

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY KEY WEST, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING KEYS ENERGY SERVICES' EFFORTS TO REMOVE ELECTRICAL FACILITIES FROM INACCESSIBLE LOCATIONS; WAIVING PERMIT FEES FOR CERTAIN ELECTRICAL WORK; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO FACILITATE CUSTOMER UPGRADES; SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO REMOVE ADDITIONAL FACILITIES SO EXCESS POLES CAN BE REMOVED IN A TIMELY MANNER; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the Utility Board of the City of Key West, Florida d/b/a/ Keys Energy Services is the utility that provides electrical service in the City of Key West and the Lower Florida Keys; and

WHEREAS, Keys Energy Services is committed to improving electrical reliability to all its customers; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) passed Order #25-06.0342 to specifically, "require the cost-effective strengthening of critical electric infrastructure to increase the ability of transmission and distribution facilities to withstand extreme weather conditions; and reduce restoration costs and outage times to end-use customers with extreme weather conditions;" and

WHEREAS, the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) also passed Order #25-06.0341 specifically stating, "in order to facilitate safe and efficient access for installation and maintenance, to extent feasible and cost-effective, electric distribution facilities shall be placed adjacent to a public road, normally in front of the customer's premises;" and

WHEREAS, Keys Energy Services has replaced approximately 2,300 wooden poles with storm hardened concrete poles and has identified 615 wood poles in the City of Key West that are in the rear of customers' properties, with 425 of these poles inaccessible due to being occupied with customers' structures, pools, fences, and vegetation; and

WHEREAS, these obstructions in easements and rights-of-ways have created accessibility issues making it difficult for Keys Energy Services to perform safe maintenance and replacement of such poles; and

WHEREAS, the Utility Board has approved a plan to replace an estimated 83 of these inaccessible poles that carry primary high voltage distribution lines over the next three years and help customers who are affected by this replacement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Commission of the City of Key West, Florida supports the Utility Board in its efforts to fortify the electrical system with storm hardened poles and with replacing facilities in inaccessible locations to locations adjacent to public roads.

Section 2. The City Commission hereby urges Keys Energy to continue to consider all local government and customer impacts when determining the cost-effective strengthening of critical electrical infrastructure. Placement of poles in many narrow City right-of-ways significantly impacts ADA sidewalk compliance mandated by Federal Law, customer parking, trees, and potentially impacts underground utilities. Private property easements adjacent to the front property lines should be sought for all right-of-ways 30 feet or less to facilitate ADA compliance, and in other instances where restricted right-of-way make it necessary.

Section 3. The City Commission endorses the plan adopted by the Utility Board during their January 11, 2012 regular meeting, which creates a 36-month program to construct primary lines along public roads; requires affected property owners to either modify/extend their riser/meter center or

accept ownership of a tap pole; and provides for rebates to offset the cost customers may incur hiring a licensed electrician.

Section 4. The City Commission hereby waives the cost of permitting the electrical work associated with relocating or extending risers and meter centers as a result of the Keys Energy Services Relocation Project.

Section 5. The City Commission endorses an approach by the City Manager and the City's electrical inspector that allows for:

- o Requiring customer or his/her designee to follow normal permitting process for all work associated with this project.
- o Not requiring customers to upgrade their electrical panels (or anything past the meter, on the condition that no load is added).
- o Replacing risers located in the rear of the property up to five feet above the roof line on the condition that this type of location meets the three foot clearance above the entire roof that NESC requires for service drops.

- o Utilizing a vertical three foot drip loop clearance on the condition that this type of solution meets the three foot clearance above the entire roof that NESC requires.

Section 6. The City Commission also encourages Keys Energy and City personnel to use all means available to assure Comcast and AT&T expedite the removal of their facilities so that excess poles can be removed in a timely fashion.

Section 7: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this _____ day of _____, 2012.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on _____ day of _____, 2012.

Filed with the Clerk on _____, 2012.

CRAIG CATES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK