

FPL accelerates strengthening of Florida's electric grid

Delivering reliable electric service is the top priority at Florida Power & Light Company. That's why FPL submitted a three-year plan to strengthen the electric system – and also accelerated a program to make the grid even stronger against storms.

Two filings submitted to the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) in May highlight the company's strong commitment to improving reliability for its customers. In its annual reliability filing in March, FPL reported its best reliability performance on record.

"We know how much our customers depend on electricity to power their lives, and providing them with reliable service is job one," said FPL President Eric Silagy. "While we've made remarkable progress in recent years, we're never satisfied. That's why we're speeding up our work to further improve service for our customers."

Since 2005, FPL has invested more than \$1 billion in strengthening power lines and equipment serving Critical Infrastructure Facilities (CIFs), including local hospitals, 911 centers and police/fire stations; clearing vegetation from power lines; and inspecting and upgrading utility poles for strength.

As part of FPL's 2013-2015 storm hardening filing, submitted to the PSC in May, the company plans to invest approximately half-a-billion dollars to strengthen power lines serving additional CIFs and other key community facilities.

Highlights of the three-year storm plan include:

- Prioritizing and accelerating improvements to main power lines serving CIFs and other community needs, so all improvements are completed by 2016.
- Accelerating the replacement of all wood transmission structures and ceramic post insulators.
- Strengthening equipment in areas most vulnerable to storm surge. For example, by installing water-level monitoring systems at 25 substations – a lesson learned from the damage Superstorm Sandy caused in the Northeast last year.

"The improvements we've made since 2006 have reduced outages and improved restoration times," said Vice President of Power Delivery Manny Miranda. "Our investments are making the electric grid better able to withstand severe wind and storms, helping us restore power faster following storms and improving everyday reliability for our customers. It's an exciting time to be at FPL."

