

**ORIGINAL** Timolyn Henry\*\*\*\*\*1  
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**Timolyn Henry**

**From:** S. Denise Hill [dhill@publicpower.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 31, 2006 2:31 PM  
**To:** Filings@psc.state.fl.us  
**Subject:** UCNSB Storm Hardening Report

**Attachments:** UCNSB Storm Hardening Report.doc



UCNSB Storm  
Hardening Report.d..

Dear Sir/Madam,

Attached is the Implementation Plan for Ongoing Storm Preparedness for the UCNSB  
(Utilities Commission New Smyrna Beach).

Thank you,

Denise

S. Denise Hill  
Information Technology Specialist  
Florida Municipal Electric Association  
P.O. Box 10114  
Tallahassee, FL 32302-2114  
O: 850-224-3314, ext. 6  
F: 850-224-0358  
dhill@publicpower.com  
www.publicpower.com

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**Ongoing Storm Preparedness Implementation Plan**  
**Utilities Commission, City of New Smyrna Beach**  
**April 18, 2006**

**A. Introduction**

This is the Storm Preparedness report by the Utilities Commission, City of New Smyrna Beach, located in Volusia County, Florida. For information contact:

Mr. Robert J. Rodi  
General Manager/CEO  
PO Box 100  
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32170  
386-424-3000  
rrodi@ucnsb.org

New Smyrna Beach is a coastal community on the Atlantic Ocean serving approximately 24,000 customers in Volusia County. During 2004, we were affected severely with a system-wide outage and damage by Hurricane Charley. To a slightly lesser effect, Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne caused widespread outages and damage to our facilities.

**B. Three-Year Vegetation Management Cycle**

The Utilities Commission, City of New Smyrna Beach (UCNSB) trims trees on an ongoing basis. UCNSB currently has two crews continuously trimming trees and reducing vegetative growth throughout the system. Each crew works 40 hours a week, and a third full-time crew is proposed to be added for the FY 2007 budget.

**C. Transmission and Distribution Geographic Information System**

UCNSB's transmission and distribution system is currently mapped in AutoCAD and is printed out or made available on CD as needed. Beginning FY 2007, UCNSB staff is proposing an automated GIS database and mapping system to be included in the budget. If approved, this will be a multi-year project with ongoing maintenance and oversight by a full-time staff dedicated to the operation.

**D. Wooden Transmission vs. Concrete Transmission Structures**

UCNSB's transmission system currently has wood, spun concrete and steel structures. If any wood structures require replacement, they will likely be replaced with spun concrete poles.

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#### **E. Post-Storm Data Gathering, Data Retention and Forensic Analysis**

Outage reports forms are completed for every outage on our system. The following information is collected: cause of the outage and corrective actions taken. These reports are public records and retained accordingly. When major outage events occur, UCNSB staff meets to analyze the causes and recommend equipment and/or operational changes necessary to avoid similar outages in the future.

#### **F. Audit of Joint-Use Pole Attachment Agreements**

UCNSB currently audits pole attachments during regular inspections on the various circuits. When a new project comes up, such as adding lines to an existing pole, pole stress calculations are performed. If new attachments are found to potentially overload the pole, the pole is upgraded or the project reengineered. Telephone and cable companies are required to notify UCNSB of planned attachments so stress calculations can be conducted.

#### **G. Six-year transmission Inspection Program**

UCNSB inspects all transmission facilities on an ongoing basis. Staff checks every pole from top to bottom, including all hardware and wire and repairs or replaces what is deficient. An inspection of our entire transmission system is usually completed every 4-5 years.

#### **H. Collection of Outage Data Differentiating Between the Reliability Performance of Overhead and Underground Systems**

We calculate the various reliability indices (SAIDI, CAIDI, SAIFI, MAIFe, and L-Bar) for the system as whole and do not differentiate between overhead and underground. However, it would be a relatively easy matter to calculate each of the indices separately for overhead and underground.

#### **I. Coordination with Local Governments**

UCNSB plans to enhance coordination with the City of New Smyrna Beach to increase tree trimming along right-of-ways. UCNSB and the City of New Smyrna Beach collaborated to write and publish a Hurricane Preparedness Guide in 2005 and 2006 to relate all necessary storm information to the citizens of New Smyrna Beach and the utility customers. This is a 24-page, full-color newspaper publication that is distributed to every home in the city and is available on the website and in government office buildings beginning June 1. UC staff is NIMS certified. The City and UCNSB jointly man an Emergency Operations Center in the event of a storm to best coordinate efforts.

The Utilities Commission has back-up generators at the electric operations building, water plant, water reclamation facility, master lift station, south beach pumping station, and a mobile unit for lift stations. On a city-wide scale, there is emergency generation capability at the city's Emergency Operations Center and the police department. City staff has access to private facilities with generation capacity in order to feed and house emergency workers if needed.

**J. Collaborative Research Through the Public Utility Research Center (PURC) at the University of Florida**

UCNSB, through its membership in the Florida Municipal Electric Association and its involvement with Public Utility Research Center (PURC) at the University of Florida, participates in PURC activities related to storm hardening research.