

FOR BOARD ACTION

Agenda Item # 9

Meeting Date:

6/29/10

SUBJECT:

Discussion of RPU's Underground Electric Line Policy

PREPARED BY:

Larry Koshire, General Manager

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

At the May 25, 2010 Utility Board meeting, there was discussion regarding the conversion of existing overhead power lines to underground. The current RPU policy does not provide for such an approach, nor is there any money in the budget for burying existing overhead lines.

The requirements for undergrounding electric lines for new subdivisions and commercial development are provided for in the RPU Electric Service Rules and Regulations (revised April 2007). From time to time, these regulations are reviewed by the Public Utility Board (see attached FBA dated March 27, 2007). The Rules and Regulations are used by staff and developers and other electric customers as the standards for all electric service provided to RPU customers. They are posted on RPU's web site www.rpu.org. We have included a copy of the most recent electric service rules and regulations for the Board to review. Section 900 describes the rules for underground service for residential customers.


The requirement for undergrounding new subdivisions has been in place for many decades. As a result, over 60% of the power lines in the City of Rochester are underground. There are cases where it is not feasible, or very expensive to install underground, especially for main feeder lines. Further information on the RPU's underground policy will be provided at the Board meeting.

FOR CAPITAL PURCHASES/BIDS/MAJOR PROJECTS:

Not Applicable

UTILITY BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

This is a discussion item. No action is requested.


General Manager


Date

ROCHESTER PUBLIC UTILITIES

FOR BOARD ACTION

Agenda Item # 7

Meeting Date: 3/27/07

SUBJECT: ELECTRIC SERVICE RULES & REGULATIONS UPDATE

PREPARED BY: Mike Engle
Supervisor of Distribution Design

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

The Electric Service Rules & Regulations are routinely updated every two or three years. The purpose of the document is to inform customers and contractors what is generally available for different installations and to explain the requirements for service installations. A summary of the changes implemented follows:

1. Section 205, Inspection of Customer Facilities, was revised to replace reference to Rochester City Ordinance 10.08 with reference to Minnesota Statutes Section 326.244.
2. Exhibit 10, Rock and Winter Installation Guidelines, was revised to allow us to pass along any surcharge we receive from our joint trench contractor for unsuitable backfill.
3. All other changes were housekeeping type changes to clarify an item or correct grammar.

UTILITY BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

This is presented to the Board as an informational item.


General Manager

3/20/07
Date

ROCHESTER PUBLIC UTILITIES