

**CITY OF STARKE**  
**Report to the Florida Public Service Commission Pursuant to**  
**Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C.**  
**Calendar Year 2015**

**1) Introduction**

- a) City of Starke
- b) PO Drawer C, Starke, FL 32091
- c) Tom Ernharth, City Manager, Phone # 904-368-1330, Fax # 904-966-0584  
ternharth@cityofstarke.org

**2) Number of meters served in calendar year 2015**

2788 meters

**3) Standards of Construction**

**a) National Electric Safety Code Compliance**

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at the City of Starke comply with the National Electrical Safety Code (ANSI C-2) [NESC]. For electrical facilities constructed on or after February 1, 2007, the 2007 NESC applies. Electrical facilities constructed prior to February 1, 2007, are governed by the edition of the NESC in effect at the time of the facility's initial construction

**b) Extreme Wind Loading Standards**

The City of Starke participates in the Public Utility Research Centers (PURC) granular wind research study through the Florida Municipal Electric Association. We will consider the NESC standard.

**c) Flooding and Storm Surges**

Flooding and storm surges are not applicable. The City of Starke is an inland community with the nearest coastline being 60 miles away.

**d) Safe and Efficient Access of New and Replacement Distribution Facilities**

Every new electrical construction and replacement distribution facilities located in the City of Starke are constructed along highway/road of ways or on easy accessible easements. All residential subdivisions electrical construction is constructed on the front right of ways. We do not allow rear lot construction.

**e) Attachments by Others**

This issue is being studied.

**4. Facility Inspections**

- a) **Describe the utility's policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures for inspecting transmission and distribution lines, poles, and structures including, but not limited to, pole inspection cycles and pole selection process.**

The City of Starke is still in the process of having our poles GIS mapped. To date we have had approximately 1/3 of our poles mapped and inspected which consisted of inspecting the poles at above ground surface. Poles are always replaced as needed on a visual basis

- b) **Describe the number and percentage of transmission and distribution inspections planned and completed for 2015.**

Approximately 1/3 (1191) of our poles were inspected

- c) **Describe the number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles failing inspection in 2015 and the reason for the failure.**

In the 2015 pole inspection report a total of 3 distribution poles or .107 were found to be rotten.

- d) **Describe the number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles, by pole type and class of structure, replaced or for which remediation was taken after inspection in 2015, including a description of the remediation taken.**

Class 2, 35 ft. - 1 poles failed (0.027)

Class 2, 40 ft. - 2 poles failed (0.055)

## **5. Vegetation Management**

- a) **Describe the utility's policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures for vegetation management, including programs addressing appropriate planting, landscaping, and problem tree removal practices for vegetation management outside of road right-of-ways or easements, and an explanation as to why the utility believes its vegetation management practices are sufficient.**

The City of Starke trims their own trees upon visual inspection. We trim 33% of our electrical distribution system annually.

- b) **Describe the quantity, level, and scope of vegetation management planned and completed for transmission and distribution facilities in 2015.**

The City of Starke trims distribution lines throughout the year as needed and when applicable removes dead or decayed trees. Trees that are not on our right of way and present a concern or safety issues are addresses with the property owner. The Public

Utility Research Center has held two vegetation management workshops in 2007 and 2009. Through FMEA, City of Starke has a copy of their reports and will use the information to continually improve vegetation management practices. We will participate in future best-practice workshops if there is interest.

## **6. Storm Hardening Research**

The City of Starke is a member of the Florida Municipal Electric Association (FMEA), which is participating with all of Florida's electric utilities in storm hardening research through the Public Utility Research Center at the University of Florida. Under separate cover, FMEA is providing the FPSC with a report of research activities. For further information, contact Barry Moline, Executive Director, FMEA, 850-224-3314, ext.1, or [bmoline@publicpower.com](mailto:bmoline@publicpower.com).