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SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

Policy S.4 Right-of-Way Clearing

RESPONSIBILITY: CEO and Employees

Trees and other vegetation growing in the rights-of-way cause numerous problems in the operation and maintenance of the electric system. They impede the progress of field personnel in the course of performing operational and maintenance work to the system and during the restoration of power. Tree and vegetation growth making line contact causes line loss and affects the integrity of the electric system by causing power interruptions, outages and other power quality problems.

All clearing work performed shall be completed in a manner designed to achieve the objectives of this policy. To that end the Cooperative shall maintain, regularly review, and modify as needed a right-of-way clearing guidelines, methods, contracts and procedures handbook designed to serve as a reference tool for operations personnel, clearing subcontractors, and the members for guiding best practices to achieve the following essential elements of an active clearing program:

1. The performance of clearing work in a manner that protects the safety of the workers and general public.
2. The communication of planned clearing activities to the affected members.
3. Providing members with alternative options as situations may warrant.
4. Maximizing efficiency at a reasonable cost with a minimum negative impact to the environment.
5. Establishing right-of-way widths needed to provide for safety, accessibility, efficiency, and reliable, trouble-free power.
6. The safe and judicious use of herbicides.

Any trees, vegetation, plants, or other growth in the right-of-way corridor is “at risk” for damage by the Cooperative during the operation and maintenance of the electric system and is not compensable.

Member satisfaction with the clearing program shall be reported to the Cooperative’s board of directors near the end of each year based on a random polling of a sample of affected members.

Information contained in this Policy is subject to update or modification by the Cooperative at any time and at the sole discretion of the Cooperative. Such information includes (but is not limited to) policies, procedures, rates, tariffs and applications. Some information may change as a result of external factors such as new legislation or regulations. Prior to making use of the information contained herein, please check with appropriate Cooperative staff.

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