

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Regulated Industries

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BILL: SB 1332

INTRODUCER: Senator Wright

SUBJECT: Temporary Underground Residential Electric Service

DATE: January 24, 2022

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Sharon</u>	<u>Imhof</u>	<u>RI</u>	<u>Pre-meeting</u>
2.	_____	_____	<u>CA</u>	_____
3.	_____	_____	<u>RC</u>	_____

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## I. Summary:

SB 1332 creates s. 366.98, F.S., relating to temporary underground residential electric service. The bill prohibits local governmental entities from restricting an electric utility from using temporary underground residential services if the electric utility has a tariff approved by and on file with the Public Service Commission (PSC).

The bill allows an electric utility to install permanent electric service to the meter socket upon receiving a temporary inspection. Electric service may be used for construction purposes until a certificate of occupancy is obtained.

Under the bill, the term “temporary underground residential service” includes the installation of a meter socket, meter, and downpipe configured for temporary electric service.

The bill is effective July 1, 2022.

## II. Present Situation:

### Temporary Underground Power

When residential homes are under construction on undeveloped property, the homebuilder may arrange for temporary electric service to the property during construction to provide sufficient power for equipment on the job site.<sup>1</sup> Builders may also opt to use generators or install temporary power poles, which allow them to get enough energy for the necessary equipment on the job site.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Power sPlus, *Step-by-Step Guide: Temporary Construction Site Power*, <https://www.powerplus.com/industrial-power-blog/construction-site-temporary-power/> (last visited Jan. 24, 2022).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

If the residence is ultimately going to receive power through an underground service line when the resident takes occupancy, a temporary underground (TUG) service may be a more logical and cost-effective option.<sup>3</sup> TUG service is available for residential services where the permanent approved meter socket, meter, and downpipe are configured so they can be used for temporary service.<sup>4</sup>

TUG allows the contractor to install the permanent meter base as soon as the lintel or tie beam is installed on the concrete block of a residential-detached home structure.<sup>5</sup> This eliminates the need for temporary poles and allows the structure to receive permanent power prior to securing final inspection and a certificate of occupancy.<sup>6</sup>

After construction reaches a certain point and a temporary inspection takes place, the electric utility installs the permanent service to the meter socket.<sup>7</sup> The permanent service is then used for construction until a certificate of occupancy is obtained.<sup>8</sup> After the homeowner takes occupancy, the permanent connection installed for TUG service during construction is used to provide electric service to the residence.<sup>9</sup>

Before installing TUG service on a construction site, a builder must get approval from the county or municipality, usually through the building department.<sup>10</sup> Generally, the contractor must indicate a desire to participate in a TUG program at the time of permitting and sign a written TUG agreement.<sup>11</sup> The Contractor must make prior arrangements with the applicable electric utility, providing a copy of the TUG agreement, and follow any guidelines prescribed by the utility.<sup>12</sup>

Many counties and municipalities offer TUG service, including:

- Orange County;<sup>13</sup>
- Osceola County;<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> See Florida Power and Light, *Electric Service Standards* (April 2021), at page 36 of the pdf, <file:///C:/Users/sharon.shirley/Downloads/electric-service-standards.pdf> (last visited Jan. 24, 2022).

<sup>5</sup> See Orlando Utilities Commission, *How to Obtain Temporary Underground Service*, [https://www.ouc.com/docs/customer-brochures/broc\\_tug.pdf?sfvrsn=9769e278\\_6](https://www.ouc.com/docs/customer-brochures/broc_tug.pdf?sfvrsn=9769e278_6) (last visited Jan. 24, 2022); City of Melbourne, *Temporary Underground Program Requirements*, <https://www.melbourneflorida.org/departments/code-compliance-division/building-section/building-section-forms/temporary-underground-tug-program-requirements> (last visited Jan. 24, 2022); Osceola County Building Office, *TUG: Temporary Under Ground Program Requirements* (January 2013) [https://www.osceola.org/core/fileparse.php/2731/urlt/040521\\_TUG-Form-ADA.pdf](https://www.osceola.org/core/fileparse.php/2731/urlt/040521_TUG-Form-ADA.pdf) (last visited Jan. 24, 2022).

<sup>6</sup> Orlando Utilities Commission, *supra* note 5.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> See Orlando Utilities Commission, *supra* note 5; City of Melbourne, *supra* note 5; Osceola County Building Office, *supra* note 5.

<sup>11</sup> *Id.*

<sup>12</sup> See City of Melbourne, *supra* note 5; Osceola County Building Office, *supra* note 5.

<sup>13</sup> Orange County, *TUG Service*, <https://www.orangecountyfl.net/Portals/0/Library/Permitting-Licensing/docs/TUG%20Brochure%20CERT.pdf> (last visited Jan. 24, 2022).

<sup>14</sup> Osceola County Building Office, *supra* note 5.

- Palm Beach County;<sup>15</sup>
- Pasco County;<sup>16</sup>
- Pinellas County;<sup>17</sup>
- Volusia County;<sup>18</sup>
- Orlando;<sup>19</sup> and
- Melbourne.<sup>20</sup>

### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

**Section 1** creates s. 366.94, F.S., relating to temporary underground residential electric service. The bill prohibits local governmental entities from restricting an electric utility from using temporary underground residential services if the electric utility has a tariff approved by and on file with the PSC.

The bill allows an electric utility to install permanent electric service to the meter socket upon receiving a temporary inspection. Electric service may be used for construction purposes until a certificate of occupancy is obtained.

Under the bill, the term “temporary underground residential service” includes the installation of a meter socket, meter, and downpipe configured for temporary electric service.

**Section 2** provides the bill is effective July 1, 2022.

### IV. Constitutional Issues:

#### A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

#### B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

#### C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

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<sup>15</sup> Palm Beach County, *Temporary Underground Service Policy and Procedure Memorandum*, May 9, 2019, [https://discover.pbcbgov.org/pzb/building/BuildingCodes/PB-O-130%20-%20Temporary%20Underground%20\(TUG\)%20Service.pdf](https://discover.pbcbgov.org/pzb/building/BuildingCodes/PB-O-130%20-%20Temporary%20Underground%20(TUG)%20Service.pdf) (last visited Jan 24, 2022).

<sup>16</sup> Pasco County, *TUG Service Requirements*, <https://www.pascocountyfl.net/3638/TUG-Service-Requirement> (last visited Jan. 24, 2022).

<sup>17</sup> Pinellas County, *TUG or Pre-Power Application and Agreement*, [https://www.pinellascounty.org/build/PDF/Pre-Power\\_Tug\\_Inspections.pdf](https://www.pinellascounty.org/build/PDF/Pre-Power_Tug_Inspections.pdf) (last visited Jan. 24, 2022).

<sup>18</sup> Volusia County, *Temporary Underground Service Request Form*, <https://www.volusia.org/core/fileparse.php/6038/urlt/tug.pdf> (last visited Jan. 24, 2022).

<sup>19</sup> Orlando Utilities Commission, *supra* note 5.

<sup>20</sup> City of Melbourne, *supra* note 5.

**D. State Tax or Fee Increases:**

None.

**E. Other Constitutional Issues:**

None.

**V. Fiscal Impact Statement:****A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

**B. Private Sector Impact:**

None.

**C. Government Sector Impact:**

None.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill creates section 366.98 of the Florida Statutes.

**IX. Additional Information:****A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

**B. Amendments:**

None.