

Gainesville's Energy Strategy

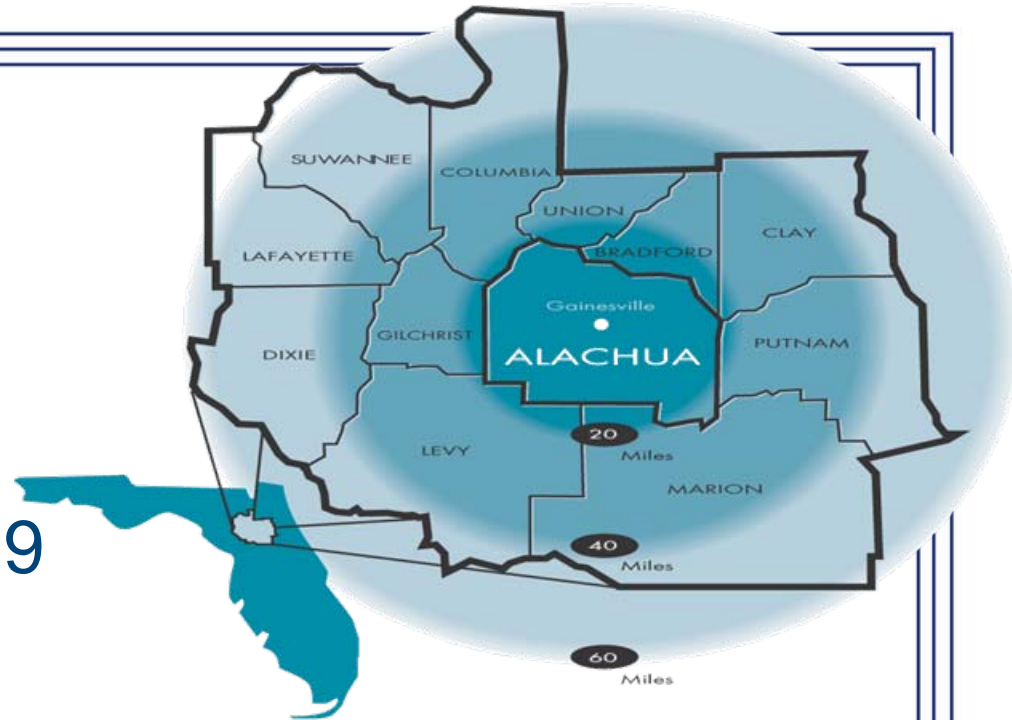
Public Power's Role in EERS

9/28/09



Gainesville and Alachua County

- Gainesville:
130,500
- Alachua County:
252,000
- Region: 1,062,959
- State of Florida:
18,680,367



Introduction to Gainesville

- Medical hub of North Florida
- Home to the University of Florida and Santa Fe College
- Smaller tax base - rely heavily on municipal utility



Gainesville Regional Utilities

- Multi-service utility owned by the City of Gainesville offering electric, gas, water, wastewater and telecommunications.
- 5th largest municipal electric utility in Florida
- Approximately 90,000 electric retail customers in Gainesville and surrounding unincorporated areas



Our Focus on Reducing Carbon



- Gainesville joined International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives and Cities for Climate Protection in 1998
- Signed US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement in 2005

Growing Gainesville's Economy

- With energy efficiency incentives
- With implementation of Feed-in-Tariff
- With new Gainesville Renewable Energy Center – a biomass facility

Energy Efficiency Incentives

- Started in the late 1970's
- Stepped up efforts in 2006
- Now offer rebates and low interest loans



Sample of Programs

- Customized business rebate
- Home Performance w/ Energy Star
- HVAC upgrades and maintenance
- Added insulation
- Solar photovoltaic & solar thermal
- Duct leak repair
- Whole-house program for low-income residents (Avg \$2,750/home, 226 homes)

Energy Efficiency Results

Cumulative results FY 07 – 3rd Qtr FY 09

– 48,627 megawatt hours of electricity saved

- Enough to power 4420 homes
- 43,181 tons of CO₂ emissions avoided

Energy Efficiency Results

- \$32.3 million has been invested in our local economy by business and residential customers
- Since October 2006, group of local partnering contractors has jumped from 12 to 27



Gaining Solar Momentum

- Solar FIT launched March 1
- Based on European model
 - First utility in the US
- Contract with 20-year fixed payment
- 4 MW capacity per year
- Capacity reserved through 2016

Gaining Solar Momentum

- 539 kW currently installed through the FIT
- Total solar = 1,170 kW





GRU
More than Energy

Implementing Solar Feed-In-Tariff

- Gainesville FIT announcement has drawn international attention
 - Newspapers, magazines, blogs and websites
- Investors are serious about Gainesville and plan to use contractors from North Central Florida
- Program will bring steady work for local trades
- Expected to expand manufacturing industry jobs



GRU
More than Energy

Photo Credit: Kelly LaDuke for The New York Times

Gainesville Renewable Energy Center



- In 2006 the decision was made to not allow any new coal in Gainesville
- City Commission authorized GRU to move forward in negotiations with American Renewables, LLC

Gainesville Renewable Energy Center

- 100-megawatt plant fueled by woody biomass from urban and forestry industry wood waste
- Carbon neutral
- Expected to create 525 local jobs
 - 490 in the forestry industry
 - 35 in the generating plant

Future looks “Green”

- By the end of 2013
 - We’ll have achieved Kyoto Protocol
 - GRU’s Generation mix will consist of
 - 21% Renewables
 - 6% Nuclear
 - 73% Fossil Fuels

Thank you

Bill Shepherd

shepherdwj@gru.com

