

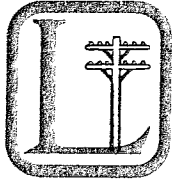


Control Number: 32182



Item Number: 187

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**LIVINGSTON TELEPHONE COMPANY**  
701 W. CHURCH SUITE B    LIVINGSTON, TEXAS 77351-3198  
936-327-4309

November 6, 2008

Public Utilities Commission Texas  
1701 N. Congress Ave.  
Box 13326  
Austin, Texas 78711

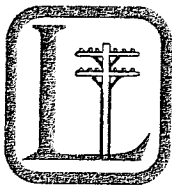
Project # 32182

Per your request the attached is a copy of Livingston Telephone Company's vegetation management program.

Sincerely,

Curtis G. Walzel  
President

2008 NOV 13 AM 10:03  
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PUBLIC UTILITIES



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## TREE TRIMMING

Livingston Telephone Company, LTC, encourages a healthy forest environment. Trees are a valuable asset to our customers, shareholders, their landscapes, and add to the value of life. However if not properly maintained will create many hazards.

Our crews operate year round to maintain required clearances on all cable routes. Each route is inspected and trimmed on a three year cycle. This provides maximum efficiency and control for growth and maintenance.

LTC maintains a three year trim cycle. The exact amount of clearances needed in a given area depends on the size of the route, type construction used and the species type and the position of the tree in relationship to the line. Line sag during temperature extremes as well as wind movement of trees and lines must also be taken into consideration.

LTC will remove trees that are directly under, or so close to the lines that they may pose a hazard. We will follow all rules and conditions of contract, and Right-of Way, due to the fact we only have joint use poles with the power companies, not our own exclusive poles and Right-of-Ways. Branches and trash will be hauled off unless the customer wants it. Trees close to lines that are leaning, dead, decayed, or pose a hazard to our lines will be removed providing they are in the designated Right-of-Way, owner permission is given, or they are not a State "Landmark". We reserve the right to refuse to remove trees that can not be done safely.

Trimming for services is the responsibility of the customer. LTC only trims from pole to pole, including the first ten feet of service wire. If needed LTC will disconnect the service to allow the customer to trim safely and then reconnect.

Most trimming is done by the power companies who own the poles per the Pole Attachment Agreements. Trees that are next to distribution lines will be trimmed to provide proper clearances, promote growth away from the lines, and leave the customer with a well trimmed tree. LTC will follow I.S.A. and ANSI standards for pruning where possible. Unfortunately some species are not suitable around lines and continued trimming will not look appealing.

LTC will strive to maintain sufficient line clearance, but due to weather, species, tree vigor, etc, some trees may reach lines before their next scheduled trim cycle. When the occasions occur we will trim again to maintain customer service.