

**NERC**

NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC  
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

# Vegetation–Related Transmission Outage Report

Fourth Quarter 2011

**RELIABILITY | ACCOUNTABILITY**



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The NERC Board of Trustees Compliance Committee has reviewed and accepted this Vegetation-Related Transmission Outage Fourth Quarter 2011 Report.

Vegetation-related transmission outages that occurred in the fourth quarter of 2011 are being reported in accordance with standard FAC-003-1.

The standard requires each outage to be categorized as one of the following:

- Category 1 — Grow-ins: Outages caused by vegetation growing into lines from vegetation inside and/or outside of the ROW.
- Category 2 — Fall-ins: Outages caused by vegetation falling into lines from inside the ROW.
- Category 3 — Fall-ins: Outages caused by vegetation falling into lines from outside the ROW.

Table 1 is a summary of the vegetation outages that occurred in the fourth quarter by voltage class and category.

**Table 1: Fourth Quarter 2011 Summary of Vegetation-Related Outages  
by Voltage Class and Outage Category**

Category	RE Designated Critical Lines <200 kV	230 kV	345 kV	500 kV	765 kV	Total
Category 1 — Grow-ins	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Category 2 — Fall-ins	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Category 3 — Fall-ins	0	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

In comparison, during the fourth quarter of 2010, there were zero vegetation-related transmission outages reported.

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## Category 1 — Grow-ins

No outages caused by vegetation growing into lines from vegetation inside and/or outside of the ROW were reported during the fourth quarter 2011.

## Category 2 — Fall-ins

No outages caused by vegetation falling into lines from inside the ROW were reported during the fourth quarter 2011.

## Category 3 — Fall-ins

One outage caused by vegetation falling into lines from outside the right-of-way was reported during the fourth quarter 2011.

### **Western Electricity Coordinating Council, Inc.**

Reported one 230 kV vegetation-related transmission outage from outside the right-of-way:

The transmission owner reported one 230 kV vegetation-related transmission outage from outside the right-of-way on November 17, 2011 with a duration of 4 days, 12 hours and 28 minutes. High winds with gusts over 37 mph caused a 60 foot fir tree to fall and contact C-phase of the line. The tree, located 25 feet from the edge of the ROW, died due to light competition from healthy trees in the stand.

Table 2 summarizes the number of transmission outages by voltage level, region, and category.

Figure 1 illustrates the number of outages caused by vegetation growing into transmission lines from within the right-of-way that have been reported since 2004.

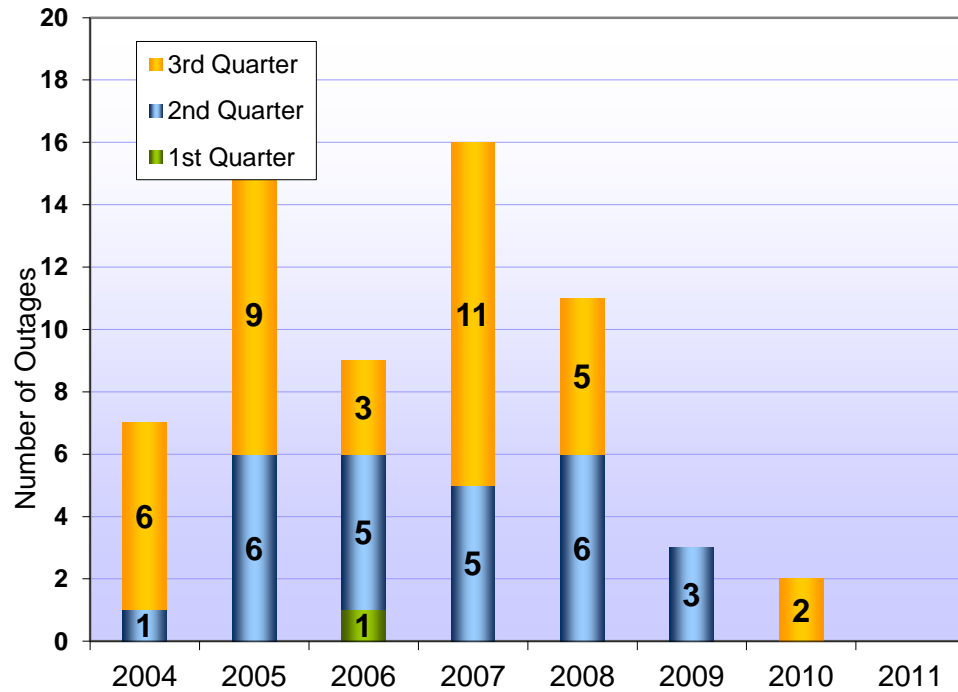
Figure 2 provides this information by voltage class for each year.

**Table Summary of Vegetation-Related Transmission Outages<sup>1</sup> by Region and by Outage Category for Each Quarter in 2011**

Region	First Quarter			Second Quarter			Third Quarter			Fourth Quarter			TOTAL		
	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
	GROW-INS (inside/outside ROW)	FALL-INS (inside ROW)	FALL-INS (outside ROW)	GROW-INS (inside/outside ROW)	FALL-INS (inside ROW)	FALL-INS (outside ROW)	GROW-INS (inside/outside ROW)	FALL-INS (inside ROW)	FALL-INS (outside ROW)	GROW-INS (inside/outside ROW)	FALL-INS (inside ROW)	FALL-INS (outside ROW)	GROW-INS (inside/outside ROW)	FALL-INS (inside ROW)	FALL-INS (outside ROW)
FRCC															
MRO						2-230 kV									2-230 kV
NPCC															
RFC															
SERC						3-230 kV									3-230- kV
SPP															
TRE															
WECC			3-230 kV									1-230kV			4-230 kV
<b>TOTAL</b>			3-230 kV			5-230 kV						1-230kV	0	0	9-230 kV

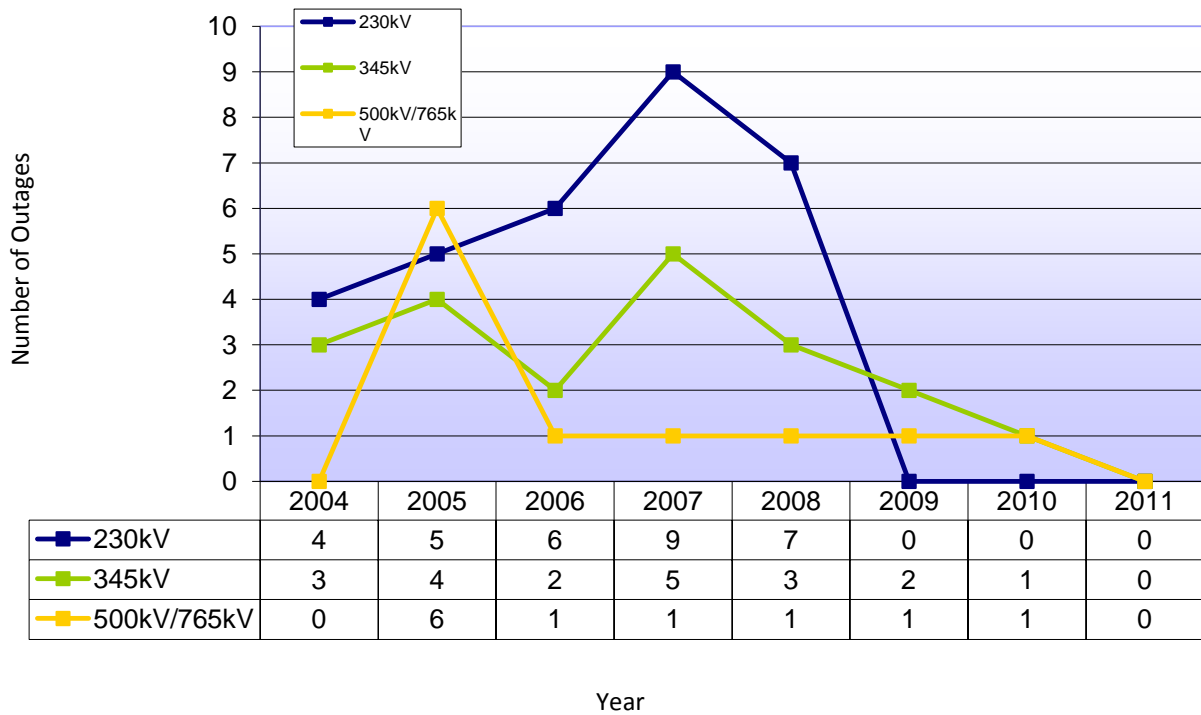
<sup>1</sup> Contains only sustained outages of transmission lines and does not include violations resulting from momentary outages or encroachments into the clearance zone as described in standard FAC-003.

**Figure 1: Category 1 — Grow-in Outages Caused by Vegetation Growing into Lines from Inside and/or Outside the ROW.<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>1</sup> Includes one 2007 Category 1 outage caused by vegetation growing into a RRO-designated critical line <200 kV.

**Figure 2: Category 1 — Grow-In Vegetation Related Outages of 230 kV and Higher**



**Transmission by Voltage Class**