



Underground Wiring Waiver Application

Development Services Department

954-979-6213

Property Address: 5300 W. ATLANTIC BLVD.

Legal Description: TRACT "C" LESS 160 FT LAKEWOOD
COMMERCIAL, PLAT BK. 120 PG. 27 PUBLIC RECORDS
BROWARD, MARGATE, FL.

Applicant/Agent Name: PASTOR JACQUES J. MORISSET

Address: 5300 W. ATLANTIC BLVD.

Phone: 954 970-7229 Email: INFO@BCOGM.ORG.

Project Name: BETHEL CHURCH OF GOD MINISTRIES

Project Description: REQUEST TO COMPLETE PHASE-TWO
OF APPROVED ARCHITECTURAL PLANS.

This application requires public notification as described in Section 31-55 of the Margate Code of Ordinances. Applicant is responsible for mailing public notice letters to all property owners within 1,500ft of the subject property and posting a public hearing sign on each roadway frontage.

Include with this application:

- Property owner certification
- Public hearing sign bond agreement form and \$150 bond payment
- \$200 application fee
- A detailed statement by a state licensed professional engineer, qualified with respect to utility issues, explaining why, in the engineer's professional opinion, it is technically infeasible to locate such utilities underground.

*If a waiver is granted, a dollar amount equal to the cost of placing the utilities underground, as determined by an estimate established by the relevant utilities and as agreed upon by the city, shall be required to be paid into the city's underground utility trust fund prior to the development permits being issued.

Underground Wire Waiver Engineering Statement

February 22, 2019

**Andrew Pinney
City of Margate
Development Review Committee
5790 Margate Blvd
Margate FL 33063**

RE: 5300 W. Atlantic Blvd, Margate, Florida

Mr. Pinney,

Initial contact has been made with Florida Power and Light (FPL) regarding the City requirement to underground all overhead utilities abutting the subject property. It is FPL's stance that the burying of overhead lines should not be done in small quantities. Their preference is to underground large runs of overhead wires at a time for safety and maintenance purposes.

For safety reasons FPL will not install more than two underground risers on a single pole. Underground risers are electrical wires that are encased along the pole which takes the service from overhead to underground, and back to overhead. The more risers a pole has, the higher the potential for an accident when FPL maintenance employees are climbing the poles. The elimination of only a few FPL poles at a time requires a riser be added to each end of the run. FPL will typically only convert overhead systems to underground if one or more full blocks are converted to cut down on unnecessary risers.

From a maintenance standpoint, both underground and overhead wires present different challenges and require different methods and equipment to restore service during an outage. Underground wiring is susceptible to flooding and full line breaks caused by land disturbance activities, while overhead wires are more susceptible to wind damage and downed trees. FPL prefers long stretches of either overhead or buried lines so maintenance crews can have the proper equipment to address the needs of each and regain power during an outage as quickly as possible.

Chapters 197 and 170 of the Florida Statutes were passed to help avoid the complications of underground conversions for short stretches. These statutes allow municipalities to fund larger underground conversion projects by levying special assessments and taxes. From an engineering and maintenance standpoint, it is sound practice to bury lines in larger sections containing full blocks from intersection to intersection. The Applicant will make every attempt to request the burial of the overhead lines abutting the property, however, FPL's current feedback is that a fee-in-lieu of would be the preferred path. As such, the Applicant respectfully requests a Waiver from City Ordinance 32-2(d)(4)(b). A cost estimate has been requested from FPL to determine the cost associated with burying the overhead lines abutting the subject property, which will be provided upon receipt.

As a licensed engineer in the State of Florida, I have been the engineer of record on over two hundred projects that involved the burial and/or relocation of overhead utility wires. I have worked closely with FPL staff to design these utility relocations in accordance with FPL design standards and guidelines. In my opinion, my experience with this element qualifies me as a design engineer in the field of utility design and relocation.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Pfeffer', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bill Pfeffer, P.E. | Principal | Florida Regional Manager
Bowman Consulting

13450 W. Sunrise Blvd. Suite 320, Sunrise, FL 33323
Office: 954-314-8480 | mobile: 772-341-6223
bpfeffer@bowmanconsulting.com | bowmanconsulting.com