

# Improving Through Undergrounding

Florida Power & Light Company is improving your service in good weather and bad by replacing the overhead power lines in your neighborhood with more reliable underground lines.



To make the energy grid stronger and more storm-resilient, FPL has invested more than \$5 billion since 2006. Our investments include:

- » Undergrounding power lines
- » Inspecting all of our poles for strength
- » Installing stronger poles that are able to withstand hurricane-force winds
- » Shortening spans between poles
- » Installing more than 155,000 intelligent devices to help prevent outages and help restore power faster if an outage occurs

**The number one cause of power outages when Hurricane Irma pounded Florida in 2017 was trees in the rear of customers' homes, vegetation and other wind-blown debris coming into contact with neighborhood overhead power lines and equipment.**

We are working to help fix that problem and to improve your service in good weather and bad by installing power lines underground in your neighborhood.

- » Underground power lines perform 50% better than overhead power lines during day-to-day operations.
- » Neighborhood underground power lines performed 85% better during Irma because they were not affected by trees, wind-blown debris, lightning and other elements.
- » Once we install power lines underground in the neighborhood, we remove the overhead power lines, transformers and the power line that runs from the pole to your home. If poles and other overhead lines remain, it's because telephone and cable companies haven't moved their lines underground.

While underground power lines perform better in a storm involving wind, they can still experience some outages, primarily if there is flooding.

- » Water and electricity don't mix, so in the event of flooding, our crews need to wait until water recedes and it is safe to restore power.
- » While outages occur much less frequently with underground power lines, in some cases it can take longer to diagnose and repair a problem than for overhead lines.
- » It's also important to note that since most electric service originates from main overhead power lines, customers who receive power from underground power lines can still be affected when there are overhead line outages.