

## CHAPTER 2022-82

### Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 481

An act relating to temporary underground power panels; creating ss. 125.488 and 166.0484, F.S.; prohibiting counties and certain municipalities from enacting ordinances, regulations, or policies that prevent certain electric utilities from installing temporary underground power panels and from requiring subsequent inspections of such panels as a condition of a Certificate of Occupancy under specified conditions; defining the term “temporary underground power panel”; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 125.488, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

125.488 Ordinances, regulations, and policies concerning temporary underground power panels.—

(1) A county may not enact any ordinance, regulation, or policy that prevents or has the effect of preventing an electric utility, as defined in s. 366.02(2), from installing a temporary underground power panel if the temporary underground power panel meets the requirements of Article 590 of the National Electrical Code, 2020 edition, during the construction and installation of the temporary underground power panel. After the county has conducted an inspection of the temporary underground power panel, the county may not require a subsequent inspection of the temporary underground power panel as a condition of issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.

(2) As used in this section, the term “temporary underground power panel” means a permanent meter base that includes a meter socket, meter, and downpipe, to which power is provided through an underground service line by an electric utility pursuant to its tariffs or service standards, that is permanently attached to a block residential structure, provides temporary power for construction of the residential structure, and is intended for use in providing permanent service to the residential structure upon issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.

Section 2. Section 166.0484, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

166.0484 Ordinances, regulations, and policies concerning temporary underground power panels.—

(1) A municipality may not enact any ordinance, regulation, or policy that prevents or has the effect of preventing an electric utility, as defined in s. 366.02(2), from installing a temporary underground power panel if the temporary underground power panel meets the requirements of Article 590 of the National Electrical Code, 2020 edition, during the construction and

installation of the temporary underground power panel. After the municipality has conducted an inspection of the temporary underground power panel, the municipality may not require a subsequent inspection of the temporary underground power panel as a condition of issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.

(2) As used in this section, the term “temporary underground power panel” means a permanent meter base that includes a meter socket, meter, and downpipe, to which power is provided through an underground service line by an electric utility pursuant to its tariffs or service standards, that is permanently attached to a block residential structure, provides temporary power for construction of the residential structure, and is intended for use in providing permanent service to the residential structure upon issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.

(3) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply to a municipality that owns or operates an electric utility with 100,000 customers or less and the municipality’s ordinance, regulation, or policy applies only to its operations as an electric utility.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

Approved by the Governor April 27, 2022.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 27, 2022.