Transmission 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 unobstructed access for maintaining power lines, facilities and rights of way. The following list has been developed to provide owners with a guide for the use of Progress Energy's transmission line rights of way. If you wish to use a Progress Energy Carolinas transmission right of way, please contact an asset protection specialist at 1.919.329.5928 to discuss any proposed plans.

All landowners must adhere to any and all of the Transmission Use Guidelines listed below.

- **Structures (any man-made assembly), equipment and storage** Under limited circumstances, a structure, piece of equipment or storage may be allowed, with prior written approval from an authorized Progress Energy representative – if they meet all of the following criteria:

  1. Is temporary and is easily and immediately movable at owner's expense.
  2. Does not restrict complete access and maintenance of line or right of way, or future use by Progress Energy.
  3. Does not adversely affect the safety of customers, company personnel or the general public.
  4. Is not located under and at least 15 feet beyond the outside conductor and does not exceed 12 feet in height.

  Structures, equipment and storage include, but are not limited to, the following: buildings, sheds, storage facilities, trailers, billboards, signs, street or area lights, hunting stands, recreational facilities, dumpsters, satellite signal-receiver systems, items within storage facilities, garbage, trash, uprooted stumps, boulders, rubble, flammable material, building material, and junk or inoperable vehicles. Permanent or non-movable buildings, swimming pools, mobile homes and airstrips are not allowed within Progress Energy rights of way.

- **Immovable ground facilities** Under limited circumstances, immovable ground facilities may be allowed, with prior written approval from an authorized Progress Energy representative, if they meet all of the following criteria:

  1. These facilities must cross the centerline of Progress Energy's transmission line at an angle of 45 degrees or greater and the edge of the item should be at least 30 feet from any Progress Energy structure or anchor.
  2. All underground facilities must be capable of bearing the weight of Progress Energy maintenance vehicles.
3. Manholes must be 30 or more inches above grade, unless in paved or graveled areas.

4. Fire hydrants, utility pedestals, or any other above ground facilities shall not be allowed directly under conductors nor within 15 feet of the outside conductor.

Immovable ground facilities include but are not limited to, the following: streets, roads, driveways, water and sewer lines, ditches and any underground facilities. If, during the construction of facilities, a customer cuts or damages the counter poise/grounding grid, the customer must reimburse Progress Energy for the cost of repairs. Septic tanks and/or related drain fields, absorption pits, wells, burial grounds and underground vaults are not allowed within Progress Energy rights of way.

- **Parking lots** may be constructed on Progress Energy rights of way with prior written approval from an authorized Progress Energy representative, and if they are in compliance with the following conditions:
  1. A barrier adequate to protect the pole, tower or anchor will be erected, by the party constructing the parking area, in such a manner as to restrict parking to at least five feet from pole, tower or anchor.
  2. Grading must be approved by Progress Energy.
  3. Lighting facilities must be approved by Progress Energy.
  4. Signs and other attachments to any Progress Energy structure are prohibited.

- **Grading** will not be allowed without prior written approval from an authorized Progress Energy representative. Access to Progress Energy facilities must be maintained at all times. Any grading that allows water to pond or to cause erosion around any pole, tower or anchor is prohibited. Grading within 30 feet of any Progress Energy structure or anchor will not be allowed. Slopes may not exceed a one foot rise/fall in elevation over a four feet horizontal distance (1:4 slope).

- **Fences** must be installed at least 10 feet away from poles or towers and cannot exceed 8 feet in height. Fences may not be attached to Progress Energy poles or towers. If Progress Energy's ability to travel up and down the right of way is impeded, the property owner must install a 12-foot gate(s).

- **Lakes, ponds, erosion control facilities and dams** may be allowed, with prior written approval from an authorized Progress Energy representative, if they do not interfere with Progress Energy's access and/or maintenance requirements.

- **Trees, shrubs, bushes, hedges, low-growing evergreens, flowers, grasses, low-growing shrubs or gardens** that exist or are planted within Progress Energy's transmission line rights of way must not exceed a maximum height of 12 feet at maturity. Any existing tree that can mature at a height greater
than 12 feet or potentially interfere with the safe and reliable operation of the line will be evaluated for removal. Progress Energy Carolinas does not object to property owners planting trees or other vegetation on transmission easements, provided it matures at a height of 12 feet or shorter, does not interfere with Progress Energy’s access and/or maintenance requirements and is not directly under the conductor. It should also be understood that in the future it may be necessary to cut such trees if switches, structures or other line facilities need to be installed. If plantings do not meet these criteria, they will be considered an encroachment into the right of way and will require an encroachment application with written approval; otherwise, the plantings may be subject to removal during maintenance activities. A list of low-growing vegetation approved for planting on transmission rights of way is available in Selecting Trees for Transmission Rights of Way at www.progress-energy.com/trees.

- No item shall be allowed on Progress Energy's rights of way that violates the National Electrical Safety Code.
- No burning activities are allowed in rights of way.

Staying Safe Around Transmission Lines (PDF)