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June 1, 2026

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. 20260000-OT

Dear Mr. Teitzman:

Attached for filing, please find Tampa Electric Company's 2025 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 (w/encl.)
Penelope Buys – pbuys@psc.state.fl.us (w/encl.)
Paula Brown – pbrown@tecoenergy.com (w/encl.)



2025

STORM PROTECTION PLAN

ANNUAL STATUS REPORT

FILED: June 1, 2026



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Storm Protection Plan Summary

Tampa Electric's Storm Protection Plan ("Plan" or "SPP") sets out a systematic and comprehensive approach to storm protection focused on 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 2025 Storm Protection Annual Status Report covers the fourth full year of the company's 2022-2031 SPP, 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 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 and improve overall service reliability for customers. Tampa Electric received approval of its 2022-2031 SPP in Order No. PSC-2022-0386A-FOF-EI, issued December 1, 2022 in Docket No. 20220048-EI.

Storm Protection Plan Accomplishments

Tampa Electric's 2025 Storm Protection Annual Status Report illustrates the company's ongoing commitment to enhancing the resilience and reliability of its electric utility infrastructure. Through the strategic implementation of the 2022-2031 SPP, Tampa Electric aims to minimize restoration costs and outage times associated with extreme weather events, deliver improved service reliability to customers all while meeting established program metrics and achieving nominal spending variances. By focusing on practical and cost-effective measures, the company continues to meet the Florida Legislature's objectives, ensuring that the electric grid remains robust and capable of withstanding future challenges.

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Distribution Lateral Undergrounding

Tampa Electric's Distribution Lateral Undergrounding Program strategically undergrounds 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 labor resources needed to respond to extreme weather events.
- Reducing the number of customer complaints from outages occurring during extreme weather events.
- 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 is also expected to provide blue-sky benefits such as:

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

Table 5-1 summarizes the planned and completed 2025 activities and costs, and the estimated 2026 activities and costs, for Tampa Electric's Distribution Lateral Undergrounding Program.

Vegetation Management

Tampa Electric's Vegetation Management Program ("VM") combines a continuation of its approved Storm Hardening Plan distribution and transmission VM activities with three additional strategic VM initiatives approved in its 2022-2031 SPP. In addition, the company's VM complies with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation ("NERC") standard for Transmission Vegetation Management FAC-003-5.

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Tampa Electric utilizes contracted tree trim personnel to manage its transmission tree trimming requirements. In addition, the company has 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 VM activities and the reactive resources are employed for customer requested work and work orders associated with circuit improvement process.

During the fourth quarter of 2025, 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 2026. This will be the seventeenth consecutive year Tampa Electric has received the National Arbor Day Foundation's prestigious Tree Line USA Program designation which recognizes the company for their commitment to proper tree care and environmental stewardship.

Additional details on Tampa Electric's VM initiatives can be found in Appendix A and Tables 5-1 and 5-2 summarize the planned and completed 2025 activities and costs, and the estimated 2026 activities and costs.

Transmission Asset Upgrades

The Transmission Asset Upgrades Program is the systematic and proactive replacement 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 the 2022-2031 SPP. Tampa Electric has over 25,000 transmission poles and structures with approximately 1,350 circuit miles of transmission facilities. Table 5-1 summarizes the planned and completed 2025 activities and costs, and the estimated 2026 activities and costs, for Tampa Electric's Transmission Asset Upgrades Program.

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Substation Extreme Weather Hardening

Tampa Electric's Substation Extreme Weather Hardening Program is designed to harden existing substations to minimize outages, reduce restoration times and enhance emergency response during extreme weather events. Hardening Projects within this program involve raising substation control enclosures and equipment, and in some instances, relocation of substation equipment and modification to the designs of the company's substations. Table 5-1 summarizes the planned and completed 2025 activities and costs, and the estimated 2026 activities and costs, for Tampa Electric's Substation Extreme Weather Hardening Program.

Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening

Tampa Electric's Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening Program is designed to strengthen the company's distribution system to withstand increased wind-loading and harsh environmental conditions associated with extreme weather events. This program focuses 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 5-1 summarizes the planned and completed 2025 activities and costs, and the estimated 2026 activities and costs, for Tampa Electric's Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening Program.

Distribution Storm Surge Hardening

Tampa Electric's Distribution Storm Surge Hardening Program was approved in the company's 2026-2035 SPP in Order No. PSC-2025-0219-FOF-EI, issued June 19, 2025, in Docket No. 20250016-EI. This program begins in 2026 and will upgrade the live front switchgear in flood zones A through C to submersible/water-resistant units and replace the secondary bushings on pad-mounted transformers with insulated water-resistant components. This program provides a more resilient underground infrastructure that will better withstand water intrusion and also mitigate the need for

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costly replacements during storm restoration which, in turn, will reduce restoration costs and outage times. Table 5-1 summarizes the planned and completed 2025 activities and costs, and the estimated 2026 activities and costs, for Tampa Electric's Distribution Storm Surge Hardening Program.

Infrastructure Inspections

Tampa Electric's Infrastructure Inspection Program is a comprehensive inspection Program that combines the existing Florida Public Service Commission ("FPSC" or "Commission") approved Storm Hardening Plan initiatives associated with Wood Pole Inspections, Transmission Structure Inspections, and the Joint Use Pole Attachment Audit.

Wood Pole Inspection Program: Tampa Electric's Wood Pole Inspection program complies with Order No. PSC-2006-0144-PAA-EI, issued February 27, 2006 in Docket No. 20060078-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 National Electrical Safety Code ("NESC"). Tampa Electric includes the Annual Wood Pole Inspection Report with the company's Annual Reliability Performance Reports, by March 1st of each year in full accordance with the reporting requirements set forth in Order No. PSC-2007-0918-PAA-PU, issued November 14, 2007 in Docket No. 20070634-EI.

Tampa Electric has approximately 285,000 distribution and lighting wood poles and 25,000 wood and non-wood transmission poles available for inspection for a total pole inspection population of approximately 310,000. Approximately 12.5 percent of the 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.

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The wood pole inspections are conducted on a substation circuit basis with a goal of inspecting the entire wood pole population every eight years. An average of 35,625 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). Additional details regarding the method and procedures for the Wood Pole Inspection Program can be found in Appendix B.

Transmission Inspections: Tampa Electric's multi-pronged inspection approach for its transmission system supports 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 patrols, annual aerial infrared patrols, annual substation inspection cycle, and the pre-climb inspection requirement of the 216 circuits. Tampa Electric also continually evaluates the appropriateness of its transmission structure inspection program to ensure the company can take advantage of any cost-effective storm hardening or reliability opportunities it finds.

Standardized reports produced for each of the formal inspections and 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.

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.

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Substation Inspections: Tampa Electric performs inspections of all distribution and transmission substations multiple times throughout the year. 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. Additional details regarding the results of the Transmission Pole, Transmission Circuit, Substation and Other Equipment Inspections can be found in Appendix C.

Joint-Use Pole Attachments Audit: Tampa Electric conducts 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.

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 may create an overload situation. To help mitigate these potential overload situations, all 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 the company's 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 attachments to its facilities. Additional details regarding the results of the most recent Joint-Use Pole Attachments Audit can be found in Appendix D.

Legacy Storm Hardening Initiatives

The final category of storm protection activities consists of Legacy Storm Hardening Plan initiatives that are well-established and for which the company did not propose any specific Storm Protection projects for inclusion in the company's 2022-2031 SPP.

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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-2006-0351-PAA-EI, issued April 25, 2006 in Docket No. 20060198-EI which required the company to perform these activities. These initiatives are all integrated into the company's ongoing operations. Additional details for each initiative can be found in Appendix E.

- Geographic Information System
- Post-Storm Data Collection & Forensic Analysis
- Outage Data - Overhead and Underground Systems
- Increased Coordination with Local Governments
- Collaborative Research
- Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Plan
- Distribution Pole Replacements

Table 5-2 summarizes the planned and completed 2025 activities and costs, and the estimated 2026 activities and costs, for Tampa Electric's Legacy Storm Hardening initiatives.

Storm Protection Plan Costs and Rate Impacts

Tampa Electric received Commission approval of its second SPP, which covers the 2022-2031 period in Order No. PSC-2022-0386A-FOF-EI issued December 1, 2022 in Docket No. 20220048-EI. The following chart contains the company's estimated costs to be incurred during the 2025-2026 period for all SPP activities, as reported in Tampa Electric's 2022-2031 SPP. This chart contains the costs for all SPP activities, including costs that are recovered through the Storm Protection Plan Cost Recovery Clause ("SPPCRC") and base rates.

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Tampa Electric's 2022-2031 Storm Protection Plan Total Costs by Program (in Millions) 2025-2026		
Capital	2025	2026
Distribution Lateral Undergrounding	\$105.00	\$105.00
Transmission Asset Upgrades	\$17.92	\$18.24
Distribution - Substation Extreme Weather Protection	\$1.38	\$1.73
Transmission - Substation Extreme Weather Protection	\$1.28	\$1.60
Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening	\$29.99	\$29.99
Distribution Pole Replacements	\$13.68	\$9.05
O&M	2025	2026
Distribution Lateral Undergrounding	\$0.15	\$0.19
Distribution Vegetation Management - planned	\$25.65	\$26.77
Distribution Vegetation Management - unplanned	\$1.30	\$1.30
Transmission Vegetation Management - planned	\$3.13	\$3.23
Transmission Vegetation Management - unplanned	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transmission Asset Upgrades	\$0.55	\$0.56
Distribution - Substation Extreme Weather Protection	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transmission - Substation Extreme Weather Protection	\$0.00	\$0.00
Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening	\$0.72	\$0.77
Distribution Infrastructure Inspections	\$1.08	\$1.10
Transmission Infrastructure Inspections	\$0.57	\$0.58
SPP Planning & Common	\$0.90	\$0.92
Other Legacy Storm Hardening Plan Items	\$0.30	\$0.31
Distribution Pole Replacements	\$0.88	\$0.59
Total	\$204.48	\$201.91

The following SPP activities are recovered through SPPCRC rates:

- Distribution Lateral Undergrounding (Capital and O&M)
- Transmission Asset Upgrades (Capital and O&M)
- Substation Extreme Weather Protection (Capital)
- Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening (Capital and O&M)
- Distribution Vegetation Management – Planned (O&M)
- Transmission Vegetation Management – Planned (O&M)
- Infrastructure Inspections (O&M)
- SPP Planning & Common Costs (O&M)

The following SPP activities are recovered through base rates:

- Distribution Pole Replacements (Capital and O&M)

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

The 2025-2026 customer bill impacts for SPP programs that are recovered through the SPPCRC are listed below.

Tampa Electric's Storm Protection Plan Customer Bill Impacts Clause (in dollars)			
Customer Class			
	Residential 1,000 kWh	Commercial 1 MW 60 percent Load Factor	Industrial 10 MW 60 percent Load Factor
2025 Estimated	\$7.29	\$660	\$1,300
2025 Actual	\$6.69	\$1,301	\$1,156
2026 Estimated	\$6.91	\$1,305	\$1,205

The 2025-2026 customer bill impacts for SPP programs that are recovered through base rates are listed below.

Tampa Electric's Storm Protection Plan Customer Bill Impacts Base Rates (in dollars)			
Customer Class			
	Residential 1,000 kWh	Commercial 1 MW 60 percent Load Factor	Industrial 10 MW 60 percent Load Factor
2025 Estimated	\$0.65	\$70	\$100
2025 Actual	\$0.37	\$72	\$0
2026 Estimated	\$0.59	\$109	\$0

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Table 5-1 – Tampa Electric’s SPP Projects and Activities 2025-2026 (SPPCRC)

Table 5-1 Tampa Electric’s SPP Projects and Activities Planned and Completed for 2025 – 2026 (SPPCRC Only)							
Program name	Projects/ Activities Planned for 2025	Estimated Cost for 2025 (Millions)	Projects/ Activities Completed in 2025	Actual Cost for 2025 (Millions)	Projects/ Activities Planned for 2026	Estimated Cost for 2026 (Millions)	
Distribution Lateral Undergrounding ¹	202	\$134.9	121	\$131.0	60	\$108.0	
Distribution Vegetation Management (miles)	3,234	\$29.2	3,133	\$25.3	3,398	\$25.1	
Transmission Vegetation Management (miles)	530	\$4.1	530	\$3.8	541	\$3.9	
Transmission Asset Upgrades (poles)	471	\$15.7	532	\$23.1	420	\$18.1	
Substation Extreme Weather Hardening (substations) ²	2	\$3.0	2	\$3.7	12	\$9.4	
Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening ³	31	\$20.9	25	\$30.8	1,800	\$26.4	
Distribution Infrastructure Inspections (poles/structures)	35,625	\$1.4	38,951	\$1.4	35,625	\$1.5	
Transmission Infrastructure Inspections (poles/structures)	161	\$0.4	52	\$0.4	149	\$0.4	
Substation Infrastructure Inspections (poles/structures)	938	\$0.2	868	\$0.2	980	\$0.2	
Distribution Storm Surge Hardening (phases) ⁴	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	1	\$0.2	
SPP Planning & Common	n/a	\$1.3	n/a	\$1.0	n/a	\$1.1	
Totals		\$211.1		\$220.7		\$194.3	

Note 1: The number of Projects/Activities reported were measured in projects in 2025 and previous years. Beginning with 2026, the Projects/Activities will be measured in miles.
Note 2: The company plans to complete 7 substations in 2026; the remaining 5 substations are carry-over work or pre-work on future projects.
Note 3: The number of Projects/Activities reported were measured in projects in 2025 and previous years. Beginning with 2026, the Projects/Activities will be measured in poles.
Note 4: The program was included and approved in 2026-2035 Storm Protection Plan Order PSC-2025-0219-FOF-EI, issued June 19, 2025 in Docket No. 20250016-EI.

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Table 5-2 – Tampa Electric’s SPP Projects and Activities 2025-2026 (Base Rate)

Table 5-2 Tampa Electric's SPP Projects and Activities Planned and Completed for 2025 – 2026 (Base Rates Only)						
Program name	Projects/ Activities Planned for 2025	Estimated Cost for 2025 (Millions)	Projects/ Activities Completed in 2025	Actual Cost for 2025 (Millions)	Projects/ Activities Planned for 2026	Estimated Cost for 2026 (Millions)
Distribution Vegetation Management (Work Requests) - unplanned	3,700	\$1.3	2,528	\$1.6	3,700	\$1.6
Transmission Vegetation Management (Work Requests) - unplanned	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0	0	\$0.0
Distribution Pole Replacements	362	\$4.3	452	\$4.6	800	\$8.3
Legacy Storm Hardening	n/a	\$0.3	n/a	\$0.0	n/a	\$0.3
Totals		\$5.9		\$6.2		\$10.2

Appendix A

**Vegetation Management Program Initiatives
Accomplishments**

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Distribution Four-Year Cycle VM: Tampa Electric uses a four-year cycle for its distribution VM. This approach was approved by the Commission in Order No. PSC 2012-0303-PAA-EI, issued June 12, 2012, in Docket No. 20120038-EI. The four-year cycle is flexible enough to allow the company to change circuit prioritization utilizing the company's reliability-based methodology. Table VM.1 below shows the number of Distribution Four-Year Cycle VM miles completed in 2025:

Table VM.1 – 2025 Distribution Four-Year Cycle

2025 Distribution Vegetation Management Four-Year Cycle (Miles Trimmed)								
4th Cycle, Year 1								
	Company Service Area							
	CSA	DCA	ESA	PCA	SHA	WSA	WHA	Total
4-Year VM Miles Goal	248.8	91.6	208.3	297.0	176.0	265.9	225.6	1,513.2
4-Year VM Miles Actual	246.7	93.0	185.0	326.1	209.7	257.9	229.3	1,547.7

Supplemental Distribution Circuit VM: Tampa Electric initiated 500 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.2 below shows the number of miles of Supplemental Distribution VM by Service Area that was conducted in 2025:

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Table VM.2 – 2025 Supplemental Distribution Circuit VM

2025 Supplemental Vegetation Management (Miles Trimmed)								
	Company Service Area							
	CSA	DCA	ESA	PCA	SHA	WSA	WHA	Total
Supplemental Miles Goal	67.0	178.0	18.0	32.0	16.0	21.0	186.0	518.0
Supplemental Miles Actual	61.2	184.2	12.3	21.3	13.3	23.2	177.9	493.5

Mid-Cycle Distribution VM: Tampa Electric initiated Mid-Cycle VM which is an inspection-based approach designed to identify and mitigate hazard trees and areas where vegetation cannot be controlled effectively following a four-year distribution VM cycle. In 2025, the company performed VM on 3,058 spans and removed 1,350 hazard trees as part of the Mid-Cycle Initiative. Table VM.3 shows the number of miles of Mid-Cycle Distribution VM by Service Area that was conducted in 2025.

Table VM.3 – 2025 Mid-Cycle Distribution VM

2025 Mid-Cycle Distribution Vegetation Management (Miles Inspected)								
	Company Service Area							
	CSA	DCA	ESA	PCA	SHA	WSA	WHA	Total
Mid-Cycle Inspection Miles Goal	204.0	100.0	44.0	321.0	118.0	334.0	61.0	1,182.0
Mid-Cycle Inspection Miles Actual	193.3	100.1	44.0	299.6	118.0	291.3	65.7	1,112.0

Reactive VM: Tampa Electric supports internal and external customer requests through Reactive VM. Customer requested work and work orders associated with circuit improvement process are the primary categories of reactive work and this work is tracked through the company's work management software. Each work request ("WR") is reviewed by Tampa Electric or contract staff. The WRs that require trimming

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are issued to contracted reactive crew. Table VM.4 shows the Reactive VM work requests reviewed and completed in 2025.

Table VM.4 – 2025 Reactive VM

2025 Reactive Vegetation Management (Work Requests)								
	Company Service Area							
	CSA	DCA	ESA	PCA	SHA	WSA	WHA	Total
Reactive Work Requests Reviewed	622	86	462	280	127	774	177	2,528
Reactive Work Requests Trimmed	206	29	204	125	57	259	64	944

Transmission VM: Tampa Electric trims the company’s transmission lines utilizing a comprehensive VM strategy. The company operates four categories of transmission including 230kV, 138kV, 69kV, and 34kV. For circuits with voltages above 200kV, the company complies with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) standard FAC-003-5. This standard imposes performance-based, risk-based, and competency-based requirements for VM on these circuits. Table VM.5 below shows the Transmission VM completed in 2025 compared to the annual goal:

Table VM.5 – 2025 Transmission VM

2025 Transmission Vegetation Management				
	Bulk Transmission (miles)	Non-Bulk Transmission (miles)	Right of Way Transmission (acres)	Total Transmission (miles)
Transmission VM Miles Goal	277.3	253.2	8,000	530.6
Transmission VM Miles Actual	277.3	253.2	14,030	530.6

Appendix B

Wood Pole Inspection Program

Wood Pole Inspection Program

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

- 1) Visual Inspection:** An initial visual inspection is 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 includes a review of the pole condition itself and any attachments to the pole for conditions that jeopardize reliability and need replacement, repair, or minor follow-up. After a pole passes the initial visual inspection, the balance of the required inspection methods are performed.
- 2) Sound and Bore:** After passing the visual inspection, the pole is 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 are made to determine the location and extent of internal decay or voids. All borings are plugged with preservative treated wooden dowels. After the pole has passed the sound and bore inspection, an excavation inspection is performed, if required.
- 3) Excavation:** For poles requiring excavation, the pole is excavated to a minimum depth of 18 inches below the ground line. Any external decay is removed to expose the remaining sound wood. The remaining pole strength is then calculated.

For a pole in concrete or pavement where excavation is not possible, Tampa Electric utilizes a shell boring technique. This consists of boring two 3/8-inch holes at a 60-degree angle to a depth of 16 to 18 inches below ground level.

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Upon withdrawing the drill bit, the technician examines 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 are then plugged as previously described.

Hardware Inspection: The inspector inspects all of Tampa Electric's guying, grounding provisions and hardware that is visible from the ground. Any deficiencies or problems are corrected 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 inspection collected data is managed in a database and includes information related to pole class, material, vintage, location, pole strength, and any pole deficiencies that required follow-up actions.

Inspection in Conjunction with Other Field Work: As part of day-to-day operations, operation personnel are at times required to climb poles at times, to perform different types of field work. Prior to climbing any pole, personnel will assess the condition of the pole. This includes a visual check and may also include sounding to determine pole integrity. This type of inspection supplements the systematic inspection approach 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 are treated with a preservative treatment. Poles with moderate decay that have substantial sound

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wood shall be considered for reinforcement. Further analysis is 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 a preservative treatment and. Poles with advanced decay will 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 coordinates with third-party owners of utility poles that carry the company's facilities. The company relies upon the third-party's inspection and shares 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 ("CCA") Pole Inspections: The Commission approved a modification to Tampa Electric's Wood Pole Inspection Program involving CCA poles in Order No. PSC-2008-0615-PAA-EI, issued September 23, 2008 in Docket No. 20080219-EI. 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, that are 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.

Appendix C

Transmission Inspection Program

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Transmission Circuit, Substation and Other Equipment Inspections

	2025 Planned		2025 Completed		2026 Estimated	
	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Transmission Circuit Inspections - Groundline (Poles)	19 (161)	\$29,076	11 (52)	\$2,065	13 (149)	\$20,565
Distribution Substation Inspections	524	N/A	532	N/A	532	N/A
Transmission Substation Inspections	414	N/A	336	N/A	448	N/A
Transmission Equipment Inspections (other equipment) - Ground Patrol	218	\$205,944	218	\$260,027	218	\$243,280
Transmission Equipment Inspections (other equipment) - IR Patrol	218	\$122,208	218	\$119,901	218	\$121,500

Transmission Pole Inspections

(A) Total number of transmission poles ¹	25,386
(B) Number of transmission poles strength tested ²	-
(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)	-
(G) Number of transmission poles corrected (other reasons)	-
(H) Total transmission poles replaced (Structures) - Current Year	532

Note 1: The transmission pole count is a fluid number that will change as a function of time. Standards have been set to calculate this number based off GIS 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.

Appendix D

Joint-Use Pole Attachments Audit

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In 2025, Tampa Electric reviewed all known attachment records and verified that the company has joint use agreements with all attaching entities. The company has a total of 40 attachment agreements with attaching entities and continues negotiations with others requesting permission to attach to Tampa Electric poles.

Tampa Electric had steady requests for pole attachment applications in 2025. This increase was impacted by various government funding programs available to the broadband companies. The company's Joint Use Department processed 29 pole attachment applications that encompassed 625 poles. As a result, 1 distribution pole was identified to be overloaded due to joint use attachments and 12 poles were overloaded due to Tampa Electric's attachments. Out of the 625 poles that were assessed through the pole attachment application process, there were 89 poles found to have NESC violations due to joint use attachments. Tampa Electric did not have any NESC violations for poles with 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.

Joint Use Pole Attachments Audit Summary:

- a) Percent of system audited: 100 percent
- b) Date Joint Use Pole Attachments audit conducted: 2025
- c) Date of previous Joint Use Pole Attachments audit: Total system-wide audit completed in 2020
- d) Date of next Joint Use Pole Attachments audit: January 2032
- e) List of attachment audits conducted annually: Through Tampa Electric's Pole Attachment Permit Application process, the company performed the following audits: attachment verification, NESC violation analysis and pole loading assessments through new pole attachment request.
- f) State whether pole rents are jurisdictional or non-jurisdictional. If pole rents are jurisdictional, then provide an estimate of lost revenue and describe the

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company's efforts to minimize the lost revenue: Tampa Electric does not have any non-jurisdictional distribution poles.

Joint-Use Attachment Data Table

(A) Number of company owned distribution poles	285,451
(B) Number of company distribution poles leased ⁽¹⁾	13,379
(C) Number of owned distribution pole attachments	201,306
(D) Number of leased distribution pole attachments ⁽²⁾	13,379
(E) Number of authorized attachments	305,230
(F) Number of unauthorized attachments ⁽³⁾	5,531
(G) Number of distribution poles strength tested	625
(H) Number of distribution poles passing strength test	612
(I) Number of distribution poles failing strength test (overloaded)	13
(J) Number of distribution poles failing strength test (other reasons) ⁽⁴⁾	0
(K) Number of distribution poles corrected (strength failure) ⁽⁵⁾	12
(L) Number of distribution poles corrected (other reasons) ⁽⁶⁾	0
(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	89

- Note 1: 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 2025.
 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.

Appendix E

Legacy Storm Hardening Initiatives

Legacy Storm Hardening Initiatives

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.

In 2025, Tampa Electric continued to implement changes and enhancements to the company's GIS system. These changes included updates to data, metadata, and functionality to better 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 1 or greater hurricane 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 hybrid of hired third party data collection specialists and Tampa Electric Company employees patrol the damaged areas of the company's electric system following an extreme weather 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, identify as overhead or underground, size, and likely cause of damage
- Hardware: type of damage, size, and likely cause of damage

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Tampa Electric will perform the forensic analysis 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 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 2025, there were no significant impacts from extreme weather events to Tampa Electric's service areas.

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 Energy Management System ("EMS") and Advanced Distribution Management System ("ADMS"). 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
- 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 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 continues to strengthen coordination with local governments by maintaining critical relationships and actively participates in disaster recovery committees. These efforts support collaboration across planning, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation activities. The company works closely with local agencies during blue and gray skies on vegetation management, search and rescue support, debris removal, and the identification of critical community facilities. Tampa Electric also partners with municipal and county governments, the Florida Division of Emergency Management (“FDEM”), and the Commission to plan and conduct joint training and storm preparedness exercises. In addition, Tampa Electric collaborates with cities and counties to enhance public outreach, including efforts to educate vulnerable populations on emergency preparedness.

In 2025, Tampa Electric’s Emergency Management (“EM”) department continued to prioritize strong communication and coordination with local and state government agencies across all emergency management missions. Tampa Electric actively participated in training and mock storm exercises with Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, and Polk counties, as well as the City of Tampa. Additionally, Tampa Electric conducted a series of internal exercises focused on enhancing emergency response plans and implementing advanced technologies to strengthen coordination and communication capabilities during storm restoration efforts.

In 2025, community-focused communications included pre-hurricane season news releases distributed to all major media outlets serving Tampa Electric customers. These releases were also posted on Tampa Electric’s website. Additionally, hurricane preparedness information was featured in several major newspapers including the Tampa Bay Times, Centro (Spanish), and the Florida Sentinel Bulletin.

In partnership with community stakeholders, Tampa Electric continued to promote its storm restoration video, Florida’s Special Needs Registration, and resources that help customers identify flood and evacuation zones. These resources were highlighted

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through bill inserts and within the Storm Center section on the company's website, which was also enhanced with customer input for usability.

Emergency Operations Centers ("EOC"): In 2025, there were no named storms that required county and municipal agencies to activate their EOC; therefore, no Tampa Electric resources were activated.

Tampa Electric continues to collaborate with local, state, and federal agencies to improve information sharing and apply lessons learned, enabling safe and timely restoration of electric service. Prior to June 1st of each year, the company reviews and updates its Emergency Response Plan to ensure its representatives are fully prepared to support EOC activation.

Staffing Practices at Local EOCs: Tampa Electric assigns representatives to each of the four County EOCs within the company's service area, Hillsborough, Pasco (Dade City), Pinellas, and Polk counties. Based on the scale of an incident and upon request, the company may also provide representatives to four additional municipalities (Cities of Oldsmar, Plant City, Temple Terrace, and Tampa).

The number of liaisons deployed depends on several factors, such as EOC seating capacity, extent of damage, operating hours, and available personnel. Additionally, Tampa Electric assigns representatives to the State of Florida EOC to assist state agencies and the Commission for power restoration efforts.

Company representatives assigned to staff at the EOCs possess strong business acumen and experience in customer service and/or electric distribution. Because serving as an EOC representative is not part of their routine daily responsibilities, the company aims, when possible, to maintain a balanced mix of experienced and less experienced representatives during both day and night operations. EOC representatives are cross-trained to address both electric and gas-related issues.

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Staffing at the EOCs is determined by the operational periods established by each EOC and the severity of the event. Depending on conditions, EOCs may require company representatives to report before the onset of tropical-storm force winds and remain on-site to ride-out the storm alongside other Emergency Support Function (“ESF”) personnel.

Initially, EOCs may operate 24 hours per day at their discretion until the situation stabilizes. To support continuous operations, company staffing typically follows two 12-hour shifts aligned with the EOCs schedule, though this may vary. Staffing hours and schedules may be adjusted, based on EOC requirements and resource availability, to effectively support emergency response efforts.

The table below indicates the total number of company representatives identified to support EOC activation; it does not reflect how many representatives are on-site at any given time.

Utility staffing practices at local EOCs

EOC in Service Territory	Number of Utility Staff
Hillsborough County	6
Polk County	4
City of Plant City	3
City of Tampa	3
City of Temple Terrace	3
Pasco County	3
City of Oldsmar	2
Pinellas County	2

The company’s EOC representative plays a key role in supporting life safety and power restoration efforts by addressing critical community issues. They are responsible for maintaining situational awareness and promptly communicating any public safety concerns to the company. Additionally, the representatives collaborate closely with

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other ESF liaisons to coordinate and facilitate requests from the company, or in support of the community. They leverage all available “lifelines” to respond effectively to requests originating from the EOC or company personnel. The EOC representative also provides outage updates and communicates restoration status, as needed.

The company assigns representatives to each county and municipal EOCs within its service area, making it highly unlikely that an EOC would go unstaffed. In the rare event that a representative is unavailable, local EOCs have contact information for their assigned representative as well as the company’s emergency management personnel, who can be reached for support. Additionally, the company’s Regional Affairs team maintains strong relationships within the communities it serves and is available to assist, as needed.

Assistance to Local Government: In 2025, there were no named storms that required support for search and rescue or debris clearing coordination activities; therefore, Tampa Electric resources were not activated.

Tree Ordinances, Planting Guides and Trip Procedures: For 2025, Tampa Electric continued its efforts toward effective VM 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 VM activities, upcoming projects, and emergency recovery strategies. Tampa Electric’s Regional Affairs Department is tasked with communicating with local and state government officials as well as residential and commercial customers on several topics, including vegetation management. The company’s goal is to keep governmental officials aware and informed 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.

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Utility's Coordination of Critical Facilities with local governments: Tampa Electric collaborates with City and County emergency management officials and other stakeholders to identify and prioritize facilities considered essential to the overall wellbeing of the community, including those critical to public health, safety, security, and the national or global economy. Communication with emergency management officials is maintained on a regular basis through email, in-person meetings, and phone calls, with key contact details verified each year.

The identification of public and private critical facilities during planning with emergency management officials and key stakeholders supports a coordinated and adaptable restoration process for all critical infrastructure. This effort is closely tied to business continuity and continuity of the government. Critical facilities within municipalities are identified and incorporated into the respective county datasets.

Collaborative Research: Tampa Electric continues to participate in collaborative research efforts with Florida's other investor-owned electric utilities, several municipal utilities, 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 be extended for successive two-year terms on an evergreen basis until the utilities and PURC agree to terminate the agreement. The 2025 PURC Collaborative Research Report has been provided in Appendix E.

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

Tampa Electric will remain actively engaged in ongoing efforts to support system restoration before, during, and after storm events. The company will continue to lead and contribute to disaster preparedness and recovery initiatives, including planning, training, and collaboration with other electric utilities and local governments, to continuously strengthen its ability to respond quickly and efficiently in any restoration scenario.

Tampa Electric reviews its emergency management plans each year to ensure they address all hazards, including extreme weather. The company adheres to Tampa Electric's Emergency Management and Business Continuity policy, which defines roles and responsibilities at the employee, organizational, and community levels. Further information on Tampa Electric's storm season preparedness can be found in Appendix G.

Tampa Electric will continue to plan, participate in, and conduct both internal and external preparedness exercises in collaboration with local, state, and federal emergency management agencies and other key stakeholders. Internal exercises are designed to evaluate lessons learned from previous exercises or activations, test plans, and new procedures, and educate team members, particularly those new to their roles, on responsibilities related to incident command, operations, logistics, planning, and finance. The scope and format of these internal exercises vary annually based on

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objectives defined by a cross-functional exercise design team in alignment with the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (“HSEEP”).

External preparedness exercises are organized by government emergency management agencies and their partners at various levels. Tampa Electric personnel participate in these exercises to assess the effectiveness of the company’s internal emergency response plans, including coordination with ESF and maintaining critical relationships within local EOCs. As with internal efforts, the type (tabletop, functional or full-scale) and scope of external exercises vary each year. Participation by Tampa Electric personnel depends on the specific objectives of the agencies leading each exercise.

When requested, Tampa Electric participates in the State of Florida’s mock storm exercise with the Commission, which may align with exercises conducted by Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, and Polk counties. Additionally, municipalities within Tampa Electric’s service area, including Oldsmar, Plant City, Tampa, and Temple Terrace, may conduct their own exercises and/or pre-storm season briefings. In 2025, Tampa Electric took part in training sessions and mock storm exercises with Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, and Polk counties, as well as the City of Tampa.

Additionally, Tampa Electric actively participated in the following disaster preparedness and recovery plan committees, engaging in comprehensive coordination with local, state, and federal emergency management agencies and external partners:

- 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

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- Member of the Electric Subsector Coordinating Council (“ESCC”) Leadership Working Group
- Member of Forward Planning Task Force
- Member of Infrastructure Branch Working Groups
- Member of Local Mitigation Strategy (“LMS”) Working Groups
- 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
- Member of the SEE Vegetation Management Working Group
- Member of the Tactical Search and Rescue (TSAR) Working Group
- Member of the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association (“FEPA”)
- 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 will continue to play a leadership role in county and national preparedness groups in 2026, including Hillsborough County and the City of Tampa’s Post Disaster Redevelopment Planning (“PDRP”), EEI, FEPA, ESCC, the NFPA 1660 Committee on Emergency, Continuity, and Crisis Management, and the NFPA Technical Committee. Additionally, Tampa Electric will remain actively engaged in Local Mitigation Strategy (“LMS”), Infrastructure Branch Working Groups, Forward Planning Task Force, SEE’s Mutual Assistance Committee, Logistics Subcommittee, Vegetation Management Working Group, the EEI Mutual Assistance Committee, Florida Statewide MAA Working Group, and various Critical Facility working groups.

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The company will also continue expanding its online presence by growing its website traffic and increasing engagement across social media platforms.

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.

Appendix F

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 May 2026

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 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 2025.

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 Texas, 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 2024, 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, most notably in Texas and California. In the wake of Hurricane Beryl's impact on Texas, the Texas PUC discussed the applicability of Florida's hardening processes to Texas in a July meeting. The Eaton fire in California also renewed the state's interest in Florida's infrastructure hardening processes. While there was continued contact with many of these stakeholders in 2025, PURC has not identified any new potential partners.

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.

Appendix G

Storm Season Readiness

Storm Season Readiness

Tampa Electric's Storm Season Readiness preparation focuses on a number of areas including pre-storm transmission inspections and maintenance, wood pole inspections and replacements, local government communication, increased equipment inventory, circuit priority reviews, and hurricane preparation exercises.

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 2026.

For 2026, Tampa Electric plans to change out approximately 420 wood transmission poles throughout the year with steel or concrete structures.

Pole Inspections: In 2025, Tampa Electric continued the ground line inspections by completing 38,951 inspections to ensure the company remains on pace for completing the eight-year inspection cycle.

For 2026, future inspections coupled with the company's pole replacement program will enhance the storm resiliency of Tampa Electric's transmission and distribution system.

Communication with Local Governments: For 2026, Tampa Electric will continue its outreach by maintaining key government relationships and actively participating in established disaster recovery planning committees. The company also intends to take part in joint storm exercises as requested, coordinating with agencies such as the State EOC, the Commission, and the counties of Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, and Polk, along with multiple municipalities across its service area.

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Increase Equipment Inventory: The company will review and increase storm stock in 2026 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 after landfall and it will replenish required stock for the duration of a major restoration event.

Circuit Priority Review: Tampa Electric will continue working with county and municipal agencies in 2026, reviewing and updating the restoration priorities for the community critical facilities served by the company.

Hurricane Preparedness Exercises: Prior to hurricane season, Tampa Electric's Emergency Management department reviews all employees' storm assignments and communicates roles and expectations. Meetings, training, and exercises are held at various locations. Additionally, employee preparedness will be emphasized prior to storm season through Tampa Electric's GetReady! training program, materials, and presentations.

Tampa Electric recently conducted its annual mock storm exercise. The scenario simulated a major Category 3 hurricane, featuring significant winds, storm surge, and heavy rainfall. Lessons learned from previous storms are incorporated into the mock exercise.

The exercise was designed to functionally test the black-sky capabilities of the company's new Energy Control Center, along with several updated processes, including incident command and control, resource coordination, logistics support, and situational awareness. Feedback from exercise participants is currently being compiled and will be incorporated into an After-Action Report and Improvement Plan.

Hurricane Restoration Preparedness: Tampa Electric annually reviews sites for incident bases, base camps and staging sites which ensure primary and backup locations for restoration activities. Additionally, logistical needs and equipment requirements are reviewed

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for each incident base site. Throughout Tampa Electric's service area, the company is constantly developing and maintaining relationships with property owners for potential incident bases, base camps, and staging sites. Tampa Electric also annually reviews existing purchase orders and contacts vendors who 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 Tampa Electric during restoration.

Contingency Planning and Response

Roadway Congestion: If roadway congestion affects the travel of external crews into Tampa Electric's service area, the company will gather information from multiple sources to identify alternative routes. If congestion is widespread and no viable alternatives exist, the company will coordinate through its representatives at local EOCs or the State of Florida EOC, based on the congestion's location, nature, and severity. Company representatives will then communicate the situation to law enforcement or the appropriate ESF personnel to request assistance.

Fuel: Tampa Electric maintains an agreement with a bulk fuel vendor to provide diesel and gasoline on a daily or as-needed basis during storm events. The company also supports deployed equipment through mobile fueling services.

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

During storm conditions: The bulk fuel vendor will keep the on-site storage tanks fully supplied, as needed. Tampa Electric's vendor typically sources fuel from Port Tampa Bay; however, if the port is unable to provide fuel, the vendor can obtain supply from multiple fuel storage depots throughout the continental United States.

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The mobile fuel vendor can supply 500-gallon bulk fuel tanks to incident bases as required. The vendor will also support the company by assisting with fueling operations after hours at each incident base, ensuring that all Tampa Electric crews and any external or contracted crews involved in storm restoration efforts are serviced daily.

Lodging Accommodations: Lodging accommodations are secured when Tampa Electric's Electric Delivery leadership determines that it is necessary to bring external ("foreign crew") resources into the service area to support power restoration. The number of accommodations required is based on the projected severity of the storm, including factors such as storm strength, surge, and anticipated path. The company's Electric Delivery department evaluates potential damage and expected customer outages to estimate the number of foreign crews needed for restoration.

Once a decision is made to request outside support, the Logistics Section Chief activates the Lodging unit to begin arranging hotel rooms and/or alternative housing. Tampa Electric's Real Estate department, in coordination with the Logistics Section, maintains a list of preferred hotels for mutual assistance crew lodging, subject to availability. In addition, the Lodging unit utilizes a third-party hotel booking service to assist with securing accommodations for incoming resources. Standard practice is to assign two individuals per room, with arrangements made for either pre-storm or post-storm occupancy, as needed.

To supplement lodging capacity, Tampa Electric maintains contracts with base camp vendors that can provide comprehensive support services, including lodging, meals, and laundry, when hotel availability is limited or when large-scale mutual assistance is required.

Communications: Tampa Electric continues to evaluate alternative communication methods to ensure connectivity if public systems, such as cellular, satellite and landlines, are disrupted by extreme weather. Currently, the company maintains both fixed and portable satellite phone

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capabilities, and key personnel have Government Emergency Telecommunications Service (“GETS”) and Wireless Priority Service (“WPS”).

In addition to carrier-based solutions, Tampa Electric has procured a third-party portable long-range cellular solution that leverages multiple carriers to enhance reliability. The company also utilizes Starlink terminals to provide satellite-based Wi-Fi connectivity. Furthermore, amateur radio (“HAM”) capabilities are in place as a back-up communication method. Communication drills are conducted periodically with EOCs in Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, and Polk counties, as well as the City of Tampa.

2025 Storm Season Mutual Assistance: Tampa Electric’s EM 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 efficiently to speed restoration efforts. In 2025, 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.

In 2025, Tampa Electric 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.

In 2025, Tampa Electric offered mutual assistance to other utilities impacted by storm events. Our resources were not selected to deploy for mutual assistance, however, Tampa Electric identified lessons learned from previous mutual assistance engagements 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 2025 included:

- Additional training on SEE ramp-up procedures to help support volunteers in the absence of EM

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- To help provide resilience to the process, identify three key team members (EM, Resource Management, and service managers) to be trained in relevant SEE processes

2026 Storm Season Readiness

For 2026, the company's Emergency Response Plan will be reviewed ahead of hurricane season to confirm it is current and fully prepared for the upcoming storm season. Additionally, emergency assignments will be evaluated to ensure all Tampa Electric employees are assigned at least one role supporting storm restoration efforts. Tampa Electric will leverage preparedness resources such as an emergency notification system, third-party weather tools and services, and resilience management solutions, as well as internal and external training, and exercises to evaluate readiness. The company also participates in the following initiatives to further strengthen its company 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 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 SEE Vegetation Management Working Group
- Participate in the EEI Mutual Assistance Committee
- Participate in Integrated Preparedness Planning for training and exercises
- Participate in Hillsborough County Forward Planning Task Force
- Participate in County Recovery team planning
- Support of Hillsborough County in communicating the national flood insurance program to county residents

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- 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 briefings and exercises
- Attend annual FEPA meeting and/or hurricane conferences
- Conduct all-hazards internal preparedness exercises and training sessions using the company ICS model to test plans