

West Florida Electric

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



The power of human connections

**West Florida Electric Cooperative Association, Inc.
Report to the Florida Public Service Commission Pursuant to Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C.**

Calendar Year 2024

To whom it may concern,

The following pages of this report accurately represent West Florida Electric Cooperative data pursuant to Rule 25-6.0343 for Calendar Year 2024.

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- 1) **West Florida Electric Cooperative Association, Inc. (WFECA)** is a non-profit Touchstone Energy® Cooperative owned by its members and locally operated. WFECA serves approximately 29,928 active meters, providing dependable electricity and other services at competitive prices in Calhoun, Holmes, Jackson and Washington Counties in Northwest Florida.

Established in 1937, WFECA is headquartered at 5282 Peanut Road in Graceville, Florida, and maintains district offices in Bonifay and Sneads. WFECA's service area is divided into nine (9) districts, each represented by a member-elected trustee

WFECA receives wholesale power from Power South Energy Cooperative (PSEC), a generation and transmission cooperative, based in Andalusia, Alabama. PSEC is wholly owned by WFECA and the 19 other distribution cooperatives and municipalities it serves in Alabama and in Northwest Florida. Two (2) WFECA delegates, along with representatives from PSEC's other member systems, participate in the management of PSEC's policies, rules and regulations and the establishment of rates, terms and conditions affecting the wholesale power supply.

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- 2) The number of meters served in December 2024 was 29,928

- 3) Standards of Construction:

- a) National Electric Safety Code Compliance:

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at WFECA comply with the National Electrical Safety Code (ANSI-C2) current edition, USDA RUS Bulletin 1728F-803 Specifications and Drawings for 24.9/14.4 Line Construction and USDA RUS Bulletin 1728-806 Specifications and Drawings for Underground Electric Distribution. Ten (10) percent of all construction is randomly sampled and inspected by a third-party engineering consulting firm. Results of inspections are reported to the USDA Rural

Utilities Service and to WFEC's Staff Engineer; Also, FPSC staff randomly samples and inspects a portion of construction. In both cases, corrections, if any, are made and the Staff Engineer provides feedback to construction crews and staking technicians to ensure Compliance.

b) Extreme Wind Loading Standards:

WFEC complies with the current edition of the NESC particularly 250c Extreme Wind Loading (with Figure 252-2(d) and 250d Extreme Ice with Concurrent Wind Loading.

c) Flooding and Storm Surges:

WFEC is a non-coastal utility; therefore, storm surge is not an issue. Some areas in WFEC's territory are subject to flooding, however, past flooding had little effect on the system. In these areas, line design is modified to compensate for known flooding conditions.

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

Electrical construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at WFEC provide for placement of new and replacement distribution facilities so as to facilitate safe and efficient access for installation and maintenance. Wherever new facilities are placed (i.e., front, back or side of property), all facilities are installed so that WFEC's facilities are accessible by its crews and vehicles to ensure proper maintenance/repair is performed as expeditiously and safely as possible. WFEC decides on a case-by-case basis whether existing facilities need to be relocated. If it is determined that facilities need to be relocated, they will be placed in the safest, most accessible area available. All underground facilities are designed with loop feeds. Safety is determined by NESC (current edition) guidelines and common sense.

e) Attachments by Others:

Electrical construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices and procedures at WFEC include written safety, pole reliability, pole loading capacity, and engineering standards and procedures for attachments by others to the utility's distribution poles. Quarterly pole line inspections are done for newly constructed jobs. The inspections encompass all pole line construction criteria. General inspections are currently performed on an eight (8) year cycle.

4) Facility Inspections:

- a) A WFEC utilizes RUS Bulletin 1730B-121 as its guideline for a continuing program of pole maintenance and inspection. Prior to Hurricane Michael, WFEC inspected 7% of its system. Out of the 7% inspected, 5% required maintenance or replacement.

- b) WFEC suspended its pole inspection program in 2024. WFEC intends to restart the program in 2025.

5) Vegetation Management

- a) WFEC has a vegetation management program which encompasses ground to sky side trimming along with mechanical mowing and tree removal.
- b) During the 2024 year, WFEC mowed and side trimmed 843 miles of its distribution system. Out of that number, approximately 6% is three-phase distribution circuits with the remainder being single-phase circuits. During the 2024 year, WFEC chemically sprayed 841 miles of right of way.