



FALL RIVER RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

GENERAL POLICY No. 423
SUBJECT: SYSTEM INTEGRITY, POWER DIVERSION

I. PURPOSE:

Since the Cooperative loses revenue when electric service is obtained without authorization or payment, and because unauthorized access to electrical facilities creates safety and reliability risks, prudent business practice requires procedures to protect system integrity and prevent power diversion.

II. POLICY:

It shall be the policy of the Cooperative to implement and maintain a system integrity program and to investigate suspected power diversions, tampering or unauthorized access to any service on the Cooperative's system.

III. RESPONSIBILITY:

The CEO/General Manager is responsible for the administration and enforcement of this policy.

IV. PROVISIONS:

The following practices and procedures shall apply to the provisions of this policy:

A. System Integrity:

1. The CEO/General Manager will be responsible to ensure service meters are sealed with the appropriate device suitable to the particular situation.
2. A visual inspection will be made by authorized personnel who have occasion to be at the service location.
3. All field personnel will be conscious of and make an effort to inspect services they have occasion to work proximate to.

B. Cut Seal/Tampered Service

1. If a cut seal or other evidence of tampering is discovered without prior authorization, the responsible consumer shall be notified in writing of the violation, and documentation shall be retained in the consumer's account records.
2. If an electrician is performing work for a consumer, that electrician will also be notified of the violation.
3. Upon the second occurrence of a cut seal and/or tampered service involving the same consumer or electrician, the Cooperative's may assess a one hundred (\$100.00) fee, conduct an inspection to determine whether unlawful power diversion exists, and charge reasonable investigations costs to the responsible party. Service may be suspended pending a decision by the CEO/General Manager and Board of Directors.

C. Power Diversion

1. Suspected illegal power diversion shall receive priority attention in order to preserve evidence, minimize safety hazards, and reduce financial loss.
2. Upon discovery of a suspected power diversion the employee will:
 - a. Protect the scene from alteration or removal of evidence by whatever appropriate means necessary and available.
 - b. Notify the Ashton Office as soon as practicable, by telephone. Give the meter number, location, and brief description of the suspected diversion.
 - c. The office will notify the appropriate personnel and dispatch them to the service location.
 - d. The investigator will determine if an illegal diversion is in place and may at this time contact local law enforcement to assist in the investigation.
 - e. An estimate of the potential loss will be presented to either the consumer responsible for that service that received the benefit of the usage, or the prosecutor in the applicable

jurisdiction.

- f. Collection of the estimated losses will be by the same method as other accounts receivable to the Cooperative, or according to terms and conditions outlined by the court, if applicable.
- g. Upon conviction or confession of power theft, diversion, or tampering with a service, the consumer in question may be denied further membership or service from the Cooperative. The offending consumer may also be asked to make their service available for inspection from time to time to ensure the continued integrity of that service.

V. PRIMACY OF POLICY

This policy supersedes any existing policy that may conflict with its provisions.

APPROVED BY THE CEO/GENERAL MANAGER



Bryan Case, CEO/GM

DATE APPROVED: January 27, 2003

DATE REVISED: October 26, 2015

August 26, 2019

March 10, 2023

February 27, 2026