



Proclamation

WHEREAS, America is powered by thousands of independently owned and operated electric generating facilities known as power plants that generate electric energy; and

WHEREAS, those power plants are connected to a complex energy system called the electric grid that is comprised of over 5 million line miles of transmission and distribution lines that deliver energy to homes and businesses, churches, hospitals and schools across the country; and

WHEREAS, the electric grid must be maintained in operation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year in rain, cold, hurricanes and tornadoes and must be capable of withstanding any hazards that occur; and

WHEREAS, this system of electric lines is kept in a high state of readiness by 114,000 dedicated and skilled men and women known as electric lineworkers that work for all the independently owned and operated utilities across America; and

WHEREAS, electric lineworkers are a cohesive group that must work as highly effective teams in very hazardous situations under very rigorous conditions that respond to disaster areas to restore power to victim's homes and has been ranked as one of the 10 most dangerous jobs in which 30-60 people lose their lives annually; and

WHEREAS, Lakeland Electric's lineworkers have demonstrated their dedication and skills by winning numerous awards and competitions held across the state and nation and deserve the appreciation of the Lakeland Community; and

WHEREAS, the lineworkers from Lakeland Electric are particularly dedicated and hard working men and women who risk their lives daily working in extremely dangerous situations to ensure that reliable electric energy is delivered to Lakeland homes and businesses, who have most recently responded to the tornado disaster in Alabama to assist the local utility in restoring vital electric energy and earned the respect and admiration of those victims; and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting and proper that the City of Lakeland set aside a special day to recognize and honor these dedicated professionals.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gow B. Fields, Mayor of the City of Lakeland, and on behalf of Lakeland's grateful citizens, do hereby proclaim August 26, 2012, and every August 26 thereafter as

LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY

in the City of Lakeland and call upon the people of Lakeland to be particularly mindful of the dangerous work done under exacting conditions day in and day out by these dedicated workers, and show their appreciation at every opportunity by recognizing linemen throughout Lakeland.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Lakeland to be affixed this 6th day of August 2012.

Gow B. Fields, Mayor
Lakeland, Florida