

POLICY NO. 445

TREE MAINTENANCE ON CUSTOMER PROPERTY.

I. OBJECTIVE

It is the policy and practice of PCRPPD to keep trees clear of the power lines along the road right-of-way and on customer property to the meter pole, by removing and trimming.

II. PROVISIONS

1. Trees in, around, and under power lines cause an unsafe condition, and may cause interruption and loss of electric service. C2-2012 National Electric Safety Code, section 218A1. Trees that may interfere with ungrounded supply conductors should be trimmed or removed. (Note): Normal tree growth, the combined movement of trees and conductors under adverse weather conditions, voltage, and sagging of conductors at elevated temperatures are among the factors to be considered in determining the extent of trimming required.
2. It is preferred that trees in the right of way of power lines are completely removed for public safety or to prevent costly outages. Along road ditches fields and ROW, unmaintained or volunteer trees will be removed or sprayed with herbicide. Along or adjacent to residences, windrows or otherwise maintained trees District employees or their representatives will contact the property owner as to the trimming or removal of the tree
3. If a property owner refuses to give permission to cut or trim trees on his property, PCRPPD may at its' sole discretion relocate the meter or point of attachment to a pole located on the property line or public right-of-way line and will give the owner 90 days to get the service connected to the new installation, PCRPPD will then remove the wires endangered by the customer's trees. The property owner will pay all labor and transportation costs for moving the meter to a new location and all labor and transportation cost for retiring the existing service. The owner will pay for and be responsible for the new service connecting to the new meter location including fuse box, trenching, cable and all other material and equipment.
4. In order to reduce or eliminate problem areas that require repeated trimming of trees that are located along or adjacent to residential properties, PCRPPD may contribute money to the replacement of a tree provided the replacement is planted a safe distance away or of a species that will not encroach on safe line clearances.

5. In areas where a landowner has planted trees or vegetation that are too close to existing power lines that make it impractical to maintain safe clearances or has planted a species of vegetation that grows so quickly trimming cannot be done on a normal cycle, PCRPPD may require the removal of the tree or may at its sole discretion relocate the line at the land owners expense, in order to eliminate the potential hazard.

6. Power lines of 7200 volts or greater making contact with trees along the county right-of-way will be trimmed no less than the RUS Bulletin 50-3 specifications. The term 'trim' shall mean: Removal of branches and other growth near the primary voltage line.
Hard wood (leaf trees or other growth not otherwise defined) shall be cut a minimum of eight feet (8') below all lines, ten feet (10') to the side and all branches above the line will be removed.
Soft wood (Cedar, Pine and other conifers) will be cut a minimum of four feet (4') below all lines, ten feet (10') to the side and all branches above the line will be removed.
Vines and other climbing vegetation will be completely removed from poles guys or other distribution equipment.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

The General Manager shall be responsible for the administration of this policy.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 3/8/1996

DATE APPROVED: 3/8/1996

REVIEWED: 8/8/2001

REVISED: 5/9/2013

ATTEST: *Jean P. [Signature]*