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September 29, 2017

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VIA UNITED PARCEL SERVICE

SEP 29 2017

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 2nd Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

**Re: Biennial Inspection, Maintenance, Repair and Replacement Plan –
West Penn Power Company for the period January 1, 2019 –
December 31, 2020
Docket No. M-2009-2094773**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

In accordance with 52 Pa. Code § 57.198, enclosed for filing on behalf of West Penn Power Company ("West Penn") is an original and one copy of the Biennial Inspection, Maintenance, Repair and Replacement Plan (the "Plan") for the period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020. Please date stamp the extra copy and return it in the postage-prepaid envelope provided.

This Plan is designed consistent with the guidelines established by the National Electric Safety Code, the Codes and Practices of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Regulations, and the American National Standards Institute, Inc. The Plan also has been designed to reduce the risk of outages on West Penn's system and form the basis of its inspection and maintenance goals and objectives as outlined in West Penn's annual and quarterly reliability reports filed with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission").

West Penn respectfully requests that the Commission accept its Biennial Inspection, Maintenance, Repair and Replacement Plan. If you have any questions, please contact me or Tiffanne Cowan at (330) 761-4474.

Sincerely,


Tori L. Giesler

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Enclosure

c: D. Searfoorce

**Biennial Inspection, Maintenance, Repair and Replacement
Plan of West Penn Power Company (“West Penn”)**

For the period of January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2020

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SEP 29 2017

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

**Submitted by:
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President, Pennsylvania Operations
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Revisions to Approved Plan

The Commission accepted West Penn Power Company's ("West Penn" or "Company") current Biennial Inspection, Maintenance, Repair and Replacement Plan ("I&M Plan") for 2017 and 2018 on December 15, 2015. West Penn's proposed I&M Plan for 2019 and 2020 is consistent with its previously approved plan for 2017 and 2018 and proposes no substantive changes to its inspection cycles or plan components.

Section 57.198(n)(1). Vegetation Management. *The statewide minimum inspection and treatment cycle for vegetation management is between 4-8 years for distribution facilities. An EDC shall submit a condition-based plan for vegetation management for its distribution system facilities explaining its treatment cycle.*

Program Description

West Penn performs vegetation management on its distribution circuits in order to promote the continued safe and reliable operation of its distribution system. Vegetation management may be performed utilizing one of three methods: standard specification, inspect and maintain, or enhanced specification. The standard specification for vegetation management is designed to support line reliability, maintain access, make repairs, or restore service and to support safe and reliable service. The standard specification prunes vegetation to achieve five years of clearance and includes the removal of selected incompatible trees within the clearing zone corridor, removal of certain defective limbs that are overhanging primary conductors, controlling selected incompatible brush mechanically and/or using herbicide, and removal of off-corridor priority trees that are dead, dying, diseased, and leaning or significantly encroaching the corridor.

Portions of a circuit that experience high customer interruption minutes due to vegetation-caused outages may be targeted to receive enhanced specification vegetation removal techniques. This includes the removal of certain healthy limbs which overhang primary conductors based on tree species and condition.

For portions of a circuit that have not experienced significant reliability issues due to vegetation-caused outages, a proactive inspect and maintain process will target selective vegetation removal for continued reliable system operation. This may include the extension of a cycle not to exceed a total of eight years. This process involves inspection of the vegetation to evaluate the extent of potential for vegetation to interfere with energized conductors. Factors to consider in the evaluation are the voltage and height of the conductor, the type of tree, its growth rate and branching habit. Trees that will impact safety or reliability will be maintained to the standard specification.

Methods used to manage and control vegetation include manual control methods using hand-operated tools, mechanical control using equipment-mounted saws, mowers or other devices, and various herbicide application techniques such as, selective basal herbicide applications, stem foliage applications and cut stubble applications.

Further detailed information regarding West Penn's vegetation management program may be found in the Vegetation Management Distribution Specifications.

Inspection Plan¹

	Area	Inspections and Treatments Planned (Total Circuit Miles)	
		2019	2020
West Penn 19,930 total circuit miles	Arnold <i>1,529 total circuit miles</i>	311	310
	Boyce <i>514 total circuit miles</i>	106	105
	Butler <i>1,353 total circuit miles</i>	275	268
	Charleroi <i>1,542 total circuit miles</i>	296	327
	Clarion <i>565 total circuit miles</i>	83	163
	Hyndman <i>347 total circuit miles</i>	101	40
	Jeannette <i>1,182 total circuit miles</i>	218	230
	Jefferson <i>1,474 total circuit miles</i>	322	300
	Kittanning <i>949 total circuit miles</i>	239	149
	Latrobe <i>1,180 total circuit miles</i>	231	258
	McConnellsburg <i>948 total circuit miles</i>	99	147
	McDonald <i>641 total circuit miles</i>	130	143
	Pleasant Valley <i>1,067 total circuit miles</i>	215	216
	St. Marys <i>1,210 total circuit miles</i>	241	237
	State College <i>1,688 total circuit miles</i>	343	335
	Uniontown <i>1,246 total circuit miles</i>	214	268
Washington <i>1,271 total circuit miles</i>	268	254	
Waynesboro <i>1,224 total circuit miles</i>	284	316	

¹ The total number of circuit miles to be trimmed in 2019 and 2020 was based on the current system configuration (as of 2017) and thus is subject to change by the time the 2019 and 2020 plans commence.

Section 57.198(c). Time frames. *The plan must comply with the inspection and maintenance standards in subsection (n). A justification for the inspection and maintenance time frames selected shall be provided, even if the time frame falls within the intervals prescribed in subsection (n). However, an EDC may propose a plan that, for a given standard, uses intervals outside the Commission standard, provided that the deviation can be justified by the EDC's unique circumstances or a cost/benefit analysis to support an alternative approach that will support the level of reliability required by law.*

Justification

Distribution vegetation management activities are performed in accordance with the following:

- Accepted industry practices
- ANSI Z133.1 and A-300 Standards and according to the requirements given by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA") and the National Electrical Safety Code ("NESC")

All vegetation management activities are designed to achieve cycle length clearances, regardless of method employed. The standard specification seeks to control all vegetation in the space defined as the distribution clearing zone. The distribution clearing zone is the right-of-way corridor measured at a horizontal distance of fifteen feet on either side of the pole line or the established large tree edge, whichever is greater in width. The corridor is measured vertically to fifteen feet above the highest conductor attached to the pole or structure. West Penn has also employed enhanced specification techniques to select line sections. Enhanced specification is intended to improve tree related reliability. This practice involves the accelerated removal of overhanging limbs outside the right-of-way as well as aggressive mitigation of hazard trees.

As part of West Penn's approach to improving tree related reliability, the Company continues to analyze circuit electrical protection schemes and gives added attention to select line sections, such as those that serve high numbers of customers. Three distinct line sections have been identified and defined under existing protection schemes, as shown in the table below.

Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3
Three-phase circuitry from the circuit breaker to the first protective device	Three-phase circuitry beyond the first protective device	Single-phase and two-phase circuitry
Serves entire customer load	Serves a large percentage of customer load	Serves smallest percentage of customer load

In addition to West Penn's Distribution Vegetation Management Program, there are other distribution equipment inspection programs (e.g., Distribution Pole Inspections, Distribution Overhead Line Inspections, Distribution Transformer Inspections and Recloser Inspections) that allow trained utility personnel multiple opportunities to observe conditions on the distribution system. These conditions may include vegetation management situations that warrant further investigation.

Section 57.198(m). Record Keeping. *Maintain records of inspection and maintenance activities sufficient to demonstrate compliance with its distribution facilities inspection, maintenance, repair and replacement programs.*

In order to demonstrate compliance with its distribution facilities inspection, maintenance, repair and replacement programs, West Penn will maintain inspection and maintenance records either electronically or in hard copy as required by state law.

Section 57.198(n)(2). Pole Inspections. *Distribution poles shall be inspected at least as often as every 10 – 12 years except for the new southern yellow pine creosoted utility poles which shall be initially inspected within 25 years, then within 12 years annually after the initial inspection. Pole inspections must include:*

- i. *Drill tests at and below ground level*
- ii. *A shell test*
- iii. *Visual inspection for holes or evidence of insect infestation*
- iv. *Visual inspection for evidence of unauthorized backfilling or excavation near the pole*
- v. *Visual inspection for signs of lightning strikes*
- vi. *A load calculation*

Program Description

West Penn shall visually inspect distribution wood poles on a twelve-year cycle. The purpose for inspecting distribution wood poles is to identify and repair unsafe conditions or conditions that may adversely affect service reliability or system performance, and to comply with the state regulatory agencies and the National Electrical Safety Code ("NESC").

This preventative maintenance inspection for wood poles will include a visual inspection as well as hammer-sounding as needed. The inspection consists of the recording of abnormal conditions from the groundline to the top of the pole including but not limited to the following:

- Damage – broken or leaning
- Equipment – crossarms, insulators, conductors, oil leaking
- Testing for decayed internal wood

In addition to the visual inspection, poles showing incipient decay or poles that are thirty-five years old or older will be bored to further assess the condition of the pole. This inspection consists of the recording of tests performed and abnormal conditions detected including but not limited to the following:

- Boring – testing for internal decay
- Verification of shell thickness

Further detailed information regarding West Penn's inspection of wood poles may be found in the Distribution Inspection & Maintenance Practice – Wood Pole Groundline.

Inspection Plan²

		Pole Inspections Planned (Number of Poles)	
		2019	2020
West Penn 507,518 total poles	Arnold 43,060 total poles	3,588	3,588
	Boyce 13,854 total poles	1,154	1,154
	Butler 32,735 total poles	2,728	2,728
	Charleroi 44,759 total poles	3,730	3,730
	Clarion 11,816 total poles	984	984
	Hyndman 6,113 total poles	509	509
	Jeannette 36,350 total poles	3,004	3,004
	Jefferson 33,052 total poles	2,754	2,754
	Kittanning 21,060 total poles	1,755	1,755
	Latrobe 30,857 total poles	2,571	2,571
	McConnellsburg 18,585 total poles	1,549	1,549
	McDonald 16,866 total poles	1,405	1,405
	Pleasant Valley 29,989 total poles	2,499	2,499
	St. Marys 27,875 total poles	2,323	2,323
	State College 39,464 total poles	3,288	3,288
	Uniontown 36,068 total poles	3,006	3,006
Washington 33,273 total poles	2,773	2,773	
Waynesboro 31,742 total poles	2,645	2,645	

² The total number of poles to be inspected in 2019 and 2020 was based on the current system configuration (as of 2017) and thus is subject to change by the time the 2019 and 2020 plans commence.

Section 57.198(n)(3). Inspection Failure. *If a pole fails the groundline inspection and shows dangerous conditions that are an immediate risk to public or employee safety or conditions affecting the integrity of the circuit, then the pole shall be replaced within 30 days of the date of inspection.*

Corrective Maintenance

Wood poles and supporting structures with recorded defects that West Penn could reasonably expect to create an immediate risk to public or employee safety or conditions affecting the integrity of the circuit shall be repaired or replaced within thirty days. All remaining deficiencies will be evaluated and prioritized on a case-by-case basis.

Section 57.198(c). Time frames. *The plan must comply with the inspection and maintenance standards set forth in subsection (n). A justification for the inspection and maintenance time frames selected shall be provided, even if the time frame falls within the intervals prescribed in subsection (n). However, an EDC may propose a plan that, for a given standard, uses intervals outside the Commission standard, provided that the deviation can be justified by the EDC's unique circumstances or a cost/benefit analysis to support an alternative approach that will support the level of reliability required by law.*

Justification

West Penn's twelve-year inspection cycle for wood poles is based on accepted electric utility practices. The NESC Rule 12.121.A states "*Electric equipment shall be inspected and maintained at such intervals as experience has shown to be necessary.*" Twelve years between inspections allows enough time for proper planning and remediation prior to any problems negatively impacting personal safety, equipment integrity or service reliability.

Rather than conducting load calculations as part of each pole inspection, West Penn follows the practice of creating base line designs using FirstEnergy's Distribution Line Construction Standards and Distribution Engineering Practices. FirstEnergy's Construction Standards are based on and updated each time a revised NESC Heavy Loading standard is issued. The majority of FirstEnergy's service territory lies within the heavy loading zone and these standards provide basic guidance for most designs encountered by distribution line design personnel. All new facilities are designed consistent with NESC Heavy Loading standard NESC C2-2012, Section 250. The Engineering Practices provide detailed guidance for both guying and pole loading, and additional engineering support is available to designers when more complex calculations are needed. Per the NESC, both of these resources include safety factors such that the deterioration of poles in service shall not reduce the strength capability of the pole below the required strength. Further, as the Company receives requests from other entities to attach their facilities to West Penn poles, an assessment, ranging from a visual inspection to a full strength analysis, is performed based on pole attachment guidelines, experience and the situation encountered.

In addition to West Penn's Distribution Pole Inspection Program, there are other distribution equipment inspection programs (e.g., Distribution Vegetation Management, Distribution Overhead Line Inspections, Distribution Transformer Inspections and Recloser Inspections) that allow trained utility personnel multiple opportunities to observe conditions on the distribution system. These conditions may include distribution pole situations that warrant further investigation.

Section 57.198(m). Record Keeping. *Maintain records of inspection and maintenance activities sufficient to demonstrate compliance with its distribution facilities inspection, maintenance, repair and replacement programs.*

In order to demonstrate compliance with its distribution facilities inspection, maintenance, repair and replacement programs, West Penn will maintain inspection and maintenance records either electronically or in hard copy as required by state law.

Section 57.198(n)(4). Distribution overhead line inspections. *Distribution lines shall be inspected by ground patrol a minimum of once every 1 – 2 years. A visual inspection must include checking for:*

- i. Broken insulators*
- ii. Conditions that may adversely affect operation of the overhead distribution line*
- iii. Other conditions that may adversely affect operation of the overhead distribution line*

Program Description

West Penn shall visually inspect overhead lines and equipment on a six-year cycle. The purpose for inspecting overhead lines and equipment is to identify and repair unsafe conditions or conditions that may adversely affect service reliability, and to comply with the requirements of state regulatory agencies and the National Electrical Safety Code. This program shall be limited to overhead facilities.

Circuits will be inspected on a six-year cycle to help levelize labor commitments and expenses. This preventative maintenance will consist of a visual inspection and recording of abnormal conditions including but not limited to the following types of overhead circuit equipment:

- Conductors (wire and cable) – excessive slack, condition, damage, clearances
- Supporting structures (wood poles) – deteriorated condition, sustained damage (lightning, vehicle, woodpecker holes)
- Pole hardware (including insulators) – condition, damage
- Guying – condition, damage
- Pole-mounted distribution equipment (including overhead transformers) – condition, damage
- Switches
- Sectionalizers

Further information regarding West Penn's inspection of Distribution Overhead Lines may be found in the Distribution Inspection & Maintenance Practice – Overhead Circuits and Equipment.

Inspection Plan³

	Area	Overhead Line Inspections Planned (Number of Circuits)	
		2019	2020
West Penn 831 total circuits	Arnold 76 total circuits	10	15
	Boyce 37 total circuits	7	4
	Butler 67 total circuits	9	13
	Charleroi 75 total circuits	12	15
	Clarion 17 total circuits	3	1
	Hyndman 12 total circuits	5	1
	Jeannette 67 total circuits	9	11
	Jefferson 39 total circuits	4	7
	Kittanning 30 total circuits	4	2
	Latrobe 38 total circuits	10	7
	McConnellsburg 26 total circuits	2	6
	McDonald 18 total circuits	2	4
	Pleasant Valley 42 total circuits	5	10
	St. Marys 54 total circuits	12	7
	State College 77 total circuits	9	5
	Uniontown 55 total circuits	10	7
Washington 41 total circuits	6	4	
Waynesboro 60 total circuits	12	3	

³ The total number of circuits to be inspected in 2019 and 2020 was based on the current system configuration (as of 2017) and thus is subject to change by the time the 2019 and 2020 plans commence.

Section 57.198(n)(5). Inspection Failure. *If critical maintenance problems are found that affect the integrity of the circuits, they shall be repaired or replaced no later than 30 days from discovery.*

Corrective Maintenance

Supporting structures with recorded defects that West Penn could reasonably expect to affect the integrity of the circuits shall be repaired or replaced within thirty days. All remaining deficiencies will be evaluated and prioritized on a case-by-case basis.

Section 57.198(c). Time frames. *The plan must comply with the inspection and maintenance standards in subsection (n). A justification for the inspection and maintenance time frames selected shall be provided, even if the time frame falls within the intervals prescribed in subsection (n). However, an EDC may propose a plan that, for a given standard, uses intervals outside the Commission standard, provided that the deviation can be justified by the EDC's unique circumstances or a cost/benefit analysis to support an alternative approach that will support the level of reliability required by law.*

Justification

West Penn's six-year inspection cycle for overhead lines is based on accepted electric utility practices. The NESC Rule 12.121.A states "Electric equipment shall be inspected and maintained at such intervals as experience has shown to be necessary." West Penn's experience has shown the six-year inspection cycle to be successful in addressing problems in a timely manner, allowing for proper planning and remediation prior to the problem negatively impacting personal safety, equipment integrity or service reliability. This experience does not justify the expense of an increased cycle.

In addition to West Penn's Distribution Overhead Line Inspection Program, there are other distribution equipment inspection programs (e.g., Distribution Vegetation Management, Distribution Pole Inspections, Distribution Transformer Inspections and Recloser Inspections) that allow trained utility personnel multiple opportunities to observe conditions on the distribution system. Further, field personnel perform circuit assessments to address specific reliability concerns and to assess worst performing circuit performance. Lastly, West Penn may use infrared thermography on an as-needed basis on certain worst performing circuits or while performing circuit rehabilitation.

Section 57.198(m). Record Keeping. *Maintain records of inspection and maintenance activities sufficient to demonstrate compliance with its distribution facilities inspection, maintenance, repair and replacement programs.*

In order to demonstrate compliance with its distribution facilities inspection, maintenance, repair and replacement programs, West Penn will maintain inspection and maintenance records either electronically or in hard copy as required by state law.

Section 57.198(n)(6). Distribution transformer inspections. Overhead distribution transformers shall be visually inspected as part of the distribution line inspection every 1 – 2 years. Above-ground pad-mounted transformers shall be inspected at least as often as every 5 years and below-ground transformers shall be inspected at least as often as every 8 years. An inspection must include checking for:

- i. Rust, dents or other evidence of contact
- ii. Leaking oil
- iii. Installation of fences or shrubbery that could adversely affect access to and operation of the transformer
- iv. Unauthorized excavation or changes in grade near the transformer

Program Description

West Penn inspects overhead distribution transformers as part of the overhead line inspection. Above-ground pad-mounted transformers are inspected on a five-year cycle and below-ground transformers are inspected on an eight-year cycle. The purpose for inspecting distribution transformers is to identify and repair unsafe conditions or conditions that may adversely affect service reliability, and to comply with the requirements of state regulatory agencies and the National Electrical Safety Code.

Overhead distribution transformers – visual inspection and recording of abnormal conditions including but not limited to the following:

- Equipment condition – oil leakage, arresters, rust, dents or evidence of contact

Above-ground pad-mounted equipment (transformers and switchgear) – inspection and recording of abnormal conditions including but not limited to the following:

- Equipment condition – oil leakage, cabinet damage, holes, washout
- Security – locking mechanisms
- Accessibility – as required for operation and maintenance purposes, including the installation of fences or shrubbery that could adversely affect access to and operation of the transformer and unauthorized excavation or changes in grade near the transformer
- Warning labels – electrical hazard warning label and landscaping instructions notice

Below-ground transformers – visual inspection and recording of abnormal conditions including but not limited to the following:

- Accessibility – verify cover is secured
- Equipment condition – visually inspect baffle

Further detailed information regarding West Penn's inspection of distribution transformers may be found in the Distribution Inspection & Maintenance Practice – Underground Equipment.

Inspection Plan⁴

	Area	Type	Transformer Inspections Planned (Total number of transformers)	
			2019	2020
West Penn 316,857 total transformers	Arnold 26,562 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 24,150 total transformers	3,703	6,161
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 2,412 total transformers	360	598
	Boyce 14,361 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 10,035 total transformers	1,932	1,345
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 4,326 total transformers	1,100	780
	Butler 23,248 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 19,305 total transformers	2,918	4,661
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 3,943 total transformers	801	921
	Charleroi 29,939 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 26,899 total transformers	6,165	5,515
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 3,040 total transformers	597	746
	Clarion 6,313 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 5,642 total transformers	1,085	323
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 671 total transformers	123	59
	Hyndman 2,773 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 2,565 total transformers	1,537	358
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 208 total transformers	120	0
	Jeannette 31,734 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 26,529 total transformers	3,315	5,453
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 5,205 total transformers	760	1,201
	Jefferson 15,222 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 14,459 total transformers	1,986	2,427
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 763 total transformers	144	169
Kittanning 11,447 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 10,529 total transformers	1,673	1,081	
	Above-Ground Pad-mounted 918 total transformers	216	241	
Latrobe 20,162 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 17,515 total transformers	2,544	3,585	
	Above-Ground Pad-mounted 2,647 total transformers	357	628	
		Overhead Transformers 8,063 total transformers	1,327	1,567

⁴ The total number of distribution transformers to be inspected in 2019 and 2020 was based on the current system configuration (as of 2017) and thus is subject to change by the time the 2019 and 2020 plans commence.

	Area	Type	Transformer Inspections Planned (Total number of transformers)	
			2019	2020
West Penn 316,857 total transformers	McConnellsburg 9,084 total transformers	Above-Ground Pad-mounted 1,021 total transformers	181	128
	McDonald 9,959 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 8,154 total transformers	1,037	2,093
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 1,441 total transformers	274	162
	Pleasant Valley 18,603 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 16,899 total transformers	2,459	3,700
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 1,704 total transformers	246	251
	St. Marys 15,343 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 14,249 total transformers	2,472	2,679
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 1,094 total transformers	206	298
	State College 24,654 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 18,698 total transformers	2,479	1,371
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 5,956 total transformers	1,257	684
	Uniontown 21,366 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 19,362 total transformers	2,470	3,594
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 2,004 total transformers	409	641
	Washington 17,537 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 15,045 total transformers	2,109	2,050
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 2,492 total transformers	756	783
	Waynesboro 18,914 total transformers	Overhead Transformers 14,148 total transformers	3,064	803
		Above-Ground Pad-mounted 4,766 total transformers	675	1,074

Section 57.198(c). Time frames. The plan must comply with the inspection and maintenance standards in subsection (n). A justification for the inspection and maintenance time frames selected shall be provided, even if the time frame falls within the intervals prescribed in subsection (n). However, an EDC may propose a plan that, for a given standard, uses intervals outside the Commission standard, provided that the deviation can be justified by the EDC's unique circumstances or a cost/benefit analysis to support an alternative approach that will support the level of reliability required by law.

Justification

West Penn's five-, six- and eight-year inspection cycles for distribution transformers are based on accepted electric utility practices and the experience of West Penn. The NESC Rule 12.121.A states "*Electric equipment shall be inspected and maintained at such intervals as experience has shown to be necessary.*"

West Penn's experience has proven the inspection cycles above to be successful in addressing problems in a timely manner, allowing for proper planning and remediation prior to the problem negatively impacting personal safety, equipment integrity or service reliability.

In addition to West Penn's Distribution Transformer Inspections Program, there are other distribution equipment inspection programs (e.g., Distribution Vegetation Management, Distribution Pole Inspections, and Recloser Inspections) that allow trained utility personnel multiple opportunities to observe conditions on the distribution system. These conditions may include distribution transformer situations that warrant further investigation.

Section 57.198(m). Record Keeping. *Maintain records of inspection and maintenance activities sufficient to demonstrate compliance with its distribution facilities inspection, maintenance, repair and replacement programs.*

In order to demonstrate compliance with its distribution facilities inspection, maintenance, repair and replacement programs, West Penn will maintain inspection and maintenance records either electronically or in hard copy as required by state law.

Section 57.198(n)(7). Recloser inspections. *Three-phase reclosers shall be inspected on a cycle of 8 years or less. Single-phase reclosers shall be inspected as part of the EDC's individual distribution line inspection plan.*

Program Description

West Penn visually inspects distribution line reclosers annually. The purpose for inspecting distribution line reclosers is to identify and repair unsafe conditions or conditions that may adversely affect service reliability or system performance, and to comply with the requirements of state regulatory agencies and the National Electrical Safety Code.

The annual preventative maintenance consists of counter readings and field inspection. The counter readings are obtained to assess system performance based on the number of operations. The field inspection includes but is not limited to the following:

- Type of recloser and current rating
- Counter reading
- Condition – rust, dents, physical damage, leaks, lightning damage
- Equipment – surge arresters, tank-ground connections, by-pass switches, control battery, pole
- Grounds – damage, condition

Further detailed information regarding West Penn's inspection of reclosers may be found in the Distribution Inspection & Maintenance Practice – Line Reclosers.

Inspection Plan⁵

	Area	Type	Recloser Inspections Planned	
			Total Number of Reclosers	
			2019	2020
West Penn 3,798 total reclosers	Arnold 320 total reclosers	Single Phase 316 total reclosers	316	316
		Three Phase 4 total reclosers	4	4
	Boyce 273 total reclosers	Single Phase 267 total reclosers	267	267
		Three Phase 6 total reclosers	6	6
	Butler 321 total reclosers	Single Phase 319 total reclosers	319	319
		Three Phase 2 total reclosers	2	2
	Charleroi 276 total reclosers	Single Phase 270 total reclosers	270	270
		Three Phase 6 total reclosers	6	6
	Clarion 83 total reclosers	Single Phase 82 total reclosers	82	82
		Three Phase 1 total recloser	1	1
	Hyndman 64 total reclosers	Single Phase 64 total reclosers	64	64
		Three Phase 0 total reclosers	0	0
	Jeannette 325 total reclosers	Single Phase 325 total reclosers	325	325
		Three Phase 0 total reclosers	0	0
	Jefferson 191 total reclosers	Single Phase 184 total reclosers	184	184
		Three Phase 7 total reclosers	7	7
	Kittanning 134 total reclosers	Single Phase 132 total reclosers	132	132
		Three Phase 2 total reclosers	2	2

⁵ The total number of recloser units to be inspected in 2019 and 2020 was based on the current system configuration (as of 2017) and thus is subject to change by the time the 2019 and 2020 plans commence.

	Area	Type	Recloser Inspections Planned	
			Total Number of Reclosers	
			2019	2020
West Penn 3,798 total reclosers	Latrobe 209 total reclosers	Single Phase 209 total reclosers	209	209
		Three Phase 0 total reclosers	0	0
	McConnellsburg 154 total reclosers	Single Phase 154 total reclosers	154	154
		Three Phase 0 total reclosers	0	0
	McDonald 148 total reclosers	Single Phase 146 total reclosers	146	146
		Three Phase 2 total reclosers	2	2
	Pleasant Valley 159 total reclosers	Single Phase 159 total reclosers	159	159
		Three Phase 0 total reclosers	0	0
	St. Marys 142 total reclosers	Single Phase 139 total reclosers	139	139
		Three Phase 3 total reclosers	3	3
	State College 166 total reclosers	Single Phase 153 total reclosers	153	153
		Three Phase 13 total reclosers	13	13
	Uniontown 223 total reclosers	Single Phase 222 total reclosers	222	222
		Three Phase 1 total recloser	1	1
	Washington 298 total reclosers	Single Phase 293 total reclosers	293	293
		Three Phase 5 total reclosers	5	5
	Waynesboro 312 total reclosers	Single Phase 312 total reclosers	312	312
		Three Phase 0 total reclosers	0	0

Section 57.198(c). Time frames. *The plan must comply with the inspection and maintenance standards in subsection (n). A justification for the inspection and maintenance time frames selected shall be provided, even if the time frame falls within the intervals prescribed in subsection (n). However, an EDC may propose a plan that, for a given standard, uses intervals outside the Commission standard, provided that the deviation can be justified by the EDC's unique circumstances or a cost/benefit analysis to support an alternative approach that will support the level of reliability required by law.*

Justification

West Penn's annual inspection cycle for reclosers is based on accepted electric utility practices and the experience of West Penn. The NESC Rule 12.121.A states "Electric equipment shall be inspected and maintained at such intervals as experience has shown to be necessary." One year between inspection cycles has proven to be successful in addressing problems in a timely manner, allowing for proper planning and remediation prior to the problem negatively impacting personal safety, equipment integrity or service reliability.

In addition to West Penn's Recloser Inspections Program, there are other distribution equipment inspection programs (e.g., Distribution Vegetation Management, Distribution Pole Inspections, Distribution Overhead Line Inspections, and Distribution Transformer Inspections) that allow trained utility personnel multiple opportunities to observe conditions on the distribution system. These conditions may include recloser equipment situations that warrant further investigation.

Section 57.198(m). Record Keeping. *Maintain records of inspection and maintenance activities sufficient to demonstrate compliance with its distribution facilities inspection, maintenance, repair and replacement programs.*

In order to demonstrate compliance with its distribution facilities inspection, maintenance, repair and replacement programs, West Penn will maintain inspection and maintenance records either electronically or in hard copy as required by state law.

Section 57.198(n)(8). Substation inspections. Substation equipment, structures and hardware shall be inspected on a cycle of 5 weeks or less.

Program Description

West Penn inspects its distribution substations twelve times annually. The purpose of these monthly inspections of the distribution substations is to ensure that any developing substation problems are identified and addressed in a timely manner in support of system reliability and electrical safety.

There are three types of the preventative maintenance inspections that are performed at West Penn substations during a twelve-month period. The chart below illustrates the type of inspection is done each month⁶:

Inspection Type	Month											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Safety and Security of Facilities/Visual Equipment Inspection/Reporting and Recording of Deficiencies and Relay Operations (Class C)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Safety/Security, Visual Equipment Inspection and Record Readings (Class B)			X			X			X			X
Seasonal Maintenance (Class A)			X						X			

The following is a summary of each type of inspection that is conducted at West Penn substations:

1. *Safety and Security of Facilities and Visual Equipment Inspection of Electrical Equipment and Reporting/Recording Identified Deficiencies and Relay Operations (Class C).* Monthly visual inspection of substation equipment, structures and hardware that also includes the recording of abnormal conditions or deficiencies. This inspection may include but is not limited to the following:
 - General condition – read and record ambient temperature
 - Perimeter fence inspection (gate locks, fence and gate grounds, warning signs)
 - Yard and facility inspection (equipment grounds, vegetation condition, general yard condition, equipment condition, oil levels and leaks, structure/hardware condition, hotspots, conductors/switches/connections)
 - Building inspection (security, integrity, indication lights)
 - Visual inspection of major equipment (power transformers, circuit breakers, instrument transformers, etc.)
 - Relays, electronic controls, and panel meters for alarms and targets
 - Batteries and chargers

2. *Safety and Security, Visual Equipment Inspection and Record Readings (Class B).* In addition to the safety and security and visual equipment inspection that is

⁶ For illustrative purposes only.

performed monthly, every three months an additional visual inspection that includes the recording of readings is performed. This inspection may include but is not limited to all items listed under the Class C inspection as well as the following types of substation equipment:

- Recording of amps and load readings
- Recording of counter and gauge readings
- Inspection/test of carrier communication equipment
- Inspection of microwave/radio sites and engine generators – generator alarms and battery

3. *Seasonal Maintenance - Summer and Winter Readiness (Class A)*. In addition to the monthly and three-month inspections, every six months a more comprehensive inspection of the substation and substation equipment is performed. This inspection may include but is not limited to all items listed under the Class C and B inspections as well as the following types of substation equipment:

- Servicing fire protection equipment
- Servicing eye wash stations
- Yard lighting
- Servicing filters and HVAC systems
- Servicing of equipment cabinet heaters
- Servicing engine generators

Further detailed information regarding West Penn's inspection of substations may be found Section 20P – Substation Patrol Inspection of the Substation Maintenance Practice and Methods.

Inspection Plan⁷

	Area	Substation Inspections Planned (Number of Substations)	
		2019	2020
West Penn 485 total substations	Arnold 50 substations	600	600
	Boyce 27 substations	324	324
	Butler 41 substations	492	492
	Charleroi 43 substations	516	516
	Jeannette 30 substations	360	360
	Jefferson 52 substations	624	624
	Kittanning 26 substations	312	312
	Latrobe 27 substations	324	324
	Pleasant Valley 47 substations	564	564
	St. Marys 37 substations	444	444
	State College 38 substations	456	456
	Washington 31 substations	372	372
Waynesboro 36 substations	432	432	

Section 57.198(c). Time frames. *The plan must comply with the inspection and maintenance standards in subsection (n). A justification for the inspection and maintenance time frames selected shall be provided, even if the time frame falls within the intervals prescribed in subsection (n). However, an EDC may propose a plan that, for a given standard, uses intervals outside the Commission standard, provided that the deviation can be justified by the EDC's unique circumstances or a cost/benefit analysis to support an alternative approach that will support the level of reliability required by law.*

⁷ The total number of substations to be inspected in 2019 and 2020 was based on the current system configuration (as of 2017) and thus is subject to change by the time the 2019 and 2020 plans commence.

Justification

Patrol inspections of distribution substations are performed on a monthly, quarterly and semi-annual basis, with a tiered approach to preventative maintenance. This tiered approach has proven effective in addressing emerging problems and allows for proper planning and remediation prior to the problem negatively impacting personal safety, equipment integrity or service reliability.

Monthly inspections ensure a trained, physical presence within the substation. Frequent, in-person inspections have proven effective in detecting the degradation of facilities not always captured by existing local and remote surveillance and monitoring tools. In addition to visual inspections, load and counter readings are recorded every three months to allow local engineering to conduct planning and load studies. Finally, an intensive inspection is conducted two times a year, in spring and fall.

Advancements in technology have refined how substation equipment inspections are performed, and those advancements have been leveraged to ensure the highest levels of safety and reliability of substations and substation equipment. For example, results from equipment and patrol inspections are captured by field personnel on site and entered directly into the maintenance database where they can be tracked. Through the use of historical inspection data and enhanced software, West Penn is able to target specific equipment and trigger maintenance based on equipment condition. For example, counter readings that are obtained during the three-month inspection cycle are used to trigger condition-based maintenance. Both predictive and condition-based programs extend the operating life of the equipment. They also optimize the necessary maintenance interval, improve service reliability, and reduce downtime that is typically experienced when equipment is taken off line which reduces exposure of the grid more consistently and efficiency.

Section 57.198(m). Record Keeping. *Maintain records of inspection and maintenance activities sufficient to demonstrate compliance with its distribution facilities inspection, maintenance, repair and replacement programs.*

In order to demonstrate compliance with its distribution facilities inspection, maintenance, repair and replacement programs, West Penn will maintain inspection and maintenance records either electronically or in hard copy as required by state law.

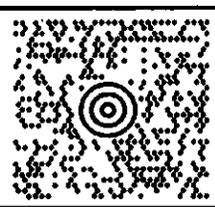
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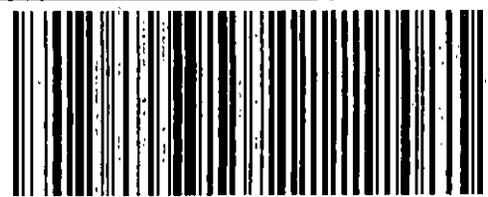
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Reference#2: Tori Giesler-reap-37

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