

Control Number: 32182



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Rusk County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

P.O. Box 1169, Henderson, Texas 75653-1162000 NOV 25 AM 9: 02

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PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

November 20, 2008

Mr. James Galloway, Filing Clerk Public Utility Commission of Texas 1701 N. Congress Ave. P.O. Box 13326 Austin, Texas 78711-3326

RE: PROJECT NO. 32182

Dear Mr. Galloway:

In response to David Featherston's letter dated October 15, 2008 this letter contains the requested information concerning Rusk County Electric Cooperative's programs related to vegetation management and ground-based inspections for overhead facilities. Rusk County Electric Cooperative does not operate any transmission lines within fifty miles of the Texas coast. Accordingly, Rusk County Electric Cooperative is not filing an inventory of transmission facilities.

Vegetation Management:

Rusk County Electric Cooperative's written vegetation management program ("Plan") provides guidelines for rights-of-way ("ROW") maintenance. Activities associated with the Plan include: mowing and side trimming with mechanical cutters, manual trimming with bucket crews, and removing dead trees with a dedicated crew. The Plan specifies that an aerial or ground based inspection of all ROW shall be performed annually, that ROW mowing shall be performed every three, (3) years on average, and that tree trimming shall provide adequate clearances for a minimum of five, (5) years. Diagrams are included in the Plan which indicate the minimum trimming clearances for each applicable transmission voltage as a guideline for the ROW maintenance personnel.

Ground-Based Inspections

Rusk County Electric Cooperative completes a ground-based inspection of all transmission lines annually and all distribution lines every ten, (10) years. The inspections consist of a groundline dig and treat inspection on the distribution poles and wood transmission poles to check the integrity and proper operation of the poles and equipment. Poles are climbed and further inspected if there is visual evidence of insulator or hardware corrosion, pole damage, or cross-arm damage that requires a closer look to ascertain the extent of the problem. The majority of our transmission poles are concrete therefore only a visual inspection is preformed on these units. So far in 2008, Rusk County Electric Cooperative has performed a dig and treat inspection on approximately 200 miles of distribution lines and a visual inspection on nine (9) miles of transmission lines.

Sincerely:

RUSK COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Jesse A. Bankhead General Manager OFFICERS:

SAM ALLISON President

BILL ADAMSON Vice President

SID ASHBY Secretary-Treasurer

JERRY BROWN Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

DIRECTORS:

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