



Duke Energy
4306 E Co Rd 462
Wildwood, Florida 34785

April 22, 2021

Dear Stakeholders of Marion County,

As part of Duke Energy's continuing commitment to provide safe and reliable electrical service to our communities, we must invest in the proper care and maintenance of the transmission infrastructure. Part of this maintenance program involves the vegetation management within our right-of-way corridor. In order to ensure continued reliable electric service, crews will be applying herbicide to vegetation within the XSX 230kV transmission power line corridor. Applications will be made by qualified personnel using an EPA registered non-restricted use herbicide, selective to the woody stem vegetation species in need of control. Affected landowners will be notified prior to work commencing on their property. This work is scheduled to begin in the next few weeks. This letter constitutes the notice required by Florida Statute 163.3209.

The XSX 230kV is a 5.3 mile right-of-way that begins at the Silver Springs Substation, located at 3001 South East 36th Ave, Ocala, FL, and ends at the Silver Springs North Substation, located at 4155 N.E. 35th St, Silver Springs, FL.

Trees are a leading cause of power outages. Duke Energy's progressive vegetation management practices help to minimize outages during storms and reduces restoration time following storm-related damage. Duke Energy Florida has been recognized for its tree care practices with the distinctive Tree Line USA designation from The National Arbor Day Foundation. We work to balance the need for reliable electric power with sensitivity for the environment and aesthetic considerations. During the performance of this necessary work, our contracted herbicide crews use the most currently accepted standards within the industry and are supervised by a licensed arborist.

This maintenance project is only one of many investments we are making on our transmission infrastructure. We strive to provide our customers and communities with excellent service and reliability.

For further details or questions about the work, please feel free to contact me. To learn more about our tree care practices, see "How We Manage Trees" at <https://www.duke-energy.com/community/vegetation-management>.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Wheatley

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