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DIVISION OF ECONOMIC REGULATION
(850) 413-6900

Public Service Commission

June 23, 2010

Ms. Paula K. Brown
Tampa Electric Company
P.O. Box 111
Tampa, Fl 33601-0111

Re: Docket No. 100263-EI, Tampa Electric Company's updated 2010-2012 Storm Hardening Plan

Dear Ms. Brown:

The staff is in the process of reviewing the company's updated 2010-2012 Storm Hardening Plan, and our review has generated some questions for which we ask that PEF provide responses.

We ask that you please provide your responses to the attached data request by July 12, 2010. If there are any questions, please contact me at (850) 413-6980.

Sincerely,

Melissa L'Amoreaux
Engineering Specialist, Cost Analysis Section

ML:ML

Attachment

cc: Office of the General Counsel (Bennett)
Office of Commission Clerk (Docket No. 100263-EI)

For the following questions, please refer to the 2010-2012 Storm Hardening Plan filed May 3, 2010.

1. How does TECO determine the amount of feeder and lateral miles the company must trim in a given year if there is an increase or decrease in feeder or lateral miles within a given year?

2. On page 15 of the updated storm hardening plan, TECO states that customer-owned electrical panels are not waterproof and will likely be severely impacted by saltwater intrusion.

    a. Why are these panels particularly vulnerable?

    b. Where are these electrical panels located?

3. On page 19, TECO states that prior to 1991, wood poles, aluminum and lattice steel structures were used for transmission structures.

    a. How many transmission structures of these material types does TECO still have in use?

    b. How many of TECO's transmission structures are pre-stressed spun concrete, tubular steel, or a composite?

    c. Please clarify the materials used for a "composite pole structure."

4. Please describe the two methodologies used to analyze pole strength as indicated on page 20, section 6.1.3.3.

5. Please refer to page 20, section 6.1.3.3 for the following questions.

    a. Why does TECO believe it is appropriate to continue applying EWL standards that exceed NESC requirements for transmission facilities?

    b. Is this more cost-effective then applying the basic NESC requirement?

    c. If the response to (b) is negative, please explain the company's rationale to continue applying EWL standards that exceed NESC requirements.

6. On page 23, TECO states that recently the company's design standard has been increased to 150 mph for control buildings to better withstand wind. Please clarify when this change was made and if this is a change to the previously approved plan.

7. Please refer to section 7 of the updated storm hardening plan.

   a. The company stated that construction of 45 miles of 230kV and 36 miles of 69kV lines had a completion date of 2010 but have been deferred beyond the time frame of this plan. Please clarify when these projects will be completed.

   b. Besides the deferred projects stated above, has TECO's deployment strategy for transmission or distribution changed from the approved storm hardening plan? If so, please state where these changes were made and how it affects the costs to enhance system reliability.

   c. Please explain why the majority of new distribution facilities are placed underground.

   d. Please clarify the types of locations TECO plans to convert from fuses or ground switch protection, to circuit switchers over the next three years.