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July 14, 2025

VIA: ELECTRONIC FILING

Mr. Adam J. Teitzman
Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: 2024 Storm Protection Plan Annual Status Report
Dkt. 20250000-OT

Dear Mr. Teitzman:

Attached for filing are Tampa Electric Company's answers to Staff's First Data Request (Nos. 1-4), propounded via electronic mail on June 11, 2025.

Thank you for your assistance in connection with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Malcolm N. Means'.

Malcolm N. Means

MNM/bml
Attachment

cc: Marissa Ramos – mramos@psc.state.fl.us (w/encl.)
Penelope Buys – pbuys@psc.state.fl.us (w/encl.)
Paula Brown – pbrown@tecoenergy.com (w/encl.)

**TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY
DOCKET NO. 20250000-OT
2024 STORM PROTECTION PLAN
ANNUAL STATUS REPORT
STAFF'S FIRST DATA REQUEST
REQUEST NO. 1
BATES PAGE(S): 1
FILED: JULY 14, 2025**

1. Please explain why the cost of the following projects appear to decrease when TECO is planning to complete more projects in 2025 compared to 2024.
 - a. Transmission Asset Upgrades
 - b. Distribution Overhead Feeder Hardening

ANSWER:

- a. There were 10 projects initiated in 2024 and there are 10 projects that will be initiated in 2025. A single project for the Transmission Asset Upgrade Program equates to one transmission circuit, which may include anywhere from a few poles up to several hundred poles. The pace of replacement is between 450 to 500 poles per year and is comprised of poles from several projects. The company projected 10 projects comprised of 472 pole replacements for 2024, totaling \$17.9 million. The company completed 428 pole replacements, totaling \$16.8 million. In 2025, the company projected to replace 471 poles with costs totaling \$15.7 million. Each project is dependent upon pole location accessibility, permitting challenges, outage constraints and resource availability. Many factors can affect the projected costs, including factors such as urban vs rural areas, travel time to jobsites, environmental factors, material costs, labor costs, and others.
- b. While the number of projects increased in 2025 in comparison to 2024, the projected costs decreased due to the size and complexity of the projects. Similar to Transmission Asset Upgrades, many factors can affect the projected costs such as urban vs rural areas, travel time to jobsites, environmental factors, material costs, labor costs, and others.

**TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY
DOCKET NO. 20250000-OT
2024 STORM PROTECTION PLAN
ANNUAL STATUS REPORT
STAFF'S FIRST DATA REQUEST
REQUEST NO. 2
BATES PAGE(S): 2
FILED: JULY 14, 2025**

- 2.** Please explain why the cost for Distribution Infrastructure Inspections appear to increase when TECO is planning to complete less projects in 2025 compared to 2024.

ANSWER:

Tampa Electric planned to inspect 35,625 poles each year in 2024 and 2025, with an estimated cost of \$1.4 million for each year. The Distribution Infrastructure Inspections program is designed to review all the distribution poles in Tampa Electric's system over an eight-year period. Once the inspections begin, there can be fluctuations in the actual number of poles inspected and associated costs based on the age of the poles scheduled for inspection. Poles that were installed within the last 16 years receive a visual inspection. Poles over the age of 16 years require a more extensive inspection which can include boring, excavation and treatment, based on the results of the initial sounding assessment. If treatment is required, the cost will be higher, compared to a pole that is less than 16 years old.

**TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY
DOCKET NO. 20250000-OT
2024 STORM PROTECTION PLAN
ANNUAL STATUS REPORT
STAFF'S FIRST DATA REQUEST
REQUEST NO. 3
BATES PAGE(S): 3
FILED: JULY 14, 2025**

3. Please explain why costs stay the same for Transmission Infrastructure Inspections when TECO is planning to complete more projects in 2025 compared to 2024.

ANSWER:

Transmission Infrastructure inspections are conducted annually, covering one-eighth of the company's circuits each year. Each circuit has a different number of poles. The number of poles inspected each year varies based on the number of remaining wood poles on those circuits identified for inspection. In 2024, 125 wood poles were inspected for \$0.6 million. In 2025, the company projected to inspect 19 circuits, which equates to 161 poles. However, not all 161 poles will be inspected, as 39 poles are projected to be replaced with non-wood poles through the Transmission Asset Upgrades ("TAU") program. In 2025, the company is projecting to complete 122 pole inspections for \$0.6 million.

**TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY
DOCKET NO. 20250000-OT
2024 STORM PROTECTION PLAN
ANNUAL STATUS REPORT
STAFF'S FIRST DATA REQUEST
REQUEST NO. 4
BATES PAGE(S): 4
FILED: JULY 14, 2025**

4. Please refer to page 38 of TECO's SPP Annual Report. For the Tampa Electric's Storm Protection Plan Customer Bill Impacts (in dollars) table. Please provide the bill impacts for the Storm Protection Plan Cost Recovery Clause separate from Base Rates.

ANSWER:

Please see the tables below for the requested information.

Tampa Electric's Storm Protection Plan Customer Bill Impacts Clause (in dollars)			
Customer Class			
	Residential 1,000 kWh	Commercial 1 MW 60 percent Load Factor	Industrial 10 MW 60 percent Load Factor
2024 Estimated	\$5.83	\$610.00	\$1,050.00
2024 Actual	\$6.13	\$620.00	\$1,150.00
2025 Estimated	\$7.29	\$660.00	\$1,300.00

Tampa Electric's Storm Protection Plan Customer Bill Impacts Base Rates (in dollars)			
Customer Class			
	Residential 1,000 kWh	Commercial 1 MW 60 percent Load Factor	Industrial 10 MW 60 percent Load Factor
2024 Estimated	\$0.53	\$60.00	\$50.00
2024 Actual	\$0.38	\$60.00	\$50.00
2025 Estimated	\$0.65	\$70.00	\$100.00