Distribution Line Right-of-Way Use Guidelines

Progress Energy’s goal is to provide safe, reliable and economical electrical service to all customers. Keeping electricity reliable requires that Progress Energy have unobstructed access for maintaining power lines, facilities and rights-of-way. The following list of right-of-way use guidelines has been developed to provide property owners with a guide for the use of Progress Energy’s distribution line rights of way. Please contact a Progress Energy right-of-way representative concerning approval for any proposed plans or special uses that would deviate from the restrictions as outlined below.

Progress Energy generally maintains a thirty (30) foot wide easement area for overhead distribution electric lines, fifteen (15) feet lying on each side of the centerline of the electric line. Progress Energy generally maintains a ten (10) foot wide easement area for underground distribution electric lines, five (5) feet lying on each side of the centerline of the electric line and ten (10) feet around all enclosures.

**Structures** are not permitted within Progress Energy’s distribution right-of-way. The term “structure” includes, but is not limited to, the following: buildings, sheds, underground or overhead storage facilities, swimming pools, mobile homes, trailers, satellite signal receiver systems and equipment, billboards, signs, dumpsters, street or area lights (unless approved by Progress Energy), air strips, hunting stands, etc.

**NO Storage and/or Dumping** of any kind is permitted within Progress Energy Carolinas distribution rights of way.

**Immovable Ground Facilities** – “Immovable ground facilities” include, but are not limited to, the following: streets, roads, driveways, water and sewer lines, manholes, fire hydrants or other utility pedestals. Septic tanks and/or related drain fields, absorption pits, wells, burial grounds, and underground vaults shall not be allowed within Progress Energy’s rights of way.

Some immovable ground facilities may be allowed within Progress Energy distribution rights of way, with prior written approval from Progress Energy in its discretion. Immovable ground facilities are more likely to be approved by Progress Energy if they meet all the following criteria:

- a. The facilities must cross the centerline of Progress Energy’s distribution line at an angle of forty-five (45) degrees or greater and the edge of the item should be at least fifteen (15) feet from any Progress Energy structure or anchor.
- b. All underground facilities must be capable of bearing the weight of Progress Energy’s maintenance vehicles.
- c. Manholes must be thirty (30) or more inches above grade, unless in paved or graveled areas.
- d. Fire hydrants, utility pedestals, or any other above ground facilities shall not be allowed directly under conductors.
Parking Lots may be constructed on Progress Energy rights of way with prior written approval from Progress Energy, in its discretion. Parking lots are more likely to be approved by Progress Energy if they meet all the following criteria:

a. A barrier adequate to protect the pole and/or anchor shall be erected by the party constructing the parking lot in such a manner as to prevent parking within five (5) feet of any pole or anchor.

b. Grading within the right of way shall first be approved by Progress Energy.

c. Customer lighting facilities within the right of way shall first be approved by Progress Energy.

d. Signs and other attachments to any Progress Energy structure are prohibited.

Grading will not be allowed within the right of way without prior written approval from Progress Energy, in its discretion. Access to Progress Energy facilities must be maintained at all times. Grading around poles and anchors is prohibited without prior consent. Slopes shall not exceed a one (1) foot rise/fall in elevation over three (3) feet horizontal distance (1:3 slope). To request approval, call Progress Energy’s customer service center at 1.800.452.2777.

Fences shall not exceed eight (8) feet in height. Fences shall not be attached to Progress Energy poles. If Progress Energy’s ability to travel along the right of way is impeded, property owner must install a twelve (12) foot gate(s). If the fence does impede access to Progress Energy, that section of fence will be removed and it will be the owner’s responsibility to re-install.

Lakes, ponds, erosion control facilities and dams may be allowed within Progress Energy distribution right of way with prior written approval from Progress Energy, in its discretion, provided that they do not interfere with Progress Energy’s facilities, access and/or maintenance requirements.

Trees, shrubs, hedges, low-growing evergreens, flowers, grasses, or gardens planted within Progress Energy’s distribution line rights of way shall be of a variety that do not exceed a maximum height of 20 feet at maturity and may not interfere with Progress Energy’s facilities, access and/or maintenance requirements. For more information about our policies and planting guidelines, visit Selecting Trees for Distribution Rights of Way.

No items shall be allowed on Progress Energy rights of way that violate the National Electrical Safety Code. No burning activities are allowed within Progress Energy rights of way. No agricultural irrigation or waste spraying facilities can be located within Progress Energy rights of way.