer Interruptions							
(C) Miles Cleared		56.7			238.2		294.9
(D) Remaining Miles		199.4			419.2		618.6
(E) Outages per Mile [A ÷ (C + D)]							
(F) Vegetation CI per Mile [B ÷ (C + D)]							
(G) Number of Mid-Cycle trims		95			243		338
(H) All Vegetation Management Costs							\$2.2M
(I) Customer Minutes of Interruption							
(J) Outage restoration costs							
(K) Vegetation Proj. (current year)							
(L) Vegetation Goal (current year)							283.9
(M) Vegetation Proj. (next year)							
(N) Vegetation Goal (next year)							365.0
(O) Trim-Back Distance							10'

**Notes:**

- (G) Mid-Cycle trims are shown in spans.
- (H) All Vegetation Management Costs include ONLY contractor costs.
- (L) & (N) Vegetation Goal shown in miles.
- (O) 10' Represents an average, however, to comply with ANSI A300, actual trim distances may vary.

## **Transmission Asset Upgrades**

The Transmission Asset Upgrades Program is a systematic and proactive replacement Program of all Tampa Electric’s remaining transmission wood poles with non-wood material. The company intends to complete this conversion from wood transmission poles to non-wood material poles during the timeframe of this initial ten-year SPP. Tampa Electric has over 25,000 transmission poles and structures with approximately 1,350 circuit miles of transmission facilities. Table TAU.1 below shows the number of transmission assets that were hardened in 2023. Table TAU.2 below shows the Transmission Asset Upgrades revenue requirements that occurred in 2023.

Table TAU.1 – 2023 Transmission Asset Upgrades

2023 Transmission Asset Upgrades Structures Hardened / System Update		
	Goal	Actual
Transmission Structures – Poles - Non SPP (Note 1)	N/A	127
Transmission Structures – SPP	463	466
Transmission System Hardened (Percentage)	88.8%	89.5%

Note 1: pole replacements outside of SPP Projects

Table TAU.2 – 2023 Transmission Asset Upgrades Revenue Requirements

2023 Transmission Asset Upgrades Revenue Requirements Projected versus Actual		
	Projected	Actual
Transmission Asset Upgrades	\$5,603,011	\$5,324,747

## Substation Extreme Weather Hardening

Tampa Electric’s Substation Extreme Weather Hardening Program will harden existing substations to minimize outages, reduce restoration times and enhance emergency response during extreme weather events.

In 2021, Tampa Electric solicited an engineering firm to perform a substation extreme weather hardening study on 24 substations located near or at the coast of Tampa Bay. These substations are in low-elevation areas and are a mix of both transmission and distribution stations. The greatest risk to these substations would be from the impact of water intrusion due to storm surge into the substation control houses and equipment.

The substation hardening study was conducted in three phases (discovery, evaluation, and recommendation). A scorecard was developed for all 24 substations and special attention was paid to substations where outages could impact the grid stability or reliability of service. Out of the 24 substations evaluated, nine (9) substations were recommended for extreme weather hardening with the first proposed projects to start in 2023 and one project per year for the following eight years. Budgetary estimates were given to each substation that include engineering, permitting, project management, construction, testing, and commissioning.

Table SUB.2 below shows the Substation Extreme Weather Hardening revenue requirements that occurred in 2023:

Table SUB.2 – 2023 Substation Extreme Weather Hardening Revenue Requirements

2023 Substation Extreme Weather Hardening Revenue Requirements Projected versus Actual		
	Projected	Actual
Substation Extreme Weather Hardening	\$15,683	\$3,895

## **Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening**

Tampa Electric’s Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening Program will strengthen the company’s distribution system to withstand increased wind-loading and harsh environmental conditions associated with extreme weather events. The Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening Program will focus on increasing the resiliency and sectionalizing capabilities of the distribution electrical system to better withstand extreme weather and minimize outages, outage durations and affected customer counts through two primary enhancements: Distribution Feeder Strengthening and Distribution Feeder Sectionalizing and Automation. Table OVHF.1 directly below provide the work that was done for designing these enhancements and Table OVHF.2 further below provides the actual equipment that was installed. Table OVHF.3 below shows the Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening revenue requirements in 2023.

Table OVHF.1 – 2023 Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening Designed

2023 Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening Designed Equipment				
Circuit Number	Pole Replacement / Upgrades	Three-Phase Recloser Installations	Single-Phase Recloser Installations	Fuse Coordination Replacements
13296	37	1	4	12
14083	12	0	0	5
13364	14	2	0	18
14014	18	2	4	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>49</b>



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Table OVHF.2 – 2023 Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening Installed

2023 Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening Installed Equipment				
Circuit Number	Pole Replacement / Upgrades	Three-Phase Recloser Installations	Single-Phase Recloser Installations	Fuse Coordination Replacements
13461	1	0	0	15
14121	0	0	0	7
13890	1	0	0	15
13462	37	0	0	60
13111	16	0	0	25
13101	20	0	0	23
13104	30	0	12	38
13808	119	0	33	50
13964	59	0	31	25
13314	12	0	0	28
13339	9	0	0	0
13313	3	0	0	0
14123	24	0	0	1
13651	111	0	5	26
13346	122	0	3	50
13148	0	0	0	0
13048	14	0	0	3
13770	2	0	0	12
13296	56	0	0	18
13094	0	0	0	0
13118	7	0	0	0
13989	1	0	0	0
13984	88	0	24	15
14094	27	0	0	9
13312	109	0	14	50
Total	868	0	122	470

Table OVHF.3 – 2023 Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening Revenue Requirements

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2023 Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening Revenue Requirements Projected versus Actual		
	Projected	Actual
Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening	\$8,320,020	\$5,348,928

### Infrastructure Inspections

Tampa Electric's Infrastructure Inspection Program is a comprehensive inspection Program that combines the existing Commission approved Storm Hardening Plan Initiatives of: Wood Pole Inspections, Transmission Structure Inspections, and the Joint Use Pole Attachment Audit.

**Wood Pole Inspection Program:** Tampa Electric's Wood Pole Inspection Initiative is part of a comprehensive program initiated by the FPSC for Florida investor-owned electric utilities to harden the electric system against severe weather.

This inspection program complies with Order No. PSC-06-0144-PAA-EI, issued February 27, 2006, in Docket No. 060078-EI which requires each investor-owned electric utility to implement an inspection program of its wooden transmission and distribution poles on an eight-year cycle based on the requirements of the NESC. Tampa Electric has approximately 285,000 distribution and lighting wood poles and 25,000 transmission poles appropriate for inspection for a total pole inspection population of approximately 310,000. Approximately 12.5 percent of the known system will be targeted for inspections annually although the actual number of poles may vary from year to year due to recently constructed circuits, de-energized circuits, reconfigured circuits, etc. This program provides a systematic identification of poles that require repair, reinforcement or replacement to meet strength requirements of the NESC.

The wood pole inspections will be conducted on a substation circuit basis with a goal of inspecting the entire wood pole population every eight years. An average of 35,625

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wooden distribution poles will be inspected annually with each pole receiving a visual inspection, a sound & bore procedure and a groundline/excavation inspection (except for chromated copper arsenate “CCA” poles less than 16 years of age.)

Inspection Method and Procedure: Tampa Electric will utilize three basic inspection procedures for determining the condition of wooden poles. These procedures include a visual inspection, sound and bore, and excavation when required.

Visual Inspection: An initial visual inspection shall be made on all poles from the ground line to the pole top to determine the condition of the pole before any additional inspection work is completed. The visual inspection shall include a review of the pole condition itself and any attachments to the pole for conditions that jeopardize reliability and are in need of replacement, repair or minor follow-up. After a pole passes the initial visual inspection, the balance of the required inspection methods will be performed.

Sound and Bore: After passing the visual inspection, the pole shall be sounded to a minimum height of seven feet above the ground line to locate any rotten conditions or pockets of decay inside the pole. Borings shall be made to determine the location and extent of internal decay or voids. All borings shall be plugged with preservative treated wooden dowels. After the pole has passed the sound and bore inspection, an excavation inspection will be performed, if required.

Excavation: For poles requiring excavation, the pole shall be excavated to a minimum depth of 18 inches below the ground line. Any external decay shall be removed to expose the remaining sound wood. The remaining pole strength shall be calculated.

For a pole in concrete or pavement where excavation is not possible, Tampa Electric will utilize a shell boring technique. This will consist of boring two 3/8-

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inch holes at a 60-degree angle to a depth of 16 to 18 inches below ground level. Upon withdrawing the drill bit, the technician will examine the condition of the wood shavings to determine whether decay is present. A “Shell Gauge” is used to determine the thickness of the shell, which is then used to calculate the pole strength. All borings shall be plugged as previously described.

**Hardware Inspection:** The inspector shall inspect all of Tampa Electric’s guying, grounding provisions and hardware that is visible from the ground. Any deficiencies or problems will be corrected as directed or reported to Tampa Electric to correct.

**Inspection and Treatment Labeling:** After completion of the ground line inspection, an aluminum tag identifying the contractor and date of inspection shall be attached to the pole above the birthmark. Additionally, a tag shall be attached identifying any preservative treatments applied and the date of application.

**Data Collection:** The collected data shall be managed in a database and include information related to pole class, material, vintage, location, pole strength and any pole deficiencies that required follow-up actions, if any.

**Inspection in Conjunction with Other Field Work:** As part of day-to-day operations, operation personnel are at times required to climb poles to perform different types of field work. Prior to climbing any pole, personnel will assess the condition of the pole. This will include a visual check and may include sounding to determine pole integrity. This type of inspection will supplement the systematic inspection approach otherwise outlined in this pole inspection program.

**Disposition of Poles:** Poles with early-stage decay that do not require remediation to meet the NESC strength requirements shall be treated with an

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appropriate preservative treatment. Poles with moderate decay that have substantial sound wood shall be considered for reinforcement. Analysis shall be performed to determine if reinforcement will bring the deficient pole into compliance with the requirements of the NESC. If it is determined that the pole can be reinforced, the pole shall be treated with an appropriate preservative treatment and may be reinforced or replaced if needed. Poles with advanced decay shall fail the inspection and be replaced.

**Shared Poles:** Tampa Electric supports the Commission's effort to establish pole inspection requirements on the owners of all utility poles. Tampa Electric will coordinate with third-party owners of utility poles that carry the company's facilities. With regard to the third-party's inspection process, the company will rely upon the third-party's inspection requirements and share data requested by the third-party to be utilized in their inspection procedure. Tampa Electric will cooperate, as requested, in the work associated with pole replacement where joint use exists. Third-party poles are visually inspected and sounded for internal decay. Issues found are provided to the third-party owner for resolution.

**Chromated Copper Arsenate Pole Inspections:** In Docket No. 20080219-EI, Order No. PSC-2008-0615-PAA-EI, issued September 23, 2008, the FPSC approved a modification to Tampa Electric's Wood Pole Inspection Program involving chromated copper arsenate ("CCA") poles. Specifically, the modification requires CCA treated poles less than 16 years of age to be sound and selectively bored. Selective boring shall be performed on poles suspected of internal decay. Additionally, one percent of the annual number of CCA treated poles inspected less than 16 years of age shall be excavated to validate this inspection method. Finally, all CCA treated poles over 16 years of age shall be excavated.

**Reporting:** Tampa Electric includes the Annual Wood Pole Inspection Report with the company's Annual Reliability Performance Reports, by March 1st of

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each year in full accordance with the reporting requirements set forth in Docket No. 20070634-EI, Order No. PSC-2007-0918-PAA-PU, issued November 14, 2007.

**Transmission and Substation Inspections:** Tampa Electric continues to conduct the multi-pronged inspection approach the company has historically applied to the system which has led to the transmission system having a history of strong reliability performance. This approach includes the eight-year above ground structure inspection cycle, eight-year ground line wood inspection cycle, annual ground patrol, annual aerial infrared patrol, annual substation inspection cycle and the pre-climb inspection requirement. Tampa Electric continues these inspections and also continues the company's ongoing efforts to monitor and evaluate the appropriateness of its transmission structure inspection program to ensure that any cost-effective storm hardening, or reliability opportunities found are taken advantage of.

Standardized reports are provided for each of the formal inspections. Deficiencies identified during the inspections are entered into a maintenance database. This maintenance database is used to prioritize and manage required remediation. Deficiencies identified during the pre-climb inspections are assessed by the on-site crew and reported to supervisory personnel for determination of corrective action.

Table TRA.1 below shows the number of transmission inspections that were completed in 2023:

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### TRA.1 – 2023 Transmission Inspections

2023 Transmission Inspections		
Transmission Inspection Type	Number of Inspections (Circuits)	Number of Poles
Groundline	13	448
Above Ground	17	2,616
Ground Patrol	214	
Infrared Patrol	214	

**Pre-climb Inspections:** Tampa Electric crews are required to inspect wooden transmission & distribution poles prior to climbing. As part of these inspections, the employee is required to visually inspect each pole prior to climbing and sound each pole with a hammer if deemed necessary. These pre-climbing inspections serve to provide an additional safety-oriented integrity check of poles prior to the employee ascending the pole and may also result in the identification of any structural deterioration issues.

**Substation Inspections:** Tampa Electric performs inspections of distribution substations and inspections of transmission substations annually. The substation inspections include visual inspection of the substation fence, equipment, structures, control buildings and the integrity of grounding system for all equipment and structures. Table Sub.1 below shows the number of distribution and transmission substation inspections that were completed in 2023:

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### Sub.1 – 2023 Substation Inspections

2023 Substation Inspections		
	Distribution Substations	Transmission Substations
Number of Inspections	615	318

### Transmission, Substation and Other Equipment Inspections Summary

#### Transmission Circuit, Substation and Other Equipment Inspections

	Activity		Current Budget		Next Year	
	Goal	Actual	Budget	Actual	Goal	Budget
(A) Total transmission circuits.		214				
(B1) Planned transmission circuit inspections – Groundline (Poles)	17 (404)		\$63,672		16 (355)	\$33,524
(B2) Planned transmission circuit inspections – Above Ground (Poles).	17 (2,616)		\$10,612		0 <sup>(1)</sup> (0) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$10,116
(C1) Completed transmission circuit inspections – Groundline (Poles)		17 (448)		\$22,507		
(C2) Completed transmission circuit inspections – Above Ground (Poles)		17 (2,616)		\$9,514		
(D1) Percent of transmission circuit inspections completed – Groundline		100%				
(D2) Percent of transmission circuit inspections completed – Above Ground.		100%				
(E) Planned transmission substation inspections.	81				85	
(F) Completed transmission substation inspections		318				



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	Activity		Current Budget		Next Year	
	Goal	Actual	Budget	Actual	Goal	Budget
(G) Percent transmission substation inspections completed.		100%				
(H) Planned transmission equipment inspections (other equipment). – Ground Patrol/ IR Patrol	214/ 214		\$153,875/ \$116,733		216/ 216	\$190,000/ \$118,563
(I) Completed transmission equipment inspections (other equipment) – Ground Patrol/ IR Patrol		214/214		\$188,760/ \$112,585		
(J) Percent of transmission equipment inspections completed (other equipment) – Ground Patrol/ IR Patrol		100%/ 100%				

Note 1: The Above Ground inspections for 2024 will be absorbed into the Ground Patrol Inspections. The last year of Above Ground inspections is 2023.

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### Transmission Pole Inspections

	Activity		Current Budget		Next Year	
	Goal	Actual	Budget	Actual	Goal	Budget
(A) Total number of transmission poles		24,544 <sup>(1)</sup>				
(B) Number of transmission poles strength tested		0 <sup>(2)</sup>				
(C) Number of transmission poles passing strength test		N/A				
(D) Number of transmission poles failing strength test (overloaded)		N/A				
(E) Number of transmission poles failing strength test (other reasons)		N/A				
(F) Number of transmission poles corrected (strength failure)		0				
(G) Number of transmission poles corrected (other reasons)		0				
(H) Total transmission poles replaced (Structures)		466			472 <sup>(3)</sup>	

- Note 1: The transmission pole count on the entire system is currently 24,544. This is a fluid number that will change as a function of time. Standards have been set to calculate this number based off the Geographical Information System and provide an annual update prior to the submission of this report.
- Note 2: The transmission pole strength test is budgeted as part of the ground line inspection. This information is included in the Transmission Circuit, Substation and Other Equipment Inspections section.
- Note 3: The budget information for this table is included in the information supplied in the Hardening of Existing Transmission Structures section.

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**Joint-Use Pole Attachments Audits:** Tampa Electric continues to conduct comprehensive loading analyses to ensure the company's poles with joint use attachments are not overloaded and meet the NESC or Tampa Electric Standards, whichever is more stringent. These loading analyses are a direct effort to lessen storm related issues on poles with joint use attachments. All current joint use agreements require attaching entities to apply for and gain permission to make attachments to Tampa Electric's poles.

In 2023, Tampa Electric observed an increase in attachment applications, due to a variety of government funding programs available to the broadband companies. Comprehensive loading analyses were performed on 1,744 poles and all poles determined to be overloaded will be corrected.

For 2024, Tampa Electric's Joint Use Department will continue negotiating with broadband companies to finalize attachment agreements. Tampa Electric will continue performing comprehensive loading analyses across the company's entire service territory.

Due to the size of Tampa Electric's service area and the number of poles the company has, there will always be the potential for unknown foreign attachments to exist on facilities which could place additional loading on a facility which may create an overload situation. To help mitigate these potential overload situations, all Tampa Electric joint use agreements have provisions that allow for periodic inspections and/or audits of all joint use attachments to the company's facilities. In addition, all agreements have provisions that require the attaching party to build and maintain attachments within NESC guidelines or Tampa Electric specifications, whichever are more stringent. All of Tampa Electric's existing joint use agreements require attaching parties to receive authorization from the company prior to making all attachments to its facilities.

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In 2023, Tampa Electric reviewed all known attachment records and verified that the company has joint use agreements with all attaching entities. Tampa Electric has a total of 40 attachment agreements with attaching entities and continue negotiations with others requesting permission to attach to Tampa Electric poles.

In 2023, Tampa Electric had steady requests for small cell permit applications. The company's Joint Use Department processed 50 pole attachment applications that encompassed 1,744 poles. As a result, 98 distribution poles were identified to be overloaded due to joint use attachments and 40 poles were overloaded due to Tampa Electric's attachments. Out of the 1,744 poles that were assessed through the pole attachment application process which includes a comprehensive loading analysis, there were 442 poles found to have NESC violations due to joint use attachments and no poles with NESC violations due to Tampa Electric attachments. All poles with NESC violations were either corrected by adjustments to attachments, pole replacements or joint use entities' removal of the attachments in violation.

In 2023, effort was made by third party "attachers" to notify Tampa Electric of poles planned for over-lashing. Over-lashing is one specific area of concern which is when a joint use entity attaches to an existing attachment without prior Tampa Electric engineering and authorization.

For 2024, Tampa Electric's Joint Use Department will continue working with small cell companies to finalize attachment agreements. Tampa Electric will continue performing make ready for the small cell and fiber deployments across the company's entire service territory.

**Joint Use Metrics - Joint-Use Pole Attachments Audit:** The extent of the audit and results as it pertains to pole reliability and NESC safety matters, is to assure the Commission that utilities know the status of their facilities and that reasonable efforts are taken to address pole reliability and NESC safety matters.

- a) Percent of system audited: 100 percent of system

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- b) Date audit conducted: Quarter four of 2018 through quarter one of 2020.
- c) Date of previous audit: Total system-wide audit completed 2020.
- d) List of audits conducted annually
  - Tampa Electric began the process for the implemented joint-use pole attachment audit that began in last quarter of 2018, with active field employees in the first quarter of 2019. The audit was completed in the first quarter of 2020.
  - Through Tampa Electric's Pole Attachment Permit Application process, the company performed the following audits: attachment verification, NESC violation analysis and pole loading assessment.
- e) State whether pole rents are jurisdictional or non-jurisdictional. If pole rents are jurisdictional, then provide an estimate of lost revenue and describe the company's efforts to minimize the lost revenue.
  - Tampa Electric does not have any non-jurisdictional distribution poles.

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### Joint-Use Attachment Data Table

(A) Number of company owned distribution poles.	266,773
(B) Number of company distribution poles leased.	13,379 <sup>(1)</sup>
(C) Number of owned distribution pole attachments	203,836
(D) Number of leased distribution pole attachments.	13,379 <sup>(2)</sup>
(E) Number of authorized attachments.	311,464
(F) Number of unauthorized attachments.	0 <sup>(3)</sup>
(G) Number of distribution poles strength tested.	1,744
(H) Number of distribution poles passing strength test.	1,606
(I) Number of distribution poles failing strength test (overloaded).	138
(J) Number of distribution poles failing strength test (other reasons).	40 <sup>(4)</sup>
(K) Number of distribution poles corrected (strength failure).	98 <sup>(5)</sup>
(L) Number of distribution poles corrected (other reasons).	0 <sup>(6)</sup>
(M) Number of distribution poles replaced.	0
(N) Number of apparent NESC violations involving electric infrastructure	0
(O) Number of apparent NESC violations involving 3rd party facilities	442

Note 1: These are the number of poles where Tampa Electric leases space on foreign owned poles.

Note 2: Each attachment is counted as one per pole on leased poles.

Note 3: Tampa Electric identified any unauthorized attachments upon the completion of the audit in the first quarter of 2020.

Note 4: These poles were identified for replacement during Tampa Electric's Pole Inspection Program and failed the strength test due to wood damage at ground line or other locations on the pole.

Note 5: These poles were re-guyed or re-configured to pass strength loading.

Note 6: The company reinforced these poles with trusses.

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### Infrastructure Inspections Summary

2023 Infrastructure Inspections Summary			
	Notes	Projected	Actual
Joint Use Audit	Note 1		
Joint Use Inspections			1,744
Distribution			
Wood Pole Inspections		35,625	36,601
Transmission			
Wood Pole/Groundline Inspections		404	448
Above Ground Inspections		2,616	2,616
Aerial Infrared Patrols		Annually	Completed
Ground Patrols		Annually	Completed
Substation Inspections		Annually	Completed

Note 1: the Joint Use audit was completed in the first quarter of 2020

### Legacy Storm Hardening Initiatives

The final category of storm protection activities consists of those legacy Storm Hardening Plan Initiatives that are well-established and steady state and for which the company did not propose any specific Storm Protection Projects for inclusion in the company’s 2020-2029 SPP. Tampa Electric continues these activities because the company believes they continue to offer the storm resiliency benefits identified by the Commission in Order No. PSC-06-0351-PAA-EI, which required the company to perform these activities. In addition, these initiatives are all integrated into the company’s ongoing operations.

**Geographic Information System:** Tampa Electric’s Geographic Information System (“GIS”) will continue to serve as the foundational database for all transmission, substation and distribution facilities. Development and improvement of the GIS continues. All new computing technology requests and new initiatives are evaluated with a goal to eliminate redundant, exclusive and difficult to update databases as well as to place emphasis on full integration with Tampa Electric’s business processes.

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These evaluations further cement GIS as the foundational database for Tampa Electric's facilities.

In 2023, Tampa Electric continued to implement changes and enhancements to the company's GIS system. These changes included data updates, plus metadata and functionality changes, to closer align with business processes and improve user performance.

**Post-Storm Data Collection and Forensic Analysis:** Tampa Electric has an established process in place to gather the necessary data for forensic analysis following a Category One or greater storm that significantly impacts the company's service area. This data will be used to determine the root cause of equipment failure after a storm event.

From these reports, recommendations and possible changes will be made regarding engineering, equipment and construction standards and specifications. A hired third party of data collection specialists will patrol a representative sample of the damaged areas of the electric system following a major storm event and perform the data collection process. At a minimum, the following types of information will be collected:

- Pole/Structure – type of damage, size and type of pole, and likely cause of damage;
- Conductor – type of damage, conductor type and size, and likely cause of damage;
- Equipment – type of damage, overhead or underground, size, and likely cause of damage; and
- Hardware – type of damage, size and likely cause of damage.

Third party engineering personnel will perform the forensic analysis of a representative sample of the data obtained to evaluate the root cause of failure and assess future preventive measures where possible and practical. This may include evaluating the



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type of material used, the type of construction and the environment where the damage occurred including existing vegetation and elevations. Changes may be recommended and implemented if more effective solutions are identified by the analysis team.

In 2023, none of Tampa Electric service areas were impacted by a Category One or higher storm, therefore forensic analysis was not conducted.

### **Outage Data Differentiating Between Overhead and Underground Systems:**

Tampa Electric tracks and stores the company's outage data for overhead and underground systems in a single database called the Distribution Outage Database ("DOD"). The DOD is linked to and receives outage data from the company's EMS and OMS. The DOD tracks outage records according to cause and equipment type and can support the following functionality:

- Centralized capture of outage related data;
- Analysis and clean-up of outage-related data;
- Maintenance and adjustment to distribution outage database data;
- Automatic Generation and distribution of canned reliability reports; and
- Generating ad hoc operational and managerial reports.

The DOD is further programmed to distinguish between overhead and underground systems and is specifically designed to generate distribution service reliability reports that comply with Rule 25-6.0455, F.A.C.

In addition to the DOD and supporting processes, the company's overhead and underground systems are analyzed for accurate performance. The company also has established processes in place for collecting post-storm data and performing forensic analysis to ensure the performance of Tampa Electric's overhead and underground systems are correctly assessed.

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**Increase Coordination with Local Governments:** Tampa Electric representatives continue to focus on maintaining existing vital governmental contacts and participating on disaster recovery committees to collaborate on planning, protection, response, recovery and mitigation efforts. In addition, Tampa Electric representatives will continue to communicate and coordinate with local governments on vegetation management, search and rescue operations, debris clearing, and identification of critical community facilities. Tampa Electric will participate with local and municipal government agencies within its service area, as well as the Florida Division of Emergency Management (“FDEM”) and the Florida Public Service Commission (“FPSC”), in planning and facilitating joint storm exercises. In addition, Tampa Electric will continue to be involved in improving emergency response to vulnerable populations.

In 2023, Tampa Electric’s Emergency Management Department communication efforts continued to focus on local, state, and federal governments and agencies for all emergency management missions. Tampa Electric did participate in mock storm exercises with Hillsborough and Pinellas counties, as well as the City of Tampa. In addition, Tampa Electric did conduct its own series of internal exercises focused on emergency response plans and the use of emergency response playbooks.

In 2023, community focused communications included pre-hurricane season news releases to all major media outlets that serve Tampa Electric customers. All releases were posted on Tampa Electric’s website. Hurricane guides were published in several major newspapers including the Tampa Bay Times, Centro (Spanish), and the Florida Sentinel Bulletin. In addition, Tampa Electric continued to promote its storm restoration video, Florida’s Special Needs Registration, as well as flood zones and evacuation zones.

**Emergency Operations Centers – Key Personnel Contact:** In 2023, one (1) named tropical weather event (Hurricane Idalia) triggered various county and municipal agencies to activate their EOC at either full or partial activation levels to support

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emergency response activities. During Hurricane Idalia, Tampa Electric was fully activated by most counties and municipalities in its service territory including Hillsborough County (and the Cities of Plant City, Tampa, and Temple Terrace), Pasco County, Pinellas County (and the City of Oldsmar). Polk County was under partial activation but did not request EOC support from Tampa Electric. The State of Florida fully activated its EOC for this weather event.

The table below shows the activation levels for the tropical weather events by county or municipal EOC which covers Tampa Electric's service area:

<b>EOC</b>	<b>Hurricane Idalia</b>
City of Oldsmar	Full
City of Plant City	Full
City of Tampa	Full
City of Temple Terrace	Full
Hillsborough County	Full
Pasco County	Full
Pinellas County	Full
Polk County	Partial
State of Florida	Full

Tampa Electric continues to work with local, state and federal governments to streamline the flow of information and incorporate lessons learned to restore electric service as quickly and as safely as possible. Prior to June 1st of each year, the company's Emergency Response Plan is reviewed and updated to ensure Tampa Electric representatives are fully trained to support EOC activation.

Staffing Practices at Local Emergency Operations Centers: Tampa Electric provides representatives to each of the four (4) County EOCs within the company's service territory, including Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk counties. In addition,

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depending upon the magnitude of the event, representatives are provided to the four (4) municipalities (Cities of Oldsmar, Plant City, Temple Terrace, and Tampa), when requested. The number of liaisons provided is dependent upon various factors (e.g., seating capacity at the EOC, amount of damage, EOC operating hours, available personnel, etc.). Lastly, representatives are also provided to support the State of Florida EOC to support the State and the FPSC for power restoration issues.

The representatives who staff the EOCs have business acumen and experience in customer service and/or electric distribution. Since the EOC representative role is not a day-to-day job function, the company strives to maintain a balance of seasoned and less experienced representatives during both day and night operations in the EOC when possible. EOC representatives are trained to deal with both electric and gas issues.

Staffing hours at the EOC are dictated by each EOC's operational periods and are dependent upon the magnitude of the event. EOCs have and may require company representatives to report for duty before the onset of tropical storm force winds and ride-out the storm at the EOC with other Emergency Support Function ("ESF") personnel. Initially, EOCs may, at their discretion, operate 24 hours/day until the event is stabilized. To support the 24-hour cycle, company staffing hours at EOCs are generally based on two (2), 12-hour shifts based on the EOCs operational cycle and vary by County; however, the hours of operation may be adjusted based on EOC needs and resource availability to support emergency response.

The table below further shows the number of company representatives available to support EOC activation. The table does not represent the number of representatives on-site at the same time.

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<b>Utility staffing practices at local EOCs</b>		
<b>EOC in Service Territory</b>	<b>Number of Utility Staff</b>	<b>Planned daily hours scheduled for working in the EOC</b>
Hillsborough County	6	Dependent on EOC operational period
City of Plant City	2	Dependent on EOC operational period
City of Oldsmar	2	Dependent on EOC operational period
City of Tampa	3	Dependent on EOC operational period
Pasco County	3	Dependent on EOC operational period
Pinellas County	2	Dependent on EOC operational period
Polk County	4	Dependent on EOC operational period

**Responsibilities:** The role of the company’s EOC representative is to facilitate and respond to critical community issues in support of life safety and power restoration efforts. The representatives are responsible for maintaining situational awareness and communicating any public safety issues or concerns to the company. In addition, the representatives work closely with other ESF liaisons to facilitate or coordinate any requests made by the company or in support of community citizens. The representatives will utilize all available “lifelines” to respond to requests which originate from the EOC or company personnel. Lastly, the EOC representative communicates outage updates and provides restoration status, as requested.

**Communications:** Because the company has representatives dedicated to each of the county and city EOCs within its service territory, there are limited opportunities for an EOC to not be staffed. In the remote situation where an EOC representative is unavailable, the local EOCs have contact information for their assigned EOC representatives, as well as the company’s Emergency Management personnel, which can be called upon for assistance. In addition, the company’s Regional Affairs

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Department personnel have established relationships throughout the communities served and are also available to provide support, as needed.

**Search and Rescue Teams – Assistance to Local Government:** In 2023, Tampa Electric received requests from and deployed resources to Hillsborough County, as well as the Cities of Tampa and Dade City, for Search and Rescue Team assistance during Hurricane Idalia. In addition, resources were requested and provided to the City of Tampa to assist with debris clearing activities.

**Tree Ordinances, Planting Guides and Trip Procedures:** For 2024, the company's Manager of Line Clearance will continue to work with Tampa Electric's Regional Affairs staff to offer meetings with local government's staff on how Tampa Electric can best work with city staff in pre-storm and post-storm events and to better coordinate the company's tree trimming procedures with governmental ordinances.

**Utility's Coordination of Critical Facilities with local governments:** Tampa Electric works closely with County Emergency Management ("EM") officials and other stakeholders throughout the year to identify and prioritize facilities deemed most critical to the overall health of the whole community (e.g., public health, safety, security or national/global economy). Tampa Electric has discussions with EM officials through email and phone communications. The identification of public and private critical facilities during preparedness planning supports the goal of a coordinated and flexible restoration process for all critical infrastructure and is directly related to business continuity and continuity of the government. Critical facilities for municipalities are identified and incorporated into the respective County data.

The table below provides the dates that Tampa Electric had discussion with local governments during 2023 that involved critical facilities:

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<b>Meetings with Local Government</b>				
<b>Entity</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Pending Issues/Follow-up Items</b>	<b>Contact Information Provided to Local Authorities</b>
Hillsborough County	1/13/2023 1/17/2023 2/07/2023 2/08/2023 2/13/2023 3/21/2023 5/02/2023	Critical Facility Discussion	N/A	Yes
Pasco County	4/05/2023 4/10/2023	Critical Facility Discussion	N/A	Yes
Pinellas County	4/05/2023 4/06/2023 4/27/2023	Critical Facility Discussion	N/A	Yes
Polk County	4/05/2023 4/10/2023	Critical Facility Discussion	N/A	Yes

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### Matrix of Tampa Electric's coordination with local governments:

Government Entity	Municipal	Communication Efforts Presentations, Material, Etc.	Storm Workshop, Planning and Training With Local Gov't Officials and Fire and Police Personnel	Emergency Operation Centers Key Personnel Contact	Search and Rescue Teams Assistance to Local Gov't	Vegetation Management Tree Ordinances, Planting Guides, and Trim Procedures	Undergrounding Share Information, Estimates, and Materials
FEDERAL	---	Congressional Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Caucus - Washington, DC (90 hours)					
	---	MacDill Air Force Base Hurricane Preparedness Outreach - Tampa, FL (12 hours)					
	---	National Press Club Award for Media Relations Campaign of the Year - Washington, DC (12 hours)					
STATE	---		Florida Emergency Preparedness Association (FEPA) Conference and Training (44 hours)	Hurricane Idalia EOC support (19 hours)			LUG response on Dana Shores to Rep Pittman (16 hours)
	---		FEPA WebEOC Committee meetings (4 hours)				LUG/ SPP talking points development (14 hours)
	---		FEPA WebEOC Summer Workshop (10 hours) FDOT Annual Hurricane Season Seminar (3 hours)				
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY	---	Hillsborough County Childrens Board Family Resource Center Wire Down Safety presentations (32 hours)	Hillsborough County Emergency Action Group and ESF3/12 meetings (6 hours)	Hurricane Idalia EOC support (115 hours)	Search and Rescue support for Hurricane Idalia (8 locations)	Tree Line USA communications to key stakeholders (1 hour)	Community outreach multiple Communities (50 hours)
	---	Storm Preparedness Presentation to Commercial and Industrial Customers (40 hours)	EOC Readiness Week (35 hours)				Strategic coordination school board (10 hours)
	---	Storm Communications (4 hours)	WebEOC training (10 hours)				
	---	Company communications in advance of storm (1 hour)	Hillsborough County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) meetings (10 hours)				
	---	TEC Stands Ready, Idalia communications (1 hour)					
	City of Tampa	Tampa Fire Rescue Hurricane Preparedness Expo (16 hours)	WebEOC training (4 hours)	Hurricane Idalia EOC support (38 hours)	Search and Rescue support for Hurricane Idalia (4 locations)	Outreach Events with Neighborhood Relations (6 hours)	LUG/ VM coordination (150 hours)
	City of Tampa	Meetings with Councilmembers & Key Staff (12 hours)	Debris Clearing exercise (6 hours)		Debris Clearing support for Hurricane Idalia (3 locations)	Tree Line USA communications to key stakeholders (1 hour)	Community outreach multiple Communities HOA/COA (400 hours)
	City of Tampa	Storm Communications (4 hours)					
	City of Tampa	TEC Stands Ready, Idalia communications (1 hour)					
	City of Plant City	Company communications in advance of and during Hurricane Idalia (3 hours)	EOC Readiness Training (6 hours)	Hurricane Idalia EOC support (16 hours)		Tree Line USA communications to key stakeholders (1 hour)	
	City of Plant City	TEC Stands Ready, Idalia communications (1 hour)		Communication with Assistant City Manager and Interim Fire Chief during Hurricane Idalia (4 hours)			
	City of Temple Terrace	Meetings with Councilmembers & City Manager (8 hours)	Preseason Storm Coordination Workshop (6 hours)	Hurricane Idalia EOC support (26 hours)		Outreach Events and Presentations (6 hours)	LUG/ VM coordination (40 hours)
PASCO COUNTY	---	Company communications in advance of and during Hurricane Idalia (3 hours)	Pasco County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) meetings (4 hours)	Pasco County EOC Stakeholder Briefings for Hurricane Idalia (2 hours)		Tree Line USA communications to key stakeholders (1 hour)	
	---	TEC Stands Ready, Idalia communications (1 hour)					School Board coordination (10 hours)
	Dade City	Meeting with city EOC to discuss storm plan (2 hours)		Hurricane Idalia EOC support (44 hours)	Search and Rescue support for Hurricane Idalia (1 locations)	Tree Line USA communications to key stakeholders (1 hour)	
	Dade City	Company communications in advance of and during Hurricane Idalia (3 hours)		Calls with Police Chief and City Manager during Hurricane Idalia (3 hours)			
	Dade City	TEC Stands Ready, Idalia communications (1 hour)					
	San Antonio	Company communications in advance of and during Hurricane Idalia (3 hours)				Tree Line USA communications to key stakeholders (1 hour)	
	St. Leo	Company communications in advance of and during Hurricane Idalia (3 hours)					
St. Leo	TEC Stands Ready, Idalia communications (1 hour)				Tree Line USA communications to key stakeholders (1 hour)		
PINELLAS COUNTY	Largo		WebEOC Training (4 hours)	Hurricane Idalia EOC support (24 hours)			
	Largo		Hurricane exercise (12 hours)				
	Oldsmar	City of Oldsmar Hurricane Expo event (3 hours)		Hurricane Idalia EOC support (27 hours)			LUG Update/Coordination (12 hours)
	Oldsmar	Meetings with Councilmembers & City Manager (8 hours)					
	Oldsmar	Storm Communications (4 hours)					
POLK COUNTY	---	Hurricane Idalia support - No Activation (1 hour)					
	Mulberry	Hurricane Idalia support - No Activation (1 hour)					
	Winter Haven	Hurricane Idalia support - No Activation (1 hour)					LUG Coordination (30 hours)
	Auburndale	Hurricane Idalia support - No Activation (1 hour)					LUG Coordination (20 hours)
	Eagle Lake	Hurricane Idalia support - No Activation (1 hour)					
	Lake Alfred	Hurricane Idalia support - No Activation (1 hour)					



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**Collaborative Research:** Tampa Electric will continue the company’s participation in collaborative research effort with Florida’s other investor-owned electric utilities, several municipals and cooperatives to further the development of storm resilient electric utility infrastructure and technologies that reduce storm restoration costs and outages to customers.

This collaborative research is facilitated by the Public Utility Research Center (“PURC”) at the University of Florida. A steering committee comprised of one member from each of the participating utilities provides the direction for research initiatives. Tampa Electric signed an extension of the memorandum of understanding with PURC in December 2018, effective January 1, 2019, for two years. The memorandum of understanding will automatically extend for successive two-year terms on an evergreen basis until the utilities and PURC agree to terminate the agreement.

PURC Collaborative Research Report:

### **Report on Collaborative Research for Hurricane Hardening**

Provided by

The Public Utility Research Center  
University of Florida

To the

Utility Sponsor Steering Committee

Final Report dated April 2024

#### **I. Introduction**

The Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) issued Order No. PSC-06-00351-PAA-EI on April 25, 2006 (Order 06-0351) directing each investor-owned electric utility (IOU) to establish a plan that

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increases collaborative research to further the development of storm resilient electric utility infrastructure and technologies that reduce storm restoration costs and outages to customers. This order directed IOUs to solicit participation from municipal electric utilities and rural electric cooperatives in addition to available educational and research organizations. As a means of accomplishing this task, the IOUs joined with the municipal electric utilities and rural electric cooperatives in the state (collectively referred to as the Research Collaboration Partners) to form a Steering Committee of representatives from each utility and entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of Florida's Public Utility Research Center (PURC). In 2018 the Research Collaboration MOU was renewed for an initial term of two years, effective January 1, 2019, and will be automatically extended for successive two-year terms.

PURC performs the administration function for research collaboration, including financial management, logistics, production and distribution of documents, and preparation of reports. PURC also coordinates and performs research as agreed upon with the Steering Committee by facilitating the exchange of information from the Research Collaboration Partners with individuals conducting research projects and facilitating the progress of each research project. The collaborative research has focused on undergrounding, vegetation management, hurricane-wind speeds at granular levels, and improved materials for distribution facilities.

This report provides an update on the activities of the Steering Committee since the previous report dated April 2023.

## II. Undergrounding

The collaborative research on undergrounding has been focused on understanding the existing research on the economics and effects of hardening strategies, including undergrounding, so that informed decisions can be made about undergrounding policies and specific undergrounding projects.

PURC has worked with doctoral and master's candidates in the University of Florida Department of Civil and Coastal Engineering to assess some of the inter-relationships between wind speed and other environmental factors on utility equipment damage. PURC has also been contacted by engineering and energy policy researchers at the Louisiana State University with an interest in the model, though no additional relationships have been established. In addition to universities, PURC has been in contact with stakeholders in Puerto Rico due to PURC Director Mark Jamison's service on the Southern States Energy Board Blue Ribbon Task Force on the future of Puerto Rico's energy system. PURC has also introduced the model to stakeholders in the Philippines as a component of USAID's Energy Secure Philippines Initiative, although no additional funding for model development was secured. PURC has been contacted by California stakeholders interested in applying the principles of the model to the mitigation of the interactions between the electricity grid and the surrounding vegetation, potentially reducing the risk of wildfires. Finally, PURC has been contacted by stakeholders in New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey with interest to model the impact of storm hardening to winter storms. Despite the outside interest, there are no concrete plans to expand the scope of the model at this time. Every researcher that contacts PURC cites the model as the only non-proprietary model of its kind.

### III. Wind Data Collection

The Project Sponsors entered into a wind monitoring agreement with WeatherFlow, Inc., in 2007. Under the agreement, Florida Sponsors agreed to provide WeatherFlow with access to their properties and to allow WeatherFlow to install, maintain and operate portions of their wind monitoring network facilities on utility-owned properties under certain conditions in exchange for access to wind monitoring data generated by WeatherFlow's wind monitoring network in Florida. WeatherFlow's Florida wind monitoring network includes 50 permanent wind monitoring stations around the coast of Florida, including one or more stations located on utility-owned property. The wind monitoring agreement expired in early 2012; however, it was renewed in April 2017 and will renew automatically annually on the effective date for an additional one year period, unless terminated by the parties to the agreement.

### IV. Public Outreach

We have previously discussed the impact of increasingly severe storms and the increased population and utility infrastructure along the coast on greater interest in storm preparedness. PURC researchers continue to discuss the collaborative effort in Florida with the engineering departments of the state regulators in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, and regulators in Jamaica, Grenada, Curacao, St. Lucia, the Bahamas, Samoa, and the Philippines. In 2019, stakeholders in Puerto Rico and California also showed interest in the collaborative's efforts. While all of the regulators and policymakers showed great interest in the genesis of the collaborative effort, and the results of that effort, they have not, at this point, shown further interest in participating in the research effort. In 2023, PURC continued to work with Philippine participants in the Energy Secure Philippines project on the prospect of refining the model and crafting a version for the Philippines. The project is still under consideration from USAID. PURC continues to be active in the popular media on matters of storm preparation and public policy.

### VI. Conclusion

In response to the FPSC's Order 06-0351, IOUs, municipal electric utilities, and rural electric cooperatives joined together and retained PURC to coordinate research on electric infrastructure hardening. The steering committee has taken steps to extend the research collaboration MOU so that the industry will be in a position to focus its research efforts on undergrounding research, granular wind research and vegetation management when significant storm activity affects the state.

**Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Plan:** A key element in minimizing storm-caused outages is having a natural disaster preparedness and recovery plan. A formal disaster plan provides an effective means to document lessons learned, improve disaster recovery training, pre-storm staging activities, and post-storm recovery. The

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Commission's Order No. PSC-2006-0351-PAA-E1, issued on April 25, 2006, within Docket No. 20060198-E1 required each investor-owned electric utility to develop a formal disaster preparedness and recovery plan that outlines its disaster recovery procedures and maintain a current copy of its utility disaster plan with the Commission.

Tampa Electric will continue to be active in many ongoing activities to support the restoration of the system before, during and after storm activation. The company will continue to lead or support disaster preparedness and recovery plan activities such as planning, training and working with other electric utilities and local government to continually refine and improve the company's ability to respond quickly and efficiently in any restoration situation.

Tampa Electric's Emergency Management plans address all hazards, including extreme weather events and are reviewed annually. Tampa Electric follows the policy set by TECO Energy for Emergency Management and Business Continuity which delineates responsibilities at the employee, company, and community levels.

Tampa Electric will also continue to plan, participate in, and conduct internal and external preparedness exercises, collaborating with government emergency management agencies, at the local, state and federal levels. Internal company exercises focus on testing lessons learned from prior exercises/activations, new procedures, and educating new team members on roles and responsibilities in the areas of incident command, operations, logistics, planning and finance. The scope and type of internal exercises varies from year to year based on exercise objectives defined by a cross-functional exercise design team, following the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program ("HSEEP"). External preparedness exercises are coordinated by local, state and federal governmental emergency management agencies and partners. Tampa Electric personnel participate in these exercises to test the company's internal emergency response plans, including coordination with Emergency Support Functions ("ESF") to maintain key business relationships at local Emergency Operation Centers ("EOC"). Like Tampa Electric, the exercise type

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(tabletop, functional or full-scale) and scope varies from year to year, and depending upon the emergency management agencies' exercise objectives, Tampa Electric participants may or may not be included.

When requested, Tampa Electric participates in the State of Florida's mock storm exercise with the FPSC, which can coincide with exercises conducted by Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk counties. In addition, municipalities within Tampa Electric's service area (Oldsmar, Plant City, Tampa, and Temple Terrace) may also host exercises and/or pre-storm season briefings. Tampa Electric did participate in mock storm exercises with Hillsborough and Pinellas counties, as well as the City of Tampa. In 2024, Tampa Electric expects to participate in storm-related exercises at local and state levels.

In 2023, Tampa Electric participated in the following disaster preparedness and recovery plan committees which included in-depth coordination with local, state and federal emergency management agencies and partners in the following areas:

- Principal member of the National Fire Protection Association ("NFPA") 1660 – Committee on Emergency, Continuity, and Crisis Management
- Member of NFPA Technical Committee
- Member of the Edison Electric Institute ("EEI") Business Continuity Leadership Team
- Member of the EEI Mutual Assistance Committee
- Member of the Electric Subsector Coordinating Council ("ESCC") Leadership Working Group
- Member of the Local Mitigation Strategy ("LMS")
- Member of Critical Facility Working Group to review restoration priorities
- Member of the Florida Statewide Mutual Aid Assistance ("MAA") Working Group
- Member of the Southeastern Electric Exchange ("SEE") Mutual Assistance Committee
- Member of the SEE Logistics Subcommittee

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- Member of the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association (“FEPA”)
- Member of the FEPA WebEOC Working Group
- Member of the Association of Contingency Planners (“ACP”)
- Member of the International Association of Emergency Managers (“IAEM”)
- Member of the Disaster Recovery Institute (“DRI”) International
- Principal members of the “ASIS” International Society of Industrial Security

Tampa Electric continues to participate in internal and external preparedness exercises, collaborating with government emergency management agencies, at local, state and federal levels.

For 2024, Tampa Electric will continue in leadership roles in county and national preparedness groups: Hillsborough County and the COT PDRP, EEI, FEPA WebEOC Working Groups, ESCC, the NFPA 1660 Committee on Emergency, Continuity, and Crisis Management, and the NFPA Technical Committee. In addition, Tampa Electric will continue to be active participants in LMS, SEE’s Mutual Assistance Committee and Logistics Subcommittee, EEI Mutual Assistance Committee, Florida Statewide MAA Working Group, as well as the Critical Facility Working Groups. Tampa Electric will also continue to promote growth of its website, Twitter and Facebook followers.

**Distribution Pole Replacements:** Tampa Electric’s distribution pole replacement initiative starts with the company’s wood pole inspections and includes designing, utilizing conductors and/or supporting structures, and constructing distribution facilities that meet or exceed the company’s current design criteria for the distribution system. The company will continue to appropriately address all poles identified through its Infrastructure Inspection Program.

**Overhead to Underground Conversion of Interstate Highway Crossings:** The continued focus of this activity is to harden limited access highway crossings to prevent

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the hindrance of first responders, emergency vehicles and others due to fallen distribution lines blocking traffic. The restoration of downed overhead power lines over interstate highways can be lengthy due to heavy traffic congestion following a major storm. Tampa Electric's current preferred construction standard requires all distribution line interstate crossings to be underground. Therefore, the company initially converted several overhead distribution line crossings to underground on major interstate highways. Through 2023, a total of 19 distribution crossings have been converted. Any remaining distribution interstate highway crossings will be converted to underground as part of the company's SPP or when construction and/or maintenance activities present opportunities.

### Storm Season Status

For 2024, the company's Emergency Response Plan will be reviewed prior to hurricane season to ensure it is up to date and ready for the upcoming storm season. In addition, emergency assignments will be reviewed to ensure all Tampa Electric employees have at least one assignment to support storm restoration efforts. Tampa Electric will use preparedness resources such as emergency notification system, weather services, resilience management products, internal and external training, and exercises to test plans. In addition, Tampa Electric expects to participate in the following initiatives to enhance the company's emergency response capabilities:

- Retain and train additional Tampa Electric Certified Business Emergency Response Team ("BERT") members
- Continue to participate in the NFPA 1600 Standard and Technical Committees
- Continue to participate in EEI Business Continuity Leadership committee
- Participate in local, state and federal emergency management and business continuity forums
- Participate in the Florida Statewide MAA Working Group
- Participate in the SEE Mutual Assistance Committee
- Participate in the SEE Logistics Subcommittee
- Participate in the EEI Mutual Assistance Committee

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- Participate in Integrated Preparedness Planning for training and exercises
- Participate in Hillsborough County Forward Planning Task Force
- Support of Hillsborough County in communicating the national flood insurance program to county residents
- Support the ESCC strategy
- Support Hillsborough County and the COT PDRP planning, State of Florida Division of Emergency Management and Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”)
- Participate in the Critical Facilities Working Groups to support the review of restoration priorities for critical facilities
- Participate with the COT in their “Push Team” (debris clearing) exercise
- Support community preparedness through participation in various government committees (e.g., Maritime Security, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Regional Domestic Security Task Force), and activate as necessary during major community events
- Support the local county LMS Working Groups
- Participate in public/private storm related exercises
- Attend annual FEPA Conference and participate in the FEPA Higher Education and WebEOC Working Groups
- Conduct all-hazards internal preparedness exercises and training sessions using the company ICS model to test plans

In 2023, Tampa Electric’s Energy Delivery Department was involved in many activities throughout the entire storm season. Various activities were performed to ensure team members were ready to respond to a storm. These activities included an extensive base camp review at each incident base site as well as mock storm drills to further enhance the skills of Tampa Electric team members.

Tampa Electric’s Emergency Management Department continued to serve as a member of the state-wide Mutual Assistance Working Group. Efforts continue to focus on initiatives to improve the state’s utilities abilities to obtain crews quickly and



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efficiently to speed restoration efforts. In addition, Tampa Electric was recognized by the National Weather Service (“NWS”) as the first Florida Utility to meet the criteria of its StormReady® program in support of severe weather preparedness.

Tampa Electric annually reviews sites for incident bases, base camps and staging sites which ensure primary and backup locations for distribution, transmission and materials. Additionally, logistical needs and equipment requirements are reviewed for each incident base site. Throughout Tampa Electric’s service territory, the company is constantly developing and maintaining relationships with property owners for potential incident bases, base camps and staging sites. Energy Delivery also annually reviews existing purchase orders and contacts vendors who would assist the company with restoration efforts. Corporate Emergency Management annually reviews purchase orders and vendor contact information on those who would provide logistics’ support (i.e., meals, transportation, laundry services, etc.) to Energy Delivery during restoration. All these activities were performed in 2023.

Prior to hurricane season, Energy Delivery management reviewed all employees’ storm assignments and communicated roles and expectations. Meetings and training were held as needed throughout the year.

### **Mutual Assistance**

In 2023, Energy Delivery participated in numerous conference calls with other SEE utilities regarding hurricanes, tropical storms, and winter storm or ice events. The company’s participation in these calls was to both offer and request mutual assistance to assist in restoration activities.

### **Mutual Assistance Lessons Learned**

In 2023, Tampa Electric offered mutual assistance for restoration efforts as a result of other utilities being impacted by storm events, but resources were not selected to

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deploy for mutual assistance. Tampa Electric identified lessons learned that will help improve the company's existing Emergency Management plan and reinforce several existing provisions already contained within the plan. Some of the common lessons learned themes from Mutual Assistance activities in 2023 include:

- Additional training on S.E.E Ramp-Up procedures to help support volunteers in the absence of Emergency Management ("EM")
- To help provide resilience to the process, identify three team members (EM and service managers) to be trained in relevant S.E.E processes

### 2024 Energy Delivery Emergency Management

For 2024, Tampa Electric's Energy Delivery Department is currently planning the next mock storm exercise. Tentative plans are to conduct an exercise to test or validate lessons learned from Hurricane Ian and Idalia. Follow-up items and lessons learned will be recorded.

Prior to hurricane season, Tampa Electric's Energy Delivery management will review all employees' storm assignments and communicate roles and expectations. Meetings, training and exercises will be scheduled at various locations. Additionally, employee preparedness will be emphasized prior to storm season via Tampa Electric's GetReady! training program, materials and presentations.

### Contingency Planning and Response

Roadway Congestion: In the event of roadway congestion that is impacting travel by foreign crews into Tampa Electric's service area, the company will seek to resolve the situation by obtaining information through various sources to find an alternative route. In the event that traffic congestion is so pervasive that there are no available alternative routes, Tampa Electric will work through company representatives at local Emergency Operations Centers ("EOC") or the State of Florida EOC depending on the location, nature and severity of the congestion. The company's representatives will communicate the situation to the law enforcement or appropriate Emergency Support Function ("ESF") personnel to obtain assistance.

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Fuel: Tampa Electric has an agreement in place with a bulk fuel vendor to supply diesel and gasoline fuel on a daily/as needed basis in response to a storm event. The company also performs mobile fueling of equipment that is deployed.

Prior to the storm: Upon notification the bulk fuel vendor will top off Tampa Electric's on-site fuel storage tanks which consist of 50,000 gallons of diesel and 50,000 gallons of gasoline.

During the storm: The bulk fuel vendor will top off the on-site fuel storage tanks as needed. Tampa Electric's bulk fuel vendor typically obtains their fuel supply from Port Tampa Bay. In the event that the Port Tampa Bay is unable to supply fuel, the vendor has access to multiple fuel storage depots across the continental United States.

The mobile fuel vendor can provide 500-gallon bulk fuel tanks to incident bases as needed. The mobile fuel vendor will also supplement Tampa Electric in ensuring that all of Tampa Electric's native crews and any foreign crew resource vehicles that are being used to assist the company in restoration of the system during a storm event on a daily basis after hours at each incident base.

Lodging Accommodations: Lodging accommodations are acquired, when the leadership of Tampa Electric's Electric Delivery department deems it is necessary to bring "foreign crew" resources into Tampa Electric's service area to support power restoration. The amount of lodging accommodations is based on the forecasted severity of the storm, strength, storm surge and the path of the storm. Tampa Electric's Electric Delivery department will estimate the damage to the area, and the number of power outages that will affect the company's customers, to determine the number of resources needed to help with power restoration. Once the decision to request outside resources is made, Tampa Electric's Logistics Section Chief will activate those company employees that make up the lodging unit to start acquiring hotel rooms and/or alternative housing.

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Tampa Electric's Real Estate Department and Logistics Section keep a list of hotels to utilize for mutual assistance crew lodging if they are available. Additionally, the lodging unit has an agreement with a third-party hotel booking service to help facilitate lodging arrangements for requested resources. It is customary to double bunk (two people) to a room. The rooms are secured for pre-storm or post-storm occupancy.

Tampa Electric also has contracts in place with Base Camp vendors to provide turnkey support for lodging, meals and laundry in the event hotel accommodations are limited or mutual assistance requirements are significant.

Communications: Tampa Electric is continuing to explore alternative communications means in the event public communications systems such as cellular, satellite and hard lines are rendered unavailable due to an event. Currently, Tampa Electric has fixed and portable Satellite phone capabilities, and key personnel have Government Emergency Telecommunications Service ("GETS") and Wireless Priority Service ("WPS"). In addition to carrier-based solutions, a third-party portable cellular long-range product was purchased and will be utilized to improve communications by accessing multiple cellular carriers. Lastly, Tampa Electric has amateur radio ("HAM") capabilities. Drills are conducted periodically with EOCs located in Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk counties, as well as the City of Tampa.

### **Program Summary**

Tampa Electric's 2023 Storm Season Readiness preparation focuses on a number of areas including additional distribution circuit protection equipment installations, pre-storm transmission inspections and maintenance, wood pole inspections and replacements, vegetation management, capacitor maintenance, local government interaction, increased equipment inventory, circuit priority reviews, hurricane preparation exercises, and industry research for best practices and procedures for storm restoration.

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### **Transmission Inspections and Maintenance**

Prior to hurricane season, all 230 kV, 138 kV and all priority 69 kV circuits will be patrolled with the remaining transmission circuits being completed by the end of 2023.

For 2024, Tampa Electric plans to change out approximately 472 wood transmission poles throughout the year with steel or concrete structures. Also, Tampa Electric intends to replace existing insulators with polymer insulators as needed.

### **Pole Inspections**

In 2023, Tampa Electric continued the ground line inspections by completing 36,999 inspections to ensure the company remains on pace for completing the eight-year inspection cycle.

For 2023, future inspections coupled with the company's pole replacement program will enhance the storm resiliency of Tampa Electric's transmission and distribution system.

### **Capacitor Maintenance Program**

For 2024, the company will continue to monitor and make improvements to capacitor banks with proactive scheduled inspections. Tampa Electric will continue the pace throughout the spring of 2024 for inspections in preparation for summer peak loads and in anticipation of potential impacts of summer storms on workforce availability and capacitor failure rates. Repairs during the summer are generally limited to an as needed basis. Regularly scheduled inspection will continue in the fall of 2024 as the need and weather permits. For 2024, the company estimates that the remaining of the capacitor banks in Tampa Electric's service area will be field visited, tested and repaired if needed.

### **Communication with Local Governments**

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For 2024, Tampa Electric will continue its communication efforts focusing on maintaining vital governmental contacts and participation on standing disaster recovery planning committees. Tampa Electric is planning to participate in joint storm exercises with agencies as requested, including the State EOC/FPSC, Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk Counties, as well as various cities within the company's service area.

### **Increase Equipment Inventory**

The company will review and increase storm stock in 2024 to ensure a four-day supply of overhead distribution materials such as splices, fuses, connectors, service clamps, brackets, wire, poles, transformers, etc., as well as transmission and substation materials. The company will also ensure that procurement contracts are in place to support additional supplies being delivered within four days of landfall and it will replenish required stock for the duration of a major restoration event.

### **Circuit Priority Review**

For 2024, Tampa Electric will continue working with county and municipal agencies in reviewing and updating the restoration priorities for the critical facilities served by the company.

### **Hurricane Preparedness Exercise**

For 2024, Tampa Electric's Energy Delivery Department is currently assisting the Emergency Management Department in planning the next mock storm exercise. The tentative scope of the exercise includes a moderate hurricane scenario with significant storm surge focused on and validating improvements made from Hurricanes Ian and Idalia lessons learned. Follow-up items and lessons learned will be recorded.

Prior to hurricane season, Tampa Electric's Energy Delivery management will review all employees' storm assignments and communicate roles and expectations. Meetings, training and exercises will be scheduled at various locations. Additionally,

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employee preparedness will be emphasized prior to storm season via Tampa Electric's GetReady! training program, materials, and presentations.

In addition, hurricane preparedness exercises will be conducted by corporate Emergency Management for other key functions, including Leadership, Logistics, Planning, and EOC representatives.

### **Storm Protection Plan Cost and Rate Impact Summary**

Tampa Electric filed its 2020-2029 Storm Protection Plan on April 10, 2020. The SPP was approved by the Commission on August 8, 2020, by Final Order No. PSC-2020-0293-EI. Tampa Electric received Commission approval of its second SPP which was amended and covers the 2022-2031 period. This amended 2022-2031 SPP was approved on December 1, 2022, by Amendatory Final Order PSC-2022-0386A-FOF-EI. Within Tampa Electric's 2022-2031 SPP, the following chart contains the company's estimated costs to be incurred during the 2023 through 2025 period for all related storm protection plan activities:

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<b>Tampa Electric's 2023-2025 Storm Protection Plan</b>			
<b>Total Costs by Program (in Millions)</b>			
<b>Capital</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Distribution Lateral Undergrounding	\$104.54	\$105.00	\$105.00
Transmission Asset Upgrades	\$17.46	\$17.54	\$17.92
Distribution - Substation Extreme Weather Protection	\$0.70	\$2.22	\$1.38
Transmission - Substation Extreme Weather Protection	\$0.00	\$2.05	\$1.28
Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening	\$30.12	\$30.00	\$29.99
Distribution Pole Replacements	\$12.89	\$13.28	\$13.68
<b>O&amp;M</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Distribution Lateral Undergrounding	\$0.18	\$0.18	\$0.15
Distribution Vegetation Management - planned	\$24.00	\$24.22	\$25.65
Distribution Vegetation Management - unplanned	\$1.40	\$1.40	\$1.30
Transmission Vegetation Management - planned	\$3.66	\$3.04	\$3.13
Transmission Vegetation Management - unplanned	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transmission Asset Upgrades	\$0.52	\$0.53	\$0.55
Distribution - Substation Extreme Weather Protection	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transmission - Substation Extreme Weather Protection	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening	\$0.62	\$0.67	\$0.72
Distribution Infrastructure Inspections	\$1.04	\$1.06	\$1.08
Transmission Infrastructure Inspections	\$0.54	\$0.55	\$0.57
SPP Planning & Common	\$0.87	\$0.88	\$0.90
Other Legacy Storm Hardening Plan Items	\$0.29	\$0.30	\$0.30
Distribution Pole Replacements	\$0.83	\$0.86	\$0.88

The chart above contains the costs for all storm protection plan activities (“All in” Costs), which includes prior existing storm hardening and other costs that will not be recovered through the Storm Protection Plan Cost Recovery Clause (“SPPCRC”). The following Storm Protection Plan Activities were chosen to remain in rate base:

- Distribution Pole Replacements (Capital and O&M)
- Distribution Vegetation Management – Unplanned
- Transmission Vegetation Management – Unplanned
- Other Legacy Storm Hardening Plan Items



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The following chart contains the company's estimated costs to be incurred during the 2023 through the 2025 period that would be sought for cost recovery through the SPPCRC:

<b>Tampa Electric's 2023-2025 Storm Protection Plan</b>			
<b>Total Costs by Program (in Millions)</b>			
<b>Capital</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Distribution Lateral Undergrounding</b>	\$104.54	\$105.00	\$105.00
<b>Transmission Asset Upgrades</b>	\$17.46	\$17.54	\$17.92
<b>Distribution - Substation Extreme Weather Protection</b>	\$0.70	\$2.22	\$1.38
<b>Transmission - Substation Extreme Weather Protection</b>	\$0.00	\$2.05	\$1.28
<b>Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening</b>	\$30.12	\$30.00	\$29.99
<b>O&amp;M</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Distribution Lateral Undergrounding</b>	\$0.18	\$0.18	\$0.15
<b>Distribution Vegetation Management - planned</b>	\$24.00	\$24.22	\$25.65
<b>Transmission Vegetation Management - planned</b>	\$3.66	\$3.04	\$3.13
<b>Transmission Asset Upgrades</b>	\$0.52	\$0.53	\$0.55
<b>Distribution - Substation Extreme Weather Protection</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Transmission - Substation Extreme Weather Protection</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening</b>	\$0.62	\$0.67	\$0.72
<b>Distribution Infrastructure Inspections</b>	\$1.04	\$1.06	\$1.08
<b>Transmission Infrastructure Inspections</b>	\$0.54	\$0.55	\$0.57
<b>SPP Planning &amp; Common</b>	\$0.87	\$0.88	\$0.90
<b>Total</b>	\$184.25	\$187.96	\$188.30

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The following chart contains the comparison of the actual SPPCRC costs incurred in 2023, the actual/estimated SPPCRC costs for 2024, and the projected SPPCRC costs for 2025 versus the filed SPPCRC costs estimated to be incurred in the company's 2022-2031 Storm Protection Plan:

<b>Tampa Electric's 2023-2025 Storm Protection Plan</b>							
<b>Total Costs by Program Comparison (in Millions)</b>							
	2023	2023 Actual	2024	2024 Act/Est	2025	2025 Proj	
<b>Capital</b>							
Distribution Lateral Undergrounding	\$104.54	\$139.54	\$105.00	\$132.16	\$105.00	\$133.68	
Transmission Asset Upgrades	\$17.46	\$17.80	\$17.54	\$17.53	\$17.92	\$15.11	
Substation Extreme Weather Protection (Distribution)	\$0.70	\$0.28	\$2.22	\$1.44	\$1.38	\$3.03	
Substation Extreme Weather Protection (Transmission)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2.05	\$0.00	\$1.28	\$0.00	
Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening	\$30.12	\$15.95	\$30.00	\$18.48	\$29.99	\$19.95	
<b>O&amp;M</b>							
Distribution Lateral Undergrounding	\$0.18	\$1.03	\$0.18	\$1.17	\$0.15	\$1.19	
Distribution Vegetation Management - planned	\$24.00	\$25.05	\$24.22	\$26.98	\$25.65	\$29.20	
Transmission Vegetation Management - planned	\$3.66	\$5.00	\$3.04	\$3.31	\$3.13	\$4.12	
Transmission Asset Upgrades	\$0.52	\$0.93	\$0.53	\$0.72	\$0.55	\$0.60	
Substation Extreme Weather Protection (Distribution)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Substation Extreme Weather Protection (Transmission)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening	\$0.62	\$0.24	\$0.67	\$0.88	\$0.72	\$0.96	
Distribution Infrastructure Inspections	\$1.04	\$1.33	\$1.06	\$1.39	\$1.08	\$1.45	
Transmission Infrastructure Inspections	\$0.54	\$0.53	\$0.55	\$0.57	\$0.57	\$0.57	
SPP Planning & Common	\$0.87	\$1.19	\$0.88	\$1.66	\$0.90	\$1.29	
<b>Total</b>	\$184.25	\$208.86	\$187.96	\$206.27	\$188.30	\$211.13	

## 2023 Storm Protection Plan Annual Status Report

The following chart contains the company's estimated rate impacts in Percent for the 2023 through the 2025 period of the company's amended 2022-2031 Storm Protection Plan. These amounts included all Storm Protection Plan costs regardless of where they would be recovered:

<b>Tampa Electric's Storm Protection Plan "Total Cost" Customer Bill Impacts (in percent)</b>				
<b>Customer Class</b>				
	Residential 1,000 kWh	Residential 1,250 kWh	Commercial 1 MW 60 percent Load Factor	Industrial 10 MW 60 percent Load Factor
2023	4.11	4.11	1.28	1.19
2024	5.27	5.27	1.35	1.29
2025	6.58	6.58	1.46	1.40

## 2023 Storm Protection Plan Annual Status Report

The following chart contains the comparison of customer bill impacts in Dollars for the 2023 through the 2025 period of the company's amended 2022-2031 Storm Protection Plan based upon only those programs that are recovered through the SPPCRC.

<b>Tampa Electric's Storm Protection Plan Cost Recovery Clause Customer Bill Impacts (in dollars)</b>				
<b>Customer Class</b>				
	Residential 1,000 kWh	Residential 1,250 kWh	Commercial 1 MW 60 percent Load Factor	Industrial 10 MW 60 percent Load Factor
2023	\$4.64	\$5.80	\$620.00	\$800.00
2024	\$5.95	\$7.44	\$660.00	\$1,100.00
2025	\$7.24	\$9.05	\$700.00	\$1,300.00

The following chart contains the comparison of customer bill impacts in Dollars for the 2023 through the 2025 period of the company's amended 2022-2031 Storm Protection Plan showing the impacts of the Actual SPPCRC rate that was charged in 2023, the Current SPPCRC rate being charged in 2024, and the Proposed SPPCRC rate for 2025.

<b>Tampa Electric's Storm Protection Plan Cost Recovery Clause Costs Customer Bill Impacts (in dollars)</b>				
<b>Customer Class</b>				
	Residential 1,000 kWh	Residential 1,250 kWh	Commercial 1 MW 60 percent Load Factor	Industrial 10 MW 60 percent Load Factor
2023 Actual SPPCRC Rate	\$3.73	\$4.66	\$500.00	\$500.00
2024 Current SPPCRC Rate	\$6.58	\$8.23	\$600.00	\$1,200.00
2025 Projected SPPCRC Rate	\$8.43	\$10.54	\$660.00	\$1,500.00

## 2023 Storm Protection Plan Annual Status Report

The following chart contains the comparison of customer bill impacts in Dollars based upon the actual SPPCRC costs that were incurred in 2023, the 2024 actual/estimated SPPRC costs, and the projected 2025 SPPCRC costs. This comparison excludes any over or under recovery that is occurring from the prior or current period.

<b>Tampa Electric's Storm Protection Plan Cost Recovery Clause Costs Customer Bill Impacts (in dollars)</b>				
<b>Customer Class</b>				
	Residential 1,000 kWh	Residential 1,250 kWh	Commercial 1 MW 60 percent Load Factor	Industrial 10 MW 60 percent Load Factor
2023	\$4.78	\$5.98	\$540.00	\$700.00
2024	\$6.52	\$8.15	\$590.00	\$1,000.00
2025	\$8.35	\$10.44	\$650.00	\$1,500.00

2023 Storm Protection Plan Annual Status Report

Table 5.1 – Tampa Electric’s SPP Projects and Activities 2023-2024 (SPPCRC)

Table 5-1 Tampa Electric’s SPP Projects and Activities Planned and Completed for 2024 – 2025 (SPPCRC Only)							
Program name	Projects/Activities Planned for 2023	Estimated Cost for 2023 (Millions)	Projects/Activities Completed in 2023	Actual Cost for 2023 (Millions)	Projects/Activities Planned for 2024	Estimated Cost for 2024 (Millions)	
Dist Lateral Undergrounding	594	\$149.1	89	\$140.6	305	\$134.4	
Dist. Vegetation Management (miles)	3,279	\$24.3	2,898	\$25.1	3,250	\$24.2	
Trans. Vegetation Management (miles)	567	\$3.9	601	\$5.0	540	\$3.0	
Trans. Asset Upgrades (poles)	463	\$17.7	466	\$18.7	472	\$17.9	
Substation Extreme Weather Hardening	1	\$0.4	1	\$0.3	1	\$4.5	
Dist. Overhead Feeder Hardening	67	\$17.5	1,460	\$16.2	37	\$25.4	
Dist. Infrastructure Inspections (pole and structures)	35,625	\$1.1	36,601	\$1.3	35,625	\$1.4	
Trans. Infrastructure Inspections (poles and structures)	3,020	\$0.5	3,064	\$0.5	3,052	\$0.6	
SPP Planning & Common	n/a	\$1.0	n/a	\$1.2	n/a	\$1.1	
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$215.5</b>		<b>\$208.9</b>		<b>\$212.5</b>	

## 2023 Storm Protection Plan Annual Status Report

**Table 5.2 – Tampa Electric’s SPP Projects and Activities 2023-2024 (Base Rates)**

Table 5-2 Tampa Electric’s SPP Projects and Activities Planned and Completed for 2023 – 2024 (Base Rates Only)							
Program name	Projects/Activities Planned for 2023	Estimated Cost for 2023 (Millions)	Projects/Activities Completed in 2023	Actual Cost for 2023 (Millions)	Projects/Activities Planned for 2024	Estimated Cost for 2024 (Millions)	
Dist. Lateral Undergrounding	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	
Dist. Vegetation Management (miles)	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	
Trans. Vegetation Management (miles)	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	
Dist. Vegetation Management (Work Requests) - unplanned	3,700	\$1.4	3,488	\$2.2	3,700	\$1.4	
Trans. Asset Upgrades (poles)	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	
Substation Extreme Weather Hardening	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	
Dist. Overhead Feeder Hardening	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	
Dist. Infrastructure Inspections (pole and structures)	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	
Trans. Infrastructure Inspections (poles and structures)	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	
SPP Planning & Common	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	
Distribution Pole Replacements	450	\$13.7	488	\$5.3	550	\$14.1	
Legacy Storm Hardening	0	\$0.3	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.3	
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$15.4</b>		<b>\$7.5</b>		<b>\$15.8</b>	