

POLICY:	3-8	Vegetation Management	
PURPOSE:	To provide guidelines for controlling vegetation in and near existing rights of way including fire risk mitigation, and to assure reasonable service continuity and safety of KEC personnel, contractors and the public during clearing,		
ATTESTED BY:	Roger Tinkey	DATE ADOPTED:	8/21/87
REVIEW REQUIRED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS?	Yes	DATE REVISED:	6/24/21

I. SUBJECT: Vegetation Management

II. OBJECTIVES:

- A. To provide guidelines for the cooperative for controlling vegetation in and near existing rights of way that may interrupt service or hinder restoration of electrical service to KEC members, and to mitigate fire risk.
- B. To ensure reasonable service continuity is maintained during the clearing or removal of vegetation.
- C. To ensure the safety of KEC employees, KEC contractors and the public during the clearing or removal of vegetation.

III. POLICY:

- A. The cooperative shall follow the provisions contained in the KEC System Inspection and Maintenance Plan regarding tree trimming around overhead supply lines.
- B. Vegetation control methods used by KEC employees or KEC contractors shall follow accepted practices identified in the National Electric Safety Code and current ANSI and OSHA Standards.
- C. The cooperative or its agent shall make reasonable effort to notify members prior to entering or crossing their private property during scheduled vegetation control.
- D. When managing vegetation outside of KEC's established right of way, landowner consent of the necessary work will be obtained prior to it being performed. Once obtained, the work will be performed at no cost to the landowner provided that the work is required to comply with this vegetation management plan. If consent is not provided and the vegetation in question threatens KEC's facilities or poses a fire risk resulting from contact with energized lines, the landowner will be formally notified of the following:
 - 1. The work required and the hazards posed.
 - 2. The landowner's legal liability associated with the identified hazards.
 - 3. The cooperative's right and intent to pursue legal and financial recourse in the event the identified vegetation causes damage to KEC's facilities, creates an outage or starts a fire.
 - 4. The landowner's indemnification of the cooperative against liability resulting from the vegetation hazard.

- 5. The cooperative's continued willingness to remove the vegetation, at no cost to the landowner, upon receipt of written consent.
 - E. KEC will remove vegetation that reasonably threatens KEC facilities, whether located within established rights of way or not, at the request of a landowner. KEC will work cooperatively with the landowner in scheduling the necessary work and will perform it at no cost to the landowner. KEC shall not perform work for landowners, regardless of cost, if the vegetation to be removed does not threaten KEC's facilities or its removal conflicts with the standards identified in the KEC System Inspection and Maintenance Plan.
 - F. The removal of vegetation threatening the cooperative's facilities is provided at no cost to the landowner. In turn, landowners have a responsibility to notify the cooperative of vegetation management activities they plan which could threaten its facilities. In the event a landowner fails to notify the cooperative of such work and, as a consequence of that work, KEC's facilities are damaged, the cooperative will pursue legal recourse and financial restitution for damages incurred.
 - G. The cooperative will identify line segments prone to frequent right-of-way related disruptions of service. In those cases where the existing easements are narrower than currently required or are difficult to patrol or maintain with a line truck, means of mitigating for future disruptions will be considered. In these cases, the Cooperative will consider procurement of additional right of way, conversion to underground, relocation of the line along a more accessible route or any other reasonable approach.
- IV. RESPONSIBILITY: It shall be the responsibility of the General Manager to administer this policy.

Issued: 08/21/87
Effective: 08/21/87
Amended: 08/20/98
03/18/99
01/28/16
05/27/21
06/24/21

Attested by:


Secretary