

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

1) Introduction

Escambia River Electric Cooperative is located in Santa Rosa County and serves the Northern parts of Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. EREC serves approximately 10,052 meters with approximately 1,484 miles of distribution line and no transmission lines or structures. EREC owns all of the distribution, which operates at 12,470 V, and our generation and transmission partner owns all of the transmission and substations that are used to serve our customers.

Contact Information

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2) Number of meters served in the calendar year 2011

Escambia River Electric Cooperative served 10,052 meters in 2011.

3) Standards of Construction

a. National Electric Safety Code Compliance

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at Escambia River Electric Cooperative comply with the National Electrical Safety Code (ANSI C-2) [NESC]. For electrical facilities constructed on or after February 1, 2012, the 2012 NESC applies. Electrical facilities constructed prior to February 1, 2012, are governed by the edition of NESC in effect at the time of the facility's initial construction.

b. Extreme Wind Loading Standards

Construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at Escambia River Electric Cooperative are guided by the extreme wind loading standards specified by Figure 250-2(d) of the 2002 edition of the NESC for major planned work, including expansion, rebuild, or relocation of existing facilities, assigned on or after December 10, 2006.

c. Flooding and Storm Surges

Escambia River Electric Cooperative is a non-coastal utility, therefore, storm surge is not an issue.

d. Safe and Efficient Access of New and Replacement Distribution Facilities

Electrical construction standards, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures at Escambia River Electric Cooperative 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 Escambia River Electric Cooperative's facilities are accessible by its crews and vehicles to ensure proper maintenance/repair is performed as expeditiously and safely as possible. Escambia River Electric Cooperative 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.

e. Attachments by Others

The pole attachment agreements between Escambia River Electric Cooperative and third-party attachers include language which specifies that the attacher, not the cooperative, has the burden of assessing pole strength and safety, as set forth in the NESC, before they attach to the pole. Escambia River Electric Cooperative performs follow-up audits of attachments to ensure the attachment is properly installed, maintained, and meet NESC requirements for pole attachments.

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.

Escambia River Electric Cooperative inspects each distribution pole on an 8 year cycle using visual, sound and boring techniques in accordance with RUS standards. Additionally, Escambia River Electric Cooperative uses data gathered during outages to proactively identify troubled lines, poles, equipment, and right-of-way. All of the data feeds back to our pole selection process, which provides a method to determine which poles not to purchase.

b. Describe the number and percentage of transmission and distribution inspections planned and completed for 2012.

We planned for 4,211 (12.5%) of distribution poles to be inspected but 0 (0%) were inspected for the 2012 year. Escambia River Electric Cooperative does not own any transmission poles. The lack of inspections done in the 2012 year was due to improving the way inspections and ROW maintenance are done and recorded. To start the new computerized inspection management system a complete GPS inventory of EREC's field assets were needed. This GPS/inventory has been completed and EREC is committed to and currently working on inspecting the 2012 and 2013 poles now.

c. Describe the number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles failing inspection in 2011 and the reason for the failure.

Please see the note in item 4b.

d. Describe the number and percentage of transmission poles and structures and distribution poles, by type and class of structure, replaced or for which remediation was taken after inspection in 2012, including a description of the remediation taken.

Please see the note in item 4b.

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.

Escambia River Electric Cooperative uses a 5-year vegetation management cycle for all distribution lines. The primary reason for this is that the right-of-way is cleared 10 feet on both sides of the lines making a total clearance of 20 feet. While the crews are managing vegetation on a line they look for foreseeable future problems and take care of them at that time. If at anytime there is a problem tree or landscaping, Escambia River Electric Cooperative works with the home owner toward trimming, if possible, or removal, if necessary, while providing restitution if necessary for trees or landscaping that is outside the easement or right-of-ways. In all cases our current policy is providing the necessary vegetation management needed to reduce outages due to vegetation.

b. Describe the quantity, level, and scope of vegetation management planned and completed for transmission and distribution facilities in 2011.

As described in question 5(a), Escambia River Electric Cooperative planned to cut the vegetation on 20% or 300 miles of the distribution power lines. In 2012, we cut the vegetation of approximately 299.8 miles of distribution power lines, or 20 %.