

# Community Partnership for Energy Planning

## Community Working Group - C

### Meeting Summary

Wildwood Community Center  
April 24, 2008

Time: 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM



## Attendees

| <u>CWG Members Present:</u>                              | <u>Guests Present:</u>                 |
|--|--|
| Dwayne Carlton – Ellison Property Management             | Gail Simpson – Progress Energy Florida |
| Chris Gray – Power Technology Southeast, Inc.            |  |
| Kathy Judkins – SECO Energy                              |  |
| Paul Marraffino – Rainbow River Conservation             |  |
| Bill Ray – Bowyer Singleton & Associates                 |  |
| Robert Smith – City of Wildwood                          |  |
| Pete Tesch – Ocala/Marion County EDC                     |  |
| Aimee Webb – Sumter County Board of County Commissioners |  |
| Larry Watson – Progress Energy Florida                   |  |

The Community Working Group (CWG) for Progress Energy Florida's (PEF) Community Partnership for Energy Planning held a meeting at the Wildwood Community Center on April 24, 2008. Bill Moye of STAR Group welcomed the CWG members and guests, reviewed the ground rules for the meeting, and reviewed the agenda.

Bill asked members who had attended yesterday's Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) public hearing at the Plantation Inn in Crystal River to provide their observations about the hearing. Members who attended felt that the hearing had been a good one. One member noted that while many individuals had the opportunity to speak, there was not as much focus on the project need (which was to have been the purpose of the hearing) as might have been expected.

Gail Simpson provided the group with an update on the transmission corridor selection process (a copy of Gail's presentation is attached to these notes). The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) oversees the process under which PEF's proposed plant site and preferred corridors are considered for approval. The Siting Board (made up of the Governor and members of the Governor's cabinet) makes the final determination of whether to certify the plant site and related transmission line corridors.



Gail informed members that PEF plans to announce the preferred corridors prior to the June Site Certification Application filing date, so that property owners and communities could be informed about the preferred corridors as soon as possible. In addition to a press release, PEF will be sending letters out to all who had received invitations to the Open House meetings – both those whose property remains in the final preferred study corridor and those whose properties are no longer within the final preferred study corridor, as well as to all property owners within 500 feet of a selected corridor. Gail noted that in many cases, the preferred corridor that is announced will be fairly narrow and might be significantly less than the 1 mile corridors that were presented during the open house meetings.

Larry Watson informed the group that immediately following the SCA filing in June PEF will begin a route study to identify the specific route (actual rights-of-way) within the preferred corridors. PEF plans to conclude the route study by November 2008; however, in order to keep property owners informed, PEF will host Open House meetings as each key portion of the study is completed. PEF also plans to hold meetings with specific organizations and homeowner associations as the route study progresses so that these organizations and potentially affected homeowners are kept informed throughout.

Members agreed that the information contained in the letters being mailed as part of the corridor announcement be consistent and should identify how the corridor in which their property lies relates to the project as a whole. Members also thought it would be helpful to quantify the amount of public involvement that has been conducted to date and how that involvement has been incorporated into PEF's decisions regarding the project.

Several members mentioned that it will be imperative for PEF to continue to make sure that accurate, factual information is being communicated to as many individuals and organizations as possible. The two key issues right now that PEF needs to remain focused on are water use/quality and the level of public involvement in large projects affecting Florida's growth.

Members also suggested that PEF meet with the editorial board of each of the local papers simultaneously with the public announcement of the preferred corridors. This will help ensure that the papers and editorial boards write articles with reference to factual information, rather than speculation.

The group then discussed a supplemental report that will be written by Bob Bellemare of UtiliPoint International. The report is designed to inform the



general public about the project, the outreach that has occurred to date, and the opportunities that individuals have to become involved in the process as it moves forward. Members recommended that the report be sent to County Planning offices and City planning offices as well as to local elected officials and municipal and county administrators. Bill asked for 1 – 2 CWG members to provide input to this report. Bill Ray and Pete Tesch volunteered to do so.

Members were asked to recommend other topics that should be considered for inclusion in the report. The group suggested that the report discuss issues pertaining to the considerations that are given to species, habitat, and the environment and how these issues will continue to be addressed as the project moves forward.

The group discussed one of the important non-transmission related recommendations from the USC: that PEF find ways to coordinate this and future projects with local and regional planning organizations and key infrastructure developers. Members were asked to identify some of the key organizations with which Progress Energy should be proactively engaged. Members listed the following:

- Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council
- East Central Florida Regional Planning Council
- Local city and county growth management/planning departments
- Lake Sumter MPO
- Economic Development Councils
- Industrial Development Council
- Sierra Club
- Nature Conservancy
- 1000 Friends of Florida
- Florida Audubon
- Local Chambers of Commerce

Finally, the group agreed to hold its next meeting (which will be a joint meeting of the Leadership Team and the CWG) at the Wildwood Community Center on Tuesday, May 20, 2008 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.



## Community Working Group Roster (Marion, Lake & Sumter Counties)

| Category                                  | County   | First             | Last       | Organization  | City           |
|---|----------|-------------------|------------|---|----------------|
| (C) Alternative Energy & Energy Providers | Lake     | Kathy             | Judkins    | SECO Energy   | Sumterville    |
| (C) Alternative Energy & Energy Providers | Marion   | Rebecca           | Mattey     | City of Ocala Electric Utility  | Ocala          |
| (C) Business                              | Marion   | Pete              | Tesch      | Ocala/Marion County EDC   | Ocala          |
| (C) Business                              | Polk     | Tracy             | Bryant     | Rinker Materials  | Davenport      |
| (C) Business                              | Marion   | Albert            | Peek       | Ocala Development, Inc.   | Ocala          |
| (C) Civic Groups                          | Marion   | Monica            | Bryant     | Children's Alliance   | Ocala          |
| (C) Education                             | Marion   | Wally             | Wagoner    | Marion County Public School   | Ocala          |
| (C) Environmental Advocates               | Lake     | Chris             | Gray       | Power Technology Southeast, Inc.<br>Marion County Planning and Zoning Board | Leesburg       |
| (C) Environmental Advocates               | Marion   | Darlene           | Weesner    | Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees                               | Ocala          |
| (C) Environmental Advocates               | Lake     | Sean              | Parks      |   | Oakland        |
| (C) Environmental Advocates               | Marion   | Mary Ann          | Hilton     | CRA Advisory Board Member   | Dunnellon      |
| (C) Environmental Advocates               | Marion   | William<br>"Bill" | Ray        | Bowyer Singleton & Associates   | Ocala          |
| (C) Environmental Advocates               | Marion   | Paul              | Marraffino | Rainbow River Conservation, Inc.  | Dunnellon      |
| (C) Environmental Advocates               | Marion   | Pat               | Tooley     | United States Forest Service  | Silver Springs |
| (C) Environmental Advocates               | Levy     | Chris             | McKendree  | Florida Department of Environmental Protection                              | Inglis         |
| (C) Government Staff - City/County        | Sumter   | Aimee             | Webb       | Sumter County Board of County Commissioners                                 | Bushnell       |
| (C) Government Staff - City/County        | Lake     | Paul              | Kalv       | City of Leesburg  | Leesburg       |
| (C) Government Staff - City/County        | Sumter   | Robert            | Smith      | City of Wildwood  | Wildwood       |
| (C) Landowners/Developers                 | Sumter   | Martin            | Dzuro      | The Villages  | The Villages   |
| (C) Landowners/Developers                 | Marion   | Dwayne            | Carlton    | Ellison Property Management Inc.  | Ocala          |
| (C) Landowners/Developers                 | Levy     | Todd              | Martin     | Florida Farm Bureau Federation  | Newberry       |
| (C) Landowners/Developers                 | Lake     | Greg              | Beliveau   | Urban & Regional Planners, Inc.   | Mt. Dora       |
| (C) Utility                               | Marion   | Jean              | Lamb       | Progress Energy Florida   | Ocala          |
| (C) Utility                               | Seminole | Larry             | Watson     | Progress Energy Florida   | Lake Mary      |