

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Item 2

VOTE SHEET

March 1, 2022

FILED 3/1/2022
DOCUMENT NO. 01524-2022
FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

Docket No. 20210138-PU – Proposed adoption of Rule 25-18.020, F.A.C., Pole Safety, Inspection, Maintenance, and Vegetation Management.

Issue 1: Should the Commission propose the adoption of Rule 25-18.020, F.A.C., Pole Safety, Inspection, Maintenance, and Vegetation Management?

Recommendation: Yes, the Commission should propose the adoption of Rule 25-18.020, F.A.C., Pole Safety, Inspection, Maintenance, and Vegetation Management, as set forth in Attachment A of staff's memorandum dated February 17, 2022. Also, the Commission should certify that Rule 25-18.020, F.A.C., is not a minor violation rule.

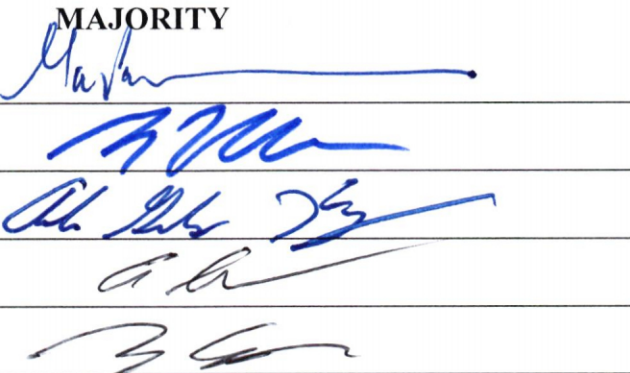
APPROVED as modified in Commission staff's handout, attached hereto.

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: All Commissioners

COMMISSIONERS' SIGNATURES

MAJORITY

DISSENTING



REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

Vote Sheet

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Issue 2: Should this docket be closed?

Recommendation: Yes. If no requests for hearing or Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC) comments are filed, this rule should be filed with the Department of State, and the docket should be closed.

APPROVED

1. Page 12, line 25, modify existing language as follows:

5. The number of poles strength tested and the methods used to ensure compliance with the NESC strength requirements;

2. Page 12, lines 8 and 9, accept FPL's proposed language.

3. Page 13, lines 16 and 17, strike all lines.

Note: staff recommends no other changes.

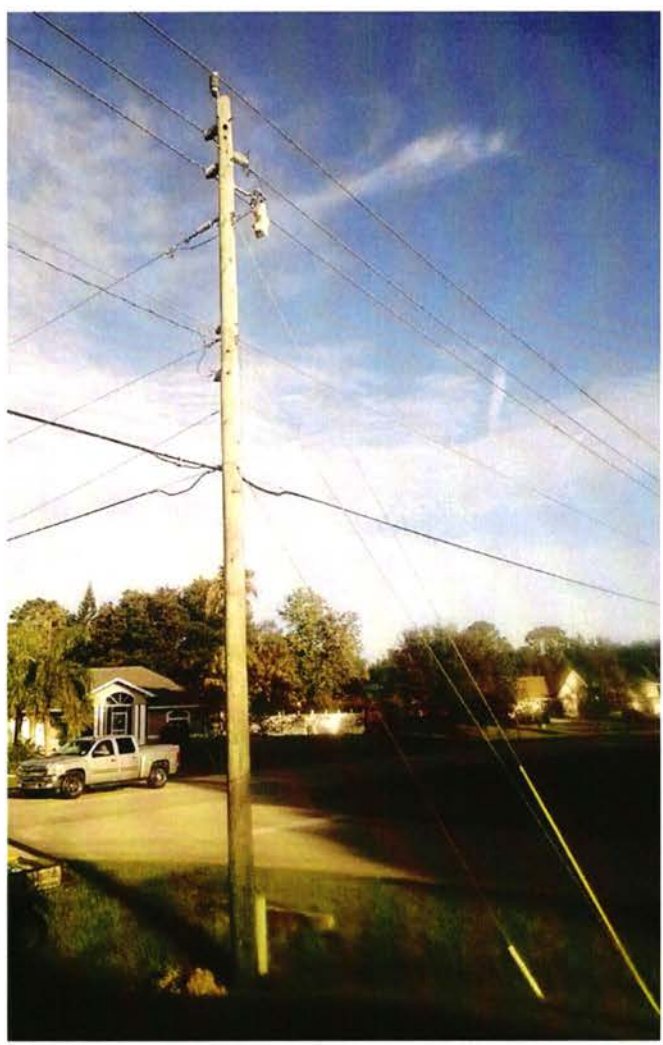
Parties/Staff Handout
Internal Affairs/Agenda
on 3 / 1 / 22
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FPL Pole Inspections – Problem Identification by Inspection Type

<i>Pole Inspection Data by Year</i>	2018	2019	2020	2021	Percentage of Problem Poles Identified, 2018-2021
<i>Total Distribution Poles Inspected</i>	156,010	149,783	145,250	151,114	
Total Problem Poles Identified	3,940	2,983	3,940	3,811	
Identified by Visual Inspection	86	114	154	113	1.8%
Identified by Other Inspection Types	6,736	5,313	6,533	6,736	98.2%

In FPL's experience, visual inspections identify less than 2% of problem poles.

EXAMPLES OF POLES THAT PASSED VISUAL INSPECTIONS BUT FAILED EXCAVATION INSPECTIONS



1 25-18.020 Pole Safety, Inspection, Maintenance, and Vegetation Management.

2 (1) This rule applies to all communications services providers as defined in Section
3 366.02(5), F.S., that own poles as defined in Section 366.02(6), F.S. This rule does not apply
4 to poles used solely to support wireless communications service facilities or poles with no
5 public utility electrical overhead facilities attached. For the purposes of this rule, “overhead
6 facilities” are defined as fixtures, conductors, wires, cables, and other devices owned by public
7 utilities that are attached to poles owned by a communications services provider.

8 (2) Safety, Inspection, and Maintenance Standards. Each communications services
9 provider must exercise due care to reduce hazards to which its employees, customers, and the
10 public may be subjected by reason of its poles. Accordingly, all poles of communications
11 services providers subject to the Commission’s jurisdiction under Section 366.04(9), F.S.,
12 must be constructed, installed, maintained, relocated, and inspected in accordance with the
13 National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) which is incorporated by reference in Rule 25-
14 6.0345, F.A.C.

15 (3) Inspection, Repair, and Replacement of Poles. Each communications services provider
16 must conduct inspections of its poles at least every eight (8) years to ensure adherence to the
17 strength and clearance standards of the NESC. Inspections must include visual checks to
18 determine compliance with the strength and clearance standards of the NESC. **Wood poles**
19 **that pass visual checks must be further assessed with additional inspections including below**
20 **ground sound-and-bore testing and circumference strength assessments, unless ground**
21 **conditions do not permit excavation.** Poles not in compliance with NESC standards must be
22 repaired or replaced to meet those standards.

23 (4) Vegetation Management of Poles. Each communications services provider must ensure
24 that the vegetation management of its poles meets the standards set forth in Part 2 of the
25 NESC.

1 (5) Emergency Response and Storm Restoration Procedures and Protocols. Within six
2 months of the effective date of this Rule, each communications services provider must provide
3 a copy of its emergency response and storm restoration procedures and protocols to the
4 Division of Engineering.

5 (a) The procedures and protocols must include the following:

6 1. A description of the communications services provider's procedures and protocols for
7 communicating with federal, state, and local emergency operations officials;

8 2. A description of how the public can contact the communication services provider to
9 report issues with its poles, such as broken poles, downed overhead facilities, or obstructive
10 vegetation; and

11 3. A description of how the communication services provider's ~~procedures to repair and~~
12 ~~replace damaged poles and overhead facilities, including protocols for~~ coordinatinges with
13 public utilities, ~~regarding through~~ emergency response ~~or~~ ~~and storm~~ restoration efforts.

14 (b) If the communication services provider makes changes to its emergency response and
15 storm restoration procedures and protocols, the communication services provider must file the
16 updated emergency response and storm restoration procedures and protocols with the Division
17 of Engineering within 30 days of the change.

18 (c) Every three calendar years after the initial submission, each communication services
19 provider must notify the Division of Engineering in writing that it has reviewed its emergency
20 response and storm restoration procedures and protocols.

21 (6) Reporting Requirements. By June 1 of each year, each communications services
22 provider must file with the Commission Clerk an Annual Report.

23 (a) The Annual Report must include the following information for the prior calendar year:

24 1. The number of poles owned in whole or in part by the communications services
25 provider at the beginning and at the end of the calendar year;