

**City of Clewiston**  
**Storm Hardening Report to the Florida Public Service**  
**Commission Pursuant to Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C.**  
**Calendar Year 2012**

**1) Introduction**

- a) City of Clewiston
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**2) Number of customers served in calendar year 2012**

4,167

**3) Standards of Construction**

- a) National Electric Safety Code Compliance

The City of Clewiston uses the current National Electric Safety Code as its construction standard.

- b) Extreme Wind Loading Standards

All new construction and rebuilds of existing facilities will comply with the NESC extreme wind loading standard in effect at the time of design.

- c) Flooding and Storm Surges

The City of Clewiston is an inland community sixty miles from either coast and is not subject to storm surge or it's associated flooding. In addition only a small portion of our system is in a flood zone and pad mounted transformers are elevated above the required elevation.

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

The City of Clewiston Utilities requires all new residential development to have front yard easements and road access. We also have an ordinance in place protecting our rear utility easements from fences, hedges, sheds and trees. Where practical rebuilds will relocate rear services to the front and underground the service. Commercial applications require truck access to the facility.

e) Attachments by Others

We do not have a standard guideline for pole attachments at the City of Clewiston, however all attachments are reviewed by our Engineer and since all new construction is required to be underground we have had no new pole attachments in over eleven years. The only two entities that attach to our poles, Century Link and Comcast, have been reducing the number of pole attachments and moving to underground installations for the last several years, we expect this trend to continue.

**4. Facility Inspections**

a) Policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures for inspecting transmission and distribution lines, poles, and structures.

We have contracted with Osmose to perform our pole inspections, which are sound and bore with strength calculations and due to our small size we have completed our entire system in four years but operate on an eight year cycle. We conduct infrared inspections of our entire distribution system on a three to four year cycle and perform spot checks for problem areas with our in house Level II certified inspector.

b) Number and percentage of transmission and distribution inspections planned and completed for 2012

No poles were inspected in 2012 because we completed our entire system inspection in four years. We will begin our inspections again in 2014 to maintain an eight year pole cycle.

c) Number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles failing inspection and the reason for the failure.

NA

d) 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, including a description of the remediation taken.

The pole inspection was completed in the fourth quarter of 2010, all of our transmission poles are concrete. We have completed all of our pole inspections in 4 years and will use the remaining 3years in our cycle to repair or replace the reject poles. In 2012, we replaced 26 – 40 foot wood distribution poles in our system.

**5. Vegetation Management**

a) 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.

We have a City ordinance that prevents any hedges or trees from being planted in the easements, any tree that is in the easement that has grown to reach the power lines is completely removed. Our feeders are trimmed annually and our laterals are trimmed as needed or as requested by our customers. All customer generated trimming requests are tracked via work orders. We have no management plan outside of road right of ways or easements, this is a private property issue, however we work with willing homeowners to remove problem trees on private property.

- b) Quantity, level, and scope of vegetation management planned and completed for transmission and distribution facilities.

The Public Utility Research Center has held two vegetation management workshops in 2007 and 2009. Through FMEA, the City of Clewiston 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 as there is interest.

All transmission and feeder distribution facilities were checked and trimmed in 2012 as they are every year. We also completed 46 customer requests for tree trimming.

## **6. Storm Hardening Research**

The City of Clewiston 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).