

# Community Partnership for Energy Planning

## Community Working Group – B

### Meeting Summary

Plantation Inn  
April 23, 2008

Time: 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM

Facilitated By: STAR Group, LLC  
[www.stargroupconsulting.com](http://www.stargroupconsulting.com)

## Attendees

<u>CWG Members Present:</u>	<u>Guests:</u>
Jimmy Brooks – SWFWMD	Gail Simpson – Progress Energy Florida
Chuck Dixon – Citrus County School District	
Duane Dueker – Sugarmill Woods Civic Association	
Rose Fagler – Progress Energy Florida	
Morris Harvey – Citrus County Homeowners Association	
Dixie Hollins – Hollinswood Ranch	
Susan Kirk – City of Crystal River	
David Miles – Hernando County	
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 Plantation Inn on April 23, 2008. Bill Moye of STAR Group welcomed the CWG members and reviewed the ground rules and agenda for the meeting.

Gail Simpson spoke to the group about the Florida Public Service Commission (“PSC”) public hearing that will take place today at the Plantation Inn, beginning at 4 p.m. Gail explained that the hearing was scheduled by the PSC to provide the public with an opportunity to provide input to the PSC regarding PEF’s proposed Levy plant. The input received at today’s hearing will be part of the formal public record in the application process for the Levy plant.

Gail Simpson provided the group with an update on the transmission corridor selection process (a copy of Gail’s PowerPoint presentation is attached with these notes). She informed members that PEF plans to announce the preferred corridors prior to the June Site Certification Application filing date, so that 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.

In response to a question from the CWG, Gail noted that that neither Legislative nor local government approval is necessary for the proposed plant or related transmission but that several government agencies are required to approve the project before it may be built. 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. The Florida Public Service Commission must approve the need for the Levy plant. And the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission must grant PEF a license to operate the Levy plant. She did not, however that for a period of one year following PEF's filing with DEP, local governments will have an opportunity to express their concerns and views about the project directly to DEP. She also noted that there is pending legislation at the state level that would permit local governments, agencies and individuals to file an alternative corridor(s) to the corridors proposed by PEF.

Larry Watson informed the group that immediately following the SCA filing in June PEF will begin a route study to identify the specific route for the new transmission lines. 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.

In response to a question raised by a CWG member, Gail noted that the announcement in June is being made in part because many property owners who were in the original study corridors will no longer be in the study corridors and that PEF wanted to be responsive to the requests received from potentially affected property owners during the Open House meetings that PEF notify property owners as soon as possible regarding whether or not their property would be within the preferred study corridor.

The group offered suggestions to PEF regarding the manner by which PEF makes its announcement of the preferred corridors. The suggestions included:

- Many individuals do not have access to a high-speed Internet connection. Be sure to make important information available at public locations, such as public libraries, county offices, etc.
- In the letter that goes out, provide a toll-free phone number that individuals may call to get more information and to request a map identifying their property in relation to the preferred study corridor.

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 this report include a discussion of the following topics:

- Property Acquisition
- Easements – may PEF exercise its power of eminent domain to obtain an easement? If so, how does that process work?
- To what uses may land be put in and around a transmission line?
- If a landowner grants PEF an easement for a transmission line, does that enable any other utility to use that same easement without first obtaining the landowner's consent?
- What steps may a landowner take to secure his property in the event the property has a transmission line on it?
- What can landowners expect to occur during the construction process?
- Because there was an extensive discussion of EMFs in the original Background Report, provide a reference to that report and make copies of the original Background Report available at the same locations as this supplemental report.

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. Members who volunteered to help with this report were Susan Kirk, Rose Fagler, Duane Dueker and Jimmy Brooks.

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:

- Crystal River: Community Redevelopment Association
- Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council
- Withlacoochee River Basin Board
- Coastal Rivers Basin Board
- Citrus County Board of County Commissioners
- TBARTA
- Florida Turnpike Enterprise (Chris Warren)
- Citrus County Planning Department
- Florida Gas Transmission
- County Economic Development Councils
- County Chambers of Commerce
- Citrus County Airport Authority (depending on the final corridor selected)
- Hernando County Utilities
- Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge
- Florida Department of Community Affairs
- Local school boards
- Media (keep them informed proactively and with factual information)
- Board of Greenways and Trails
- SWFWMD

Finally, the group agreed to hold its next meeting (which will be a joint meeting of the Leadership Team and the CWG) at the Plantation Inn on Tuesday, May 20 2008 from 9 – 11 a.m., with an alternative date of Tuesday, June 3 from 9 – 11 a.m. A meeting notice will be circulated to the members within the next week.

## Community Working Group Roster (Citrus, Levy, Hernando Counties)

Category	County	First	Last	Organization	City
(B) Civic and Community Organizations and Citizens/Local Elected Officials	Citrus	Curt	Ebitz	Citrus 20/20, Save Our Waters Committee	Homosassa
(B) Civic and Community Organizations and Citizens/Local Elected Officials	Citrus	John	Marmish	United Way of Citrus County	Lecanto
(B) Civic and Community Organizations and Citizens/Local Elected Officials	Citrus	Roger	Goettelmann	Crystal River Redevelopment Agency	Crystal River
(B) Civic and Community Organizations and Citizens/Local Elected Officials	Citrus	Scott	Carson	City of Inverness	Inverness
(B) Civic and Community Organizations and Citizens/Local Elected Officials	Citrus	Morris	Harvey	North Citrus Civic Association	Citrus Springs
(B) Civic and Community Organizations and Citizens/Local Elected Officials	Citrus	Duane	Duecker	Sugarmill Woods Civic Association	Homosassa
(B) Environmental/Public Landowners	Citrus	Pat	Casselberry	Audubon Society	Inverness
(B) Environmental/Public Landowners	Hernando	Janey	Baldwin	Withlacoochee River Basin Board	Brooksville
(B) Environmental/Public Landowners	Citrus	Wilbur	Priest	Florida Division of Forestry	Homosassa
(B) Government Staff/Planning Staff	Citrus	Chuck	Dixon	Citrus County School District	Lecanto
(B) Government Staff/Planning Staff	Hernando	Bill	Geiger	City of Brooksville	Brooksville
(B) Government Staff/Planning Staff	Citrus	Kurt	Woerner	City of Crystal River	Crystal River
(B) Government Staff/Planning Staff	Levy	Eugene	Trimpert	Withlacoochee River Regional Planning Council	Inglis
(B) Government Staff/Planning Staff	Citrus	Gary	Maidhof	Citrus County	Inverness
(B) Government Staff/Planning Staff	Citrus	Jimmy	Brooks	Southwest Florida Water Management District	Lecanto
(B) Government Staff/Planning Staff	Levy	Bruce	Greenlee	Levy County Road Dept.	Bronson
(B) Government Staff/Planning Staff	Hernando	David	Miles	Hernando County	Brooksville
(B) Major Power Consumers	Citrus	Katie	Lucas	Citrus Memorial Hospital Health System	Inverness
(B) Major Power Consumers	Levy	Wally	Anderson	Cemex, Inc.	Inglis
(B) Major Power Consumers	Citrus	Vernon	Lawter	Central Florida Community College	Lecanto
(B) Major Power Consumers	Citrus	Dorothy	Pernu	7 Rivers Regional Medical Center	Crystal River
(B) Private Landowners	Citrus	Dixie	Hollins	Hollinswood Ranch	Crystal River
(B) Private Landowners	Hernando	Justin	Rooks	TBF Partners, LTD.	Brooksville
(B) Public Service/First Responders	Levy	Evan	Smith	Levy County	Bronson
(B) Public Service/First Responders	Levy	Roy	Smith	Inglis Police Department	Inglis
(B) Tourism and Economic Development	Hernando	Mike	McHugh	Hernando County	Brooksville
(B) Tourism and Economic Development	Hernando	Nicholas	Nicholson	Nicholson Engineering	Brooksville
(B) Tourism and Economic Development	Citrus	Carl	Flanagan	Citrus County Chamber of Commerce	Hernando
(B) Tourism and Economic Development	Citrus	Daryl	Seaton	Best Western Crystal River Resort	Crystal River
(B) Utility	Citrus	Rosemary	Fagler	Progress Energy Florida	Ocala
(B) Utility	Citrus	Carla	Groleau	Progress Energy Florida	Crystal River
(B) Utility	Citrus	Larry	Watson	Progress Energy Florida	Lake Mary

