

M.J.M. ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

SECTION III – MEMBERS AND CONSUMERS

Policy 14 Approved: 01/26/2017

REVIEWED: 01/23/2020 10/26/2023

AVIAN PROTECTION

POLICY

Avian interaction with power lines may cause bird injuries and mortalities, which, in turn, may result in outages, violations of bird protection laws, grass and forest fires, or raise concerns by employees, resource agencies and the public. MJM Electric Cooperative, Inc (MJM) is committed to minimizing its impact on migratory birds and to complying with bird protection regulations within its goal of providing reliable, cost-effective electrical service. To do this, MJM will comply with all necessary permits, monitor and report avian mortality incidents and make reasonable efforts to construct and modify infrastructure to minimize the incidence of avian mortality. Risk assessment tools, including avian risk assessment maps provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and/or the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) along with MJM existing system data will be used to determine proactive measures that may be taken to avoid and minimize avian interactions with electric system infrastructure owned by MJM.

This plan is intended to ensure compliance with legal requirements, while improving distribution system reliability. MJM management and employees are responsible for managing bird interactions with power lines and are committed to reducing the detrimental effects of these interactions.

RESPONSIBILITY

President/CEO and Employees

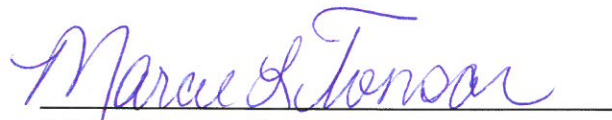
PROCEDURE

1. Implement and comply with its comprehensive Avian Protection Plan (APP).
2. Ensure its actions comply with applicable laws, regulations, and permits.
3. Conduct a comprehensive avian risk assessment of the distribution system.
4. Document avian mortalities through the USFWS Avian Mortality reporting program when provided authorization by USFWS to do so.
5. Modify electric infrastructure at sites where avian mortalities occur when practical. Modifications will be in accordance with the APP and will follow the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee's (APLIC) Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power lines the State of the Art in 2006 and Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines: State of the Art in 2012 whenever possible.

6. Identify problem poles and lines, and problem nests in consultation with USFWS and the IDNR as necessary and work to minimize avian interactions at problem sites.
7. Provide information, resources, and training to improve employee knowledge and awareness of the APP and all of its provisions.
8. Construct all new or rebuilt facilities in rural areas (outside city limits or beyond residential/commercial developments) in areas of high avian use, where appropriate, to MJM's avian-safe standards that meet or exceed the APLIC guidelines.

MJM customer service and regulatory compliance will be improved and risk to avian species will be reduced through the proactive and innovative resolutions of bird power line interactions guided by this plan.

MJM Management endorses and will support this plan and ensure that all supervisors and employees will be provided guidance and resources to meet the expectations of the plan.



Marcie Tonsor, Secretary