



Recommended CMP Amendments to Codify the Electric Transmission ROW Vegetation Maintenance Pilot Program

Pinelands Commission
CMP Policy & Implementation Committee
October 29, 2021



N.J.A.C. 7:50-4.1

- ▶ A development application will not be required for:
 - ▶ Vegetation management activities conducted within existing rights-of-way for electric transmission lines so long as there is:
 - ▶ No increase or expansion in the width of the area historically subject to vegetation management or areas of existing managed rights of way; and
 - ▶ No new or additional development; and
 - ▶ Provided, all such vegetation management activities are conducted:
 - ▶ In accordance with the New Jersey Pinelands Electric Transmission Line Right-of-Way Vegetation Management Plan; or
 - ▶ In accordance with the vegetation management prescriptions in N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.28



N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.28

Existing Spans Identified in the ROW Plan

- ▶ The ROW Plan will be incorporated in the CMP by reference
- ▶ The specific vegetation management prescriptions identified in the 2009 ROW Plan for 3,041 existing spans will continue to apply to those spans.



N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.28

Standards for new or expanded spans

▶ Hand Cutting/Manual Clearing

- ▶ Permitted year-round in uplands, mineral soil wetlands and muck soil wetlands

▶ Mowing

- ▶ Permitted in uplands and mineral soil wetlands
- ▶ Limited to winter months (December 1 through February 28)
- ▶ NOT permitted in muck soil wetlands



N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.28 (cont.)


Motorized Vehicle Standards

- ▶ Applicable to all electric transmission rights-of-way
 - ▶ Motorized vehicle use is:
 - ▶ Permitted in uplands and mineral soil wetlands, but only in the winter months
 - ▶ NOT permitted in muck soil wetlands
 - ▶ Permitted on existing access roads within rights-of-way year-round



N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.28 (cont.)

- ▶ Reporting requirements:
 - ▶ Utilities will be required to submit EXCEL spreadsheets to the Commission on an annual basis, identifying all vegetation management activities conducted in the preceding year.
 - ▶ Spreadsheets must contain:
 - ▶ Identification of each span within which vegetation management activities were conducted during the preceding year (either by span # assigned in the ROW Plan or by providing GIS coordinates in degree format for new or expanded spans)
 - ▶ A list of the vegetation management prescriptions conducted in each span during the reporting period and the dates of such work;
 - ▶ Any issues that may have arisen during implementation of the vegetation management prescriptions in each span.
- ▶ Escrow requirements:
 - ▶ Utilities will be required to make escrow payments to the Commission to fund ongoing inspections and preparation of periodic reports to the Commission on vegetation management within the ROWs.



N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.31 - 10.35

- ▶ Repeal existing Electric Transmission Line Rights-of-Way Vegetation Maintenance Pilot Program
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