N.J.A.C. 14:5, Electric Service, Draft Proposed Readoption with Amendments 2022 Stakeholder Meeting

Thursday, January 20, 2022
10:00 a.m.
Via Zoom
Comments and Question and Answer

- All registrants may comment. Those who have indicated that they wish to speak will be called upon first by the moderator. Anyone else wishing to speak may raise their hand and ask to be added to the list.
- If Questions arise for the presenters, they should be typed into the Q & A tab on your screen.
- Please keep questions specific to the presentations and the topics discussed in the draft rule proposal amendments.
N.J.A.C. 14:5

READOPTION With Substantial Changes

These Rules govern the provision of Electric Service.

- Covering the areas of construction, inspection, and maintenance of a utility plant, the testing and accuracy of electric meters, residential underground extensions, vegetation management and the maintenance and preservation of records and accounts.
N.J.A.C. 14:5-1, Scope and Applicability

N.J.A.C. 14:5-1.1, Scope. No changes.

N.J.A.C. 14:5-1.2, Definitions. Adds definitions of AMI, Assisted Living Facility, Danger Tree, Full Time Equivalent, Hospital, “Interruption, extended”, Nursing Home and “Total number of customers served”.

Also, modifies the definition of “Major Event” to clarify when a major event can be declared, the duration of an event, and situations limiting its use.
N.J.A.C. 14:5-1.2, definitions, changes the definition of “Major Event”:

1. A sustained interruption of electric service resulting from conditions beyond the control of the EDC, which may include, but is not limited to, thunderstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, heat waves or snow and ice storms, which affect at least 10 percent of the customers in an operating area within a 24-hour period. Due to an EDC's documentable need to allocate field resources to restore service to affected areas when one operating area experiences a major event, the major event shall be deemed to extend to those other operating areas of that EDC, which are providing assistance to the affected areas. The duration of the event shall be limited to the conditions initiating the event and conclude when the final customer outage is restored from the initiating event. The Board retains authority to examine the characterization of a major event;
N.J.A.C. 14:5-1.2, definitions, changes the definition of “Major Event”:

3. A sustained interruption occurring during an event, which is outside the control of the EDC, and is of sufficient intensity to give rise to a state of emergency or disaster being declared by State government. **The event is concluded upon the restoration of all customers affected by the initial event; or**

4. When mutual aid is provided to another EDC or utility, the assisting EDC may apply to the Board for permission to exclude its sustained interruptions from its CAIDI and SAIFI calculations, **if the aid provided substantially affected the EDC’s ability to respond to those interruptions.**
N.J.A.C. 14:5-2, Plant.

14:5-2.1(a)1 through 2, Plant Construction. No Changes.

14:5-2.1(a)3. Removes the date reference for the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) to ensure the most current code is followed and updates the web address to obtain the NESC.

14:5-2.1(b) and 14:5-2.2 through 2.8. No changes.

14:5-2.9, Inspection of Property. Renamed “Inspection and Repair of Street lights” and removed language otherwise related to inspection of property.

New rule: 14:5:2.10, Inspection of Property. Moved the language removed from 14:5-2.9 to this section.
N.J.A.C. 14:5-3, Service. No changes.

N.J.A.C. 14:5-4, Meters. No changes.

N.J.A.C. 14:5-5, Extensions of Electric Service. No changes.
N.J.A.C. 14:5-6, Uniform System of Accounts for Classes A and B Electric Utilities.

14:5-6.1, Adoption by reference of the Uniform System of Accounts (USOA). Change adds the FERC acronym and updates the web address for FERC’s USOA information.

14:5-6.2, Adoption by reference of rules concerning preservation of records. No changes.

N.J.A.C. 14:5-8, Electric Distribution Service Reliability and Quality Standards

14:5-8.1 through 8.6. No Changes.

14:5-8.7(a)1(i) through (ix). No changes.

New rule: 14:5-8.7(a)1(x) adds reporting of SAIFI and CAIDI calculations for the quarter and year to date on quarterly reports.

14:5-8.7(a)2 through 4 and 14:5-8.7(b) through (c). No changes.
N.J.A.C. 14:5-8, Electric Distribution Service Reliability and Quality Standards

14:5-8.8(a), Annual System Performance Report. Change requires filing of public and confidential versions of the Annual System Performance Report. Also allows Rate Counsel to decide whether to receive electronic versions or hard copies at their discretion.

14:5-8.8(b) through (h). No changes.

14:5-8.9, Major Event Report. 14:5-8.9(a), 14:5-8.9(a)1 through 2, and 14:5-8.9(b). No changes.
N.J.A.C. 14:5-8.9, Major Event Report.

14:5-8.9(a)3. Adds poles down, broken cross arms, damaged transformers and miles of wire replaced to the Major event report.

14:5-8.9(a)4 through 6. Adds references to crew reporting to be in terms of FTEs.

New Rules: 14:5-8.9(a)7 through 18. Adds new reporting requirements for Major Event reports.
New Rules: 14:5-8.9(a)7 through 18.

7. A list of Emergency Management contacts made by the EDC over the course of the outages including County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) coordinators, Municipal OEM coordinators, Mayors, Business Administrators, Police Chiefs and Fire Chiefs. Indicate the method of contact (phone, fax, text, email, in-person), the date and time of the contact, the employee who made the contact and who was contacted.

8. A list of any public communications made by the EDC before and during the course of the outages including radio, newspapers, television, social media and the EDC’s website, including the date, time and content of those communications.
New Rules: 14:5-8.9(a)7 through 18.

9. A list in sequential restoration order of all trouble locations that were restored, the number of customers restored associated with these locations and the time at which they were restored.

10. A list segregating all trouble locations by municipality, county and number of customers affected.

11. A list of any time when high winds prevented restoration personnel from performing their job functions including the affected areas and duration of the suspension of work activities.
New Rules: 14:5-8.9(a)7 through 18.

12. A list detailing the time and date of all requests made by the EDC to other utilities, including parent companies, subsidiaries and/or "sister" companies, and/or outside contractors or subcontractors for mutual assistance. The nature of each request should also be specified.

13. A list detailing where those mutual aid crews were directed to work by number and county over four hour intervals during the course of the restoration effort.

14. The number of roads cleared of utility infrastructure.
New Rules: 14:5-8.9(a)7 through 18.

15. The number of roads cleared of utility infrastructure that was damaged by overhanging tree branches.

16. The number of downed trees and the number of downed trees previously identified as hazard trees pursuant to Subchapter 14:5-9.

17. Telecommunications sector issues that hampered restoration.

18. A daily accounting of the Estimated Times of Restoration (ETR) issued to customers throughout the restoration.
N.J.A.C. 14:5-8.10, Establishment of Reliability Service Performance Level

14:5-8.10(a). No change.

14:5-8.10(a)1 and 2. Changes the 5 year average from the years 2010-2014 to the previous 5 years of the current report year.

14:5-8.10(a)3 and 14:5-8.10(b) through (c). No change.
N.J.A.C. 14:5-8.11 Prompt Restoration Standards

14:5-8.11 (a) through (d). No change.

New Rule: 14:5-8.11(e). Adds the requirements of P.L. 2021, c.29. Requires EDCs to provide priority assistance to hospitals, assisted living facilities, dialysis centers and other medical facilities.

N.J.A.C. 14:5-8.13, Penalties. No change.

N.J.A.C. 14:5-9, Electric Utility Line Vegetation Management

14:5-9.1 through 9.6(a)3. No change.

14:5-9.6(a)4. Updates the website address for the referenced book.

14:5-9.6(a)5 through 9 and 14:5-9.6(b) through (g). No change.

14:5-9.7 through 9.12. No change.
I will now take your public comments in the order that you registered for this event.

Thank you.