

I. Meeting Packet



State of Florida
Public Service Commission
INTERNAL AFFAIRS AGENDA

REVISED Tuesday – April 25, 2023

9:30 AM

Room 148 - Betty Easley Conference Center

1. City of Tallahassee's Clean Energy Transition, presented by Michael Ohlsen, Clean Energy & Resource Planning Manager, Electric & Gas Utility (Attachment 1)
2. Legislative Update
3. General Counsel's Report
4. Executive Director's report
5. Other Matters

BB/aml

OUTSIDE PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION ON
ANY OF THE AGENDAED ITEMS SHOULD CONTACT THE
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT (850) 413-6463.

City of Tallahassee

Clean Energy Transition

Florida Public Service Commission
Internal Affairs Meeting
April 25, 2023




Clean Energy Resolution

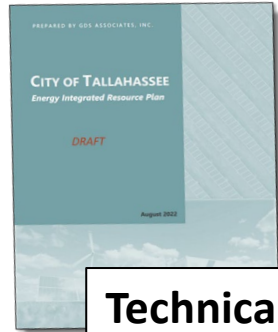
- **By 2035** - Achieve 100% clean, renewable energy in City Operations
- **By 2050** - Achieve 100% clean, renewable energy Community-wide

- Develop a plan... ***with broad public input.***
- Give priority to ensuring that the ***most vulnerable residents share in the benefits*** of the Clean Energy transition.
- Initiate an Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) ***study.***
- Identify ***intermediate targets and steps*** to achieve the goals.



The Planning Process: *Creating our Clean Energy Roadmap*

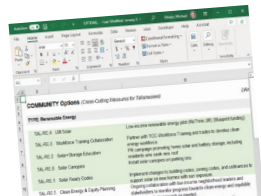

**Clean Energy
Resolution**



Technical Study



Citizen Engagement



Policy & Actions Items



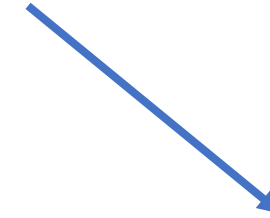
**Interim Goals
(Targets)**



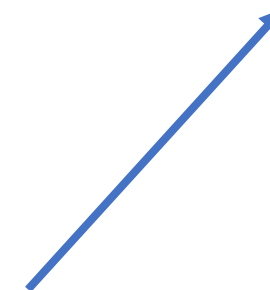
**Stakeholder
Input**



**Recommendations
to City Leaders**



**Clean Energy
Roadmap**



**CITY OF
TALLAHASSEE**

Supply-Side Options



 **Battery Energy Storage**



 **Wind Energy**



 **Green Hydrogen**



 **Transmission Upgrades**



 **Solar Energy**



 **Power Plants**



 **Small Modular Reactors**



 **Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)**

Demand-Side Options



Rooftop Solar



Transportation



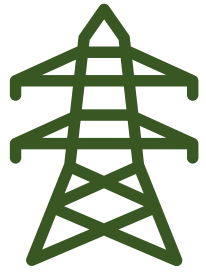
Community



Energy Efficiency



Renewable NG



Electric Grid



Technical Study: *Potential Interim Targets (5-10 years)*



Utility Solar Expansion

⇒ 120-200 MW



Rooftop Solar Expansion

⇒ 30-60 MW



Utility Energy Storage

⇒ 100-250 MWh



Transportation

⇒ 10% sales



Internal Transmission System

⇒ Bolster Capacity




Energy Efficiency

⇒ 5% reduction

STUDY:



 Green Hydrogen



 Wind Energy

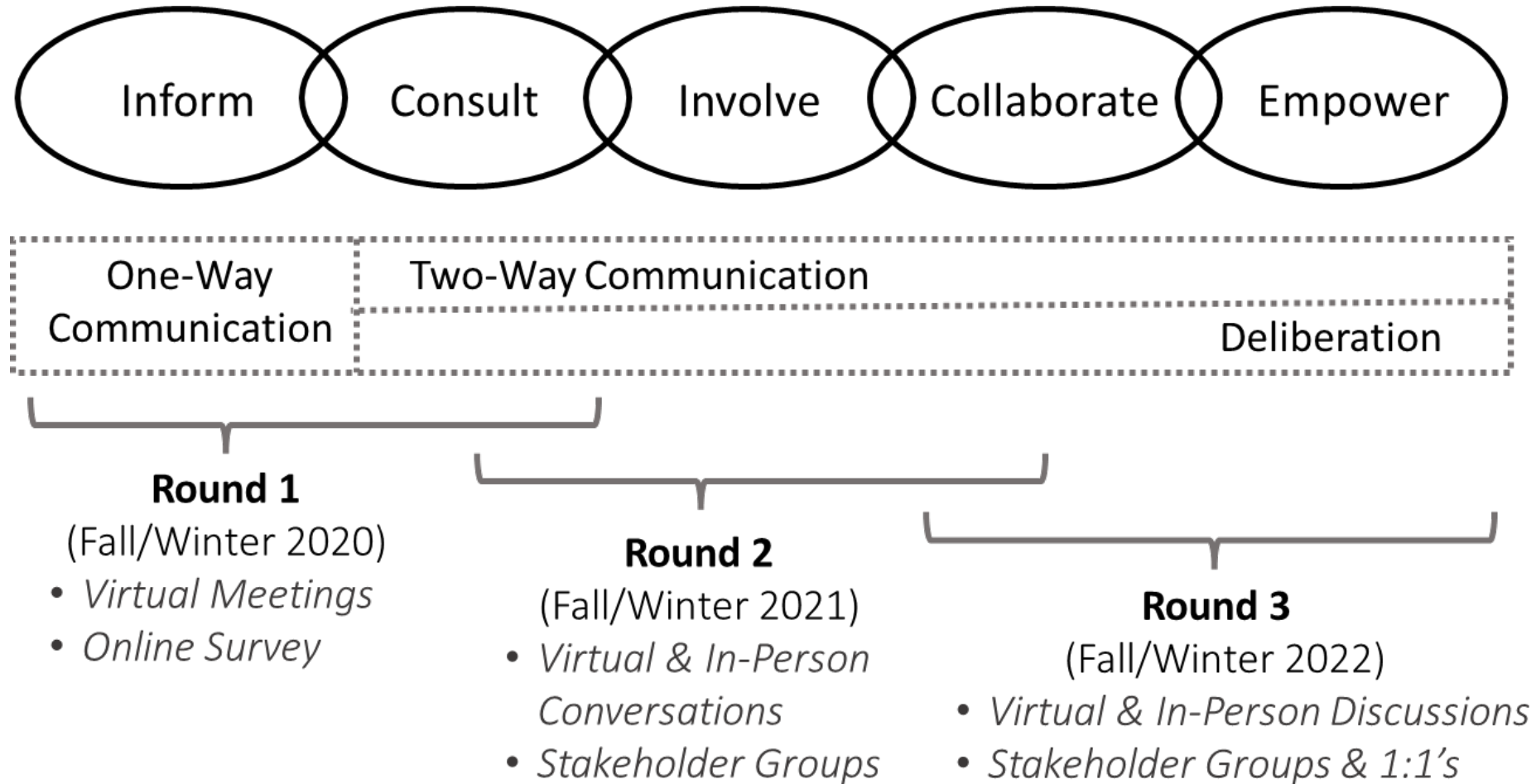


 Renewable Natural Gas



 Small Modular Reactors

Public Engagement: *Community Input & Readiness*



Adapted version of the
International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Spectrum of Public Participation

Public Engagement: *Community Input & Readiness*

- Open “*Community Conversations*” wrapped up in Dec 2022.
- Stakeholder discussions continue through Apr/May 2023.

Recurring Themes

- Impact to Utility Rates
- Rooftop Solar (*Renter Limitations*)
- Electric Vehicle Charging
- Energy Efficiency & Smart Home Tech
- Partnerships w/ Universities (*R&D*)
- Other Transportation (*Multi-Modal*)
- Reliability, Resiliency of Grid
- Federal Incentives



Policy & Action Item Matrix: *Clean Energy Roadmap*

TRANSPORTATION



ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION



RENEWABLE ENERGY



City Operations
& Utilities

Residents, Businesses,
& Developers

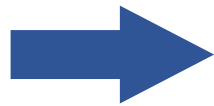
Final Steps: Creating our Clean Energy *Roadmap*

Remaining Timeline –

- Continue clean energy implementation efforts (*on-going*)
- Wrap up stakeholder discussions (*Apr/May 2023*)
- Finalize policy & program recommendations (*May 2023*)
- Submit findings & recommendations to City Commission (*June 2023*)
- Publish ***Clean Energy Roadmap*** (*July 2023*)



Clean Energy
Resolution



Clean Energy
Roadmap





Michael Ohlsen

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Electric & Gas Utility**

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II. Outside Persons Who Wish to Address the Commission at Internal Affairs

Note: The records reflect that no outside persons addressed the Commission at this Internal Affairs meeting.

III. Supplemental Materials for Internal Affairs

Note: The records reflect that there were no supplemental materials provided to the Commission during this Internal Affairs meeting.

IV. Transcript

BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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PROCEEDINGS: INTERNAL AFFAIRS

COMMISSIONERS PARTICIPATING: CHAIRMAN ANDREW GILES FAY
COMMISSIONER ART GRAHAM
COMMISSIONER GARY F. CLARK
COMMISSIONER MIKE LA ROSA
COMMISSIONER GABRIELLA PASSIDOMO

DATE: Tuesday, April 25, 2023

TIME: Commenced: 9:30 a.m.
Concluded: 10:40 a.m.

PLACE: Betty Easley Conference Center
Room 148
4075 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida

REPORTED BY: DEBRA R. KRICK
Court Reporter and
Notary Public in and for
the State of Florida at Large

PREMIER REPORTING
114 W. 5TH AVENUE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
(850) 894-0828

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIRMAN FAY: All right. Good morning,
3 everyone. If you could grab your seats, we will
4 get started with our Internal Affairs meeting for
5 this morning.

6 I want to start by recognizing our employee of
7 it the month. This is -- well, I guess I will
8 tease it out. I won't tell you yet. But since
9 joining our cost recovery section in 2019, this
10 person has proven an outstanding employee, an
11 invaluable member of AFD. He also volunteers his
12 time in energy to help other staff that may need
13 help.

14 As a supervisor, he is constantly working to
15 build knowledge of regulatory matters and is always
16 helping his staff to develop their -- their skill
17 set also.

18 This person is detail oriented, results
19 driven, approach to utility regulation has allowed
20 the Commission to respond quickly and accurately to
21 dynamic economic conditions. He is an excellent
22 example of the type of people that we want at the
23 PSC, and for these reasons, I want to recognize
24 Devlin Higgins as our employee of the month this
25 month, so please join me.

1 (Applause from the audience.)

2 CHAIRMAN FAY: I thought maybe he was here. I
3 don't see him. So we didn't embarrass him too much
4 because he is not here, but -- and I have gotten a
5 chance to working with Devlin, and he is truly an
6 outstanding employee for our -- our agency. I know
7 we all have and appreciate his skill set, and I
8 think he has a bright future here at the PSC.

9 So with that, Commissioners, we will move into
10 our IA, Internal Affairs, material for this
11 morning. We will be starting with the City of
12 Tallahassee Clean Energy Transition presentation
13 from Michael Ohlsen, and I think of we've got some
14 slides also for your -- with your presentation this
15 morning, so when you are ready, you are recognized
16 to begin your presentation.

17 MR. OHLSEN: Fantastic. Thank you, Chairman
18 Fay.

19 Good morning, Commissioners. As Chairman Fay
20 mentioned, my name is Michael Ohlsen. I work with
21 the City of Tallahassee's electric and gas utility.
22 In particular, I am in a group that's called the
23 Electric System Integrated Planning. And among
24 various roles, one is in shepherding this
25 transition to a clean energy future.

1 As Chairman Fay mentioned, there are a number
2 of slides to help guide the conversation. These
3 are mostly adapted from a number of presentations
4 and engagement we've done with the community, but I
5 offer them up just as sort of a context or guide
6 for our conversation this morning.

7 My preference is for more of a conversational
8 tone with my updates. So as I go through the
9 slides, or I go through my information, please feel
10 free to stop, ask questions, or after sort of
11 setting the stage, happy to go back to any parts
12 and pieces.

13 Staff was very generous in giving me sort of a
14 wide array to talk around, and so we can -- we can
15 dive deeper into any of these elements. I have
16 chosen, sort of as the focus, the latest chapter in
17 sort of this clean energy transition.

18 The City, it could be argued, started this
19 back decades ago, in the '90s, offering free home
20 energy audits, a whole host of what we call
21 demand-side management to our energy efficiency
22 type incentives and all. And over the decades,
23 we've -- we've made improvements.

24 What -- what I wanted to share today was just
25 this -- sort of the final chapter in this planning

1 process that I think is really interesting. And --
2 and it begins to talk on our -- our play in the
3 renewable energy space.

4 Just real quick, just kind of to set the
5 foundation. I am not certain if many or any of you
6 are City of Tallahassee electric and gas customers,
7 but just the quick stats. We serve about 127,000
8 customers, 20,000 of which are commercial. We have
9 three generating plants, all of which are fueled by
10 natural gas. As this photo would suggest, we also
11 take power from a rather large solar farm located
12 adjacent to our airport. I think we still have the
13 distinction of calling it the largest airport based
14 solar farm. It provides 62 megawatts of power
15 through a power purchase agreement.

16 While we have made great strides in this
17 transition to renewable energy back in 2016-'17, as
18 the nation was maybe dialing back its commitments
19 to the Kyoto Protocols, the Paris Accords, the
20 climate change, our commission decided, nope, let's
21 -- let's reinforce our commitment.

22 So they put forth a clean energy resolution in
23 2019 that basically directed staff, come up with a
24 plan no later than 2050 to transition our entire
25 energy sector to clean, emissions free energy.

1 That's both the built environment as well as
2 transportation.

3 In the interim, let's practice what we preach.
4 There are some interim goals by 2035 to be 100
5 percent of -- municipal operations 100 percent
6 clean, renewable energy. I am proud to say we met
7 that metric when we brought on line our second
8 solar system at the airport, which now provides
9 energy for City operations.

10 There is other interim goals related to
11 transportation to basically migrate our bus and
12 city fleets to all electric. We are about 15
13 percent of the way on our fleets, and a third of
14 the way on our bus system.

15 But the resolution did a bit more than set
16 targets. It provided a framework by which to
17 create this plan. I think this might be somewhat
18 unique to a municipal utility environment, in that
19 this plan was to be shaped and informed with broad
20 public support, with a keen eye in how the plan
21 might affect and benefit our more vulnerable
22 populations within our community, traditionally
23 marginalized populations, that it is based on
24 science information. So economic and technical
25 potential. And that this plan first bring back

1 intermediate targets and steps.

2 And so it's with this context that I wanted to
3 kind of share with you how this journey has gone
4 over the past two, three years here.

5 So ultimately, what we are striving for is
6 developing a roadmap. And as I alluded to on the
7 last slide, what we have is a two-part approach. A
8 technical study, or the integrated resource plan,
9 which y'all are probably familiar with in this
10 space. That plan sets certain targets or, rather,
11 recommendations that we translate into targets.
12 And I will share with you what we've learned from
13 that plan. But at the core of it all is broad
14 public engagement, feedback, both from
15 stakeholders, from residents, basically from the
16 community.

17 We are closing in on the final pieces of this.
18 Hopefully this summer, we'll bring before our City
19 Commissioners our recommendations, or our roadmap.
20 Again, based on the technical study informed by the
21 public and specific to Tallahassee.

22 So just as a way of quick background. Our --
23 our current system, as I mentioned, largely natural
24 gas-fired power plants, with about five percent of
25 our energy needs being provided by the solar plant

1 out at the -- at the airport.

2 Through our integrated resource plan study, we
3 took a look at the following supply-side options.
4 We tried to understand what's the potential for
5 solar. Right now, the solar we have out at the
6 airport is sort of the technical limit that our
7 system can manage without also beginning to
8 integrate energy storage.

9 So the intermittency that's brought about with
10 large solar energy, we've got the capacity within
11 our current grid to -- to ride that out to keep the
12 system balanced. But as we contemplate the next
13 large solar farm, we are going to have to look to
14 pair that with some type of energy storage
15 technology.

16 So this study is helping us understand what
17 that potential is, what the staging might be. We
18 also looked at what are other both current viable
19 clean energy resources, and -- and what's on the
20 horizon.

21 As you all probably imagine, wind energy is
22 something we looked at, but there isn't a good
23 utility potential -- utility-scale potential here.
24 But we did look at a portfolio or two that
25 contemplated maybe wheeling it in from midwest.

1 That would require some transmission capacity
2 expansions and such.

3 So this -- this whole IRP process looked to
4 understand, and we looked at it through eight
5 different pathways, what mix of these supply-side
6 resources might be viable for the City.

7 On this list too, we -- we did look at small
8 modular reactors as a possible piece down the road.
9 Not something would we take any action on, but
10 begin to watch what is its potential, as that's
11 piloted out west.

12 And what is the -- the benefit or the
13 potential for green hydrogen, since we are also a
14 natural gas utility, what's the potential for using
15 that same infrastructure for hydrogen?

16 On that natural gas front, a third of our
17 customer base is served with natural gas. We
18 looked at the potential for renewable forms natural
19 gas, as well as what's the potential for customer
20 adoption of electric vehicles, of rooftop solar, or
21 otherwise community sided solar.

22 All of that kind of plays in. At the core is
23 still large focus on that energy footprint, or
24 what's the potential for deeper cuts through energy
25 efficiency conservation, both on our residential

1 and commercial side.

2 And then finally, as we look at the utility of
3 the future, how do we shift from kind of one-way
4 flow of energy from utility to customer and begin
5 to embrace some of the automation technologies that
6 allow us to -- to kind of shepherd flows both ways
7 using community as maybe an energy storage
8 resource, and we could take a deeper dive into
9 those.

10 So again, as part of our technical study, we
11 looked at different mixes of supply-side resources,
12 tried to understand trends, adoption potential on
13 the customer demand-side. What our consultants
14 came up with was, you know, our -- our next best
15 steps over the three- to five-, 10-year period, is
16 basically a doubling, maybe upwards 200 megawatts
17 of utility-scale solar -- solar coupled with energy
18 storage necessary or needed to balance our system,
19 and whatever bolstering of our transmission and
20 perhaps distribution system might be needed.

21 On the customer side, while there are some
22 on-line programs that would suggest the potential
23 for rooftop and customer-sided solar cough top 200
24 megawatts, our studies were looking at a -- a more
25 kind of realistic build-out over the next several

1 years.

2 We are currently just north of about 10
3 megawatts collectively of rooftop solar. Our
4 interim target would look to get to 30 to 50 by,
5 say, 2030, and help us understand, well, what
6 prompts would we need to move the community there.
7 And later, I can talk more about, well, what do we
8 offer in that space.

9 Transportation, or the migration to electric
10 vehicles, is going to be a bit more challenging for
11 us to understand, well, what are our leverage
12 points there? This is somewhat a new field for us
13 integrating the transportation sector into sort of
14 the electric grid, or power system.

15 That said, we are making plans to build out
16 public fast-charging stations across the city. We
17 are finishing up designs and placement of our first
18 few to signal to the public, hey, EVs are here.
19 For those who may not have access to charging
20 overnight, or through their business or work space,
21 we are looking to set up a publicly staged charging
22 infrastructure. And then finally, where can we
23 take deeper dives in energy efficiency?

24 Within this intermediate plan is also to keep
25 our eye on where other technologies are emerging,

1 you know, to include maybe offshore wind, to
2 include maybe tidal, geo thermal, perhaps the
3 potential for biomass, but that's all, as you are
4 probably aware, part of that planning process.

5 This slide was just -- the next two slides
6 were just to suggest, we took the guidance of
7 include broad public support very seriously and
8 very genuinely. So while the study took the better
9 part of two years to both model our system and
10 understand the technical and economic potential for
11 these different supply and demand-side resources,
12 we began our public engagement process early on,
13 and we -- we took an iterative step -- process
14 here, rather, starting with largely sort of one way
15 communication signaling to the community, hey, we
16 are starting this clean energy planning process.
17 We would like to invite you all in on the
18 conversation.

19 So it was largely the -- the first couple of
20 rounds was information sharing. But then we
21 started migrating to more of discussion and then
22 deliberation around, well, what makes sense? As we
23 begin to understand those technical potentials,
24 technical and economic potential, what makes sense
25 for Tallahassee as to best next steps? And over

1 the pass winter and actually up through the next
2 few weeks, we will continue that process.

3 What we are hearing from the public probably
4 comes to as no surprise. You know, first and
5 foremost, maintain -- and these are my words or
6 translation -- the robustness and resilience of our
7 electric system, our power system. Be careful not
8 to put upward pressure on rates. So affordability
9 was a key, refrain or theme from the community.

10 When it came to kind of talk around large
11 solar farms, as you might know from just driving
12 through Tallahassee, or Google Maps, we are a tree
13 city. There was concern, well, does this plan
14 require us to clearcut lands, or use lands that are
15 otherwise viable for other uses?

16 So a lot of the things you would expect to
17 hear, but mostly it came back to sort of, well,
18 what's in it for me? How can I benefit? Most of
19 the conversation tended to be around information.
20 Does solar make sense for me on my home/business?
21 How do we transition to electric vehicles?

22 So all of that comes to this, I think is my
23 second to last slide, and then I will pause and see
24 what questions you all have, but ultimately, what
25 is our roadmap?

1 And the way we look to stage it, or bundle
2 these policy or action items, we are in two camps.
3 So what can the City do itself, in its operations,
4 in its service utilities? And what can we enable
5 in the community through incentives, through
6 programs, through education, perhaps even through
7 ordinances to direct this transition in the
8 community? And we did it through or across three
9 different buckets.

10 So under the renewable energy bucket, there is
11 what we can do on the utility side sets
12 utility-scale solar in the interim with energy
13 storage, and on the residential side, rooftop
14 solar, maybe canopy solar over parking lots, open
15 space and such.

16 The other bucket was this deeper dive into
17 efficiency, conservation, both on the City, and
18 what we can enable within the community.

19 And then finally this -- this additional lens
20 to what is the future of clean transportation? Our
21 initial take is that's electrification. So to be
22 ready, both on the utility and city side by getting
23 infrastructure in place to meet that of charging
24 demand, and also on the community side, putting
25 programs in place to both educate and -- and help

1 move the community to make these choices.

2 So we bundled the different action items that
3 will make up the roadmap in these six to seven
4 categories. We are in the process right now of
5 vetting it through our various different
6 stakeholder groups. And ultimately, I hope to put
7 a cohesive set of policies, or, again, what I call
8 the roadmap, before our City Commission in the next
9 couple of months. So here's just sort of the quick
10 timeline from this point forward.

11 But going back to the beginning of my
12 presentation. This journey started decades ago
13 what I shared with you over the past 10, 15 minutes
14 or so, was just a closer look at, well, what is
15 shaping some of -- some of the recommendations
16 we'll put forth to leadership? And on that front,
17 happy to revisit any of the slides or information
18 and share with you additional details.

19 So, Chairman Fay, let me give you the floor
20 back and --

21 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you.

22 MR. OHLSEN: -- and see what questions you
23 have.

24 CHAIRMAN FAY: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Ohlsen.

25 I do have a few questions and then I will -- I will

1 make sure if my colleagues have anything, we will
2 go to them.

3 I wanted to ask -- so I know you are working
4 through this plan and process that you just
5 described. Do you -- how do -- as a municipal
6 utility, how do you sort of define success? I
7 mean, do you compare it to other municipal --
8 municipalities in the state, or do you look
9 towards, like, other municipalities in other
10 states? Or IOUs? Or how do you kind of figure
11 out, based on your size, what you see as realistic
12 and what you are able do as it relates to
13 renewables?

14 MR. OHLSEN: Yeah. So how do we define
15 success? I think we might define it differently in
16 different contexts.

17 So one of the primary drivers for this plan
18 was to maintain our position as a national leader
19 in this space. We have been recognized for various
20 different efforts on our demand-side management
21 programs, and such.

22 So, you know, on the local front, I think we
23 would define success by our ability to hit these
24 targets over the next five to 10 years here.

25 On the national front, it's -- or let's say on

1 the state front, while we might look at
2 investor-owned utilities, we certainly have more of
3 a collaborative effort with other municipal
4 utilities in the state. So while we sought to
5 understand what is the potential, or what's the
6 pathway forward for, say, solar and energy storage,
7 how do we wrestle with ramp rates and the technical
8 issues?

9 We formed a coalition with other Florida
10 municipality -- or municipal utilities. The
11 acronym being FAASSTeR. Gosh, I -- the Florida
12 Association for -- or Alliance for Accelerating
13 Solar and Storage Technology Readiness. We are
14 working together to try to learn from each other
15 there.

16 So I don't know that success would necessarily
17 be, well, who did it first, or who did it better?
18 But, hey, the -- if emission reductions and
19 ultimately climate mitigation is the goal, I think
20 it's an all-in approach, versus, you know, that
21 team approach, versus, you know, first across the
22 finish line.

23 So I -- I would say, in the space of -- seeing
24 us as national leaders in this space is what is our
25 contribution to sort of the state goals, or other

1 municipal utility goals? What can we share with
2 them? What can we glean so that collectively we
3 all move forward?

4 And then, Chairman Fay, as you alluded to, we
5 also look outside Florida. So while we have a
6 unique demographic, geographic sun profile,
7 renewable energy resource profile, it's often
8 interesting to see what they are doing in Texas out
9 west, in northeast, in other countries to -- to
10 learn.

11 How we define success on that front, again,
12 that may look very different than what we do on the
13 local, or even state context. But we are invited
14 on occasion to share what our experience has been
15 both in Florida and locally here.

16 Finally, I would say success too is -- is
17 measured by our -- our shareholders, our community.
18 We enjoy a high level of satisfaction among our
19 residential and commercial customers. We currently
20 also enjoy one of the lowest rates both for
21 residential, and we are the lowest rate among
22 non-demand commercial customers in the state. So I
23 think success also is a reflection of that. Our
24 ability to push the boundaries and grow the
25 boundaries of this clean energy transition, but do

1 it in a way that makes us both viable and
2 affordable.

3 So, Chairman, I apologize, I may have gone
4 wide on that, and clearly have some thinking to do.
5 That's part of the planning process. How are you
6 going to know you have -- you have succeeded? In
7 the interim, these will be sort of our initial
8 goals, have we hit these?

9 Did that --

10 CHAIRMAN FAY: Yeah, that answers the
11 question.

12 MR. OHLSEN: -- I hope answered the question.

13 CHAIRMAN FAY: Yeah, and you mentioned -- you
14 mentioned, you know, price and being conscious of
15 that with the customers. How do you guys go about
16 the -- the cost-effective -- like the Commission
17 historically has looked at a lot of resources
18 changes where there will, overall, be savings for
19 customers. I am sure you do a similar analysis,
20 but obviously with some volatility in fuel markets,
21 that conversation has kind of sped up for a lot of
22 people to say, you know, what is the risk as it
23 relates compared to, you know, putting some sort of
24 renewable in.

25 Do you find yourselves, as a municipal, is --

1 is that cost-effectiveness or the calculation of
2 what could happen with fuel pricing, is that a big
3 driver for your decisions, or is it more kind of
4 this community-oriented influence that you get?

5 MR. OHLSEN: Well, I think it's a combination
6 of both.

7 So is it a big driver? Absolutely. So that
8 economic proposition is part of all of our
9 decision-making. That said, I -- I think a
10 attribute, or a feature of being a municipal
11 utility is also kind of understanding what's the
12 will of our community, of our customers in this
13 space?

14 And -- and -- and so on that front, and
15 looking perhaps at demand-side management, or
16 energy efficiency, we are about to embark on
17 another sort of comprehensive DSM assessment, where
18 we will look at our existing portfolio of
19 incentives that includes rebates, grants. We also
20 offer on-bill financing through loans, free home
21 energy audits and commercial energy audits. So we
22 will take a look at our existing portfolio of
23 programs, as well as ones we can consider, that my
24 move us closer to, say, our solar goals, our trans
25 -- our transportation electrification goals and --

1 and deeper energy efficiency.

2 We will look at our different benefit cost
3 tests, the rate impact test, and the various
4 different utility cost tests on the DSM front.

5 Through our integrated resource plan, we tried
6 to understand what's the sort of economic
7 considerations of these different pathways forward.
8 And while I alluded to looking at eight different
9 portfolios, or eight different combinations of
10 supply and demand type resources, it also
11 contemplated what those costs are out to 2050,
12 levelized back to sort of the net present value,
13 what that range is compared to sort of the do
14 nothing.

15 And as you might imagine, it is sort of all
16 over the place, but it did help inform, well, we
17 don't have to lock into any one of those pathways
18 for the duration. What makes sense in the
19 preceding or interim years. And what you see on
20 the slide here is a reflection of those that are
21 cost-effective that move us towards our customer
22 and leadership goals.

23 So it's a big part, but we are also --
24 economics is a big part, but we are also driven by
25 sort of the community input too.

1 CHAIRMAN FAY: Sure. Yeah. Thank you.

2 Commissioners, any questions for Mr. Ohlsen?

3 Commissioner La Rosa, you are recognized.

4 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Thank you, Chairman,
5 and thank you Mr. Ohlsen for coming.

6 MR. OHLSEN: Absolutely.

7 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: You know, I think
8 during my time here at the Commission, this may be,
9 like, the first time we are kind of digging into,
10 like, you know -- you know, what a -- a power
11 company is doing when it relates to -- to
12 renewables.

13 You -- you started off by talking about kind
14 of where your generation comes from. Natural gas,
15 obviously, a big part of that with the three
16 natural gas plants. With what you are studying,
17 where -- do you see more sort of diversification?
18 It looks like it's kind of maybe heavy into solar
19 based -- based on, you know, what you are -- what
20 you think the near future looks like and what maybe
21 you guys are going to continue to study over the
22 next few years. Do you see a give on natural gas?
23 Do you see a give on the purchase power that you
24 guys have with -- with other generation sources?

25 MR. OHLSEN: So what was the last part of that

1 question? Do we see a give?

2 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Yeah. So -- so do you
3 see yourselves adding more solar? Because right
4 now, if I understand it, you have five percent of
5 your needs are based on solar generation.

6 So I guess where do you see -- do you see
7 additional diversification? Do you see reducing
8 your natural gas plants in the generation from
9 there? Do you see a reduction in the purchase
10 power? Do you see maybe an increase in purchase
11 power, or maybe, vice-versa, maybe an increase in
12 natural gas?

13 MR. OHLSEN: Right. Right. So, yeah,
14 diversification is important. Diversification is a
15 precursor to resilience and robustness of our
16 system.

17 So from the -- the technical study, and as
18 indicated by the goals here, our -- our play for
19 the next few years, at least on the utility side,
20 would be to entertain perhaps two to three more
21 airport size solar farms the size of what we have
22 out at the airport.

23 Where those would be sited, how they would be
24 interconnected, what is the economic proposition,
25 that will be borne out in, say, the request for

1 proposal. But we aren't contemplating a similar
2 ask for, say, wind or other renewables. We are
3 going to see -- kind of take the next steps on that
4 solar front.

5 But on the diversification piece, I think
6 that's where the rest of this comes in. We are not
7 going to get to 100 percent clean energy from the
8 utility side alone. There has to be investment,
9 adoption, growth within the community in the form
10 of, you know, green building energy efficiency.

11 It will be an interesting look into, right
12 now, what is electric vehicle adoption, and how
13 quickly might it happen here versus how quickly we
14 see it in, say, larger metropolitan areas.

15 Right now, we are seeing tremendous growth in
16 rooftop solar adoption from customers, but are we
17 seeing the tail end of that early adopter category
18 of sort of that traditional diffusion curve? And
19 will we see this accelerated growth?

20 So that -- that diversity is happening on both
21 sides. The utility side, the customer side, both
22 impact resiliency, both impact affordability. I
23 think the challenge is that we can't get there
24 through just continuing on as we are. And that's
25 why we are putting this roadmap together to say,

1 okay, how do we push there?

2 But as far as sort of, to your question.
3 Outside of this, this is our focus for the
4 foreseeable future, but like any plan, it's sort of
5 a living process. So we will reevaluate every few
6 years, and we'll see where other technologies are
7 emerging, scaling, what their economics are, and
8 then pivot from -- from there.

9 Did that get at your question?

10 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: It did. It did.

11 MR. OHLSEN: Okay.

12 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: You talked a little bit
13 about -- about rooftop solar --

14 MR. OHLSEN: Yes.

15 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: -- and you made a
16 comment that folks ask you at -- at different
17 meetings, and so forth, that -- that you guys have
18 when you are out in the community. Frankly, I get
19 asked that often.

20 MR. OHLSEN: Yes.

21 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: How do you answer --
22 how do you answer that question? I know there is a
23 lot of factors, but how do you answer that question
24 too?

25 MR. OHLSEN: Yeah. Well, so the nice thing is

1 we eventually parlayed that response into what we
2 call a solar advisor tool. So, Commissioner, I
3 would direct you to talgov.com, backslash, clean
4 energy plan. Go to our resource tab, and there are
5 a whole host -- it's a, basically an interactive
6 measure -- rather, interactive tool that walks a
7 customer, a homeowner, or even a commercial entity,
8 through the -- through the -- perhaps, not the
9 decision process, but consider this, orientation of
10 the home, age of the roof and such.

11 So, you know, my broad response is, it all
12 depends, you know, on -- on the situation. Then I
13 kind of walk them through, consider these things.

14 I think a lot of the growth we've seen in the
15 -- in the customer-sided solar, has been, in large
16 part, borne through aggressive promotion and
17 practices of solar vendors, coupled with our -- our
18 net metering program, but have all those systems
19 been optimal for the customer?

20 What we want to do is help educate them. Be
21 that trusted advisor to them. Say, hey, it may
22 make a lot of sense for you, consider these pieces.
23 And then from our website, we have links to
24 additional resources where they can understand
25 potential costs associated maybe with their system.

1 There is a call from the community to provide,
2 not an endorsement of solar vendors, but maybe a
3 vetted list. We currently are seeing upwards of 33
4 different solar vendor companies operating here in
5 Tallahassee. That's -- that's a lot to navigate.
6 So in this, again, space as trusted advisor, we are
7 hearing from the community, hey, could -- could you
8 provide sort of a vetted list of who, you know, who
9 in this space we should at least entertain offers
10 from.

11 So I know that was a bit rambling. There is
12 an education piece, but really at the end of day, I
13 probably end with, we have a team of energy
14 auditors standing at the ready. Any utility
15 customer could take advantage of a free home energy
16 audit. We tend to have those scheduled within a
17 week or so at the convenience of the homeowner.
18 That's where they can get started.

19 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: At your public
20 engagements, I am assuming price is -- is obviously
21 a big point --

22 MR. OHLSEN: Yes.

23 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: -- and you mentioned
24 that you guys are one of the lowest, if not the
25 lowest in the state -- I am sorry if I misquoted

1 that. Do you see that shifting at all in your
2 communications with -- with the public in the sense
3 of, hey, we like and we want to do these things,
4 and we are maybe willing to forego price as maybe
5 not the number one option, and maybe the second
6 option or third option as far as a list of
7 importance of --

8 MR. OHLSEN: Well, certainly, the messaging
9 will evolve as we transition from planning to
10 implementation. And certainly, cost is a key
11 consideration, whether that cost is borne on the
12 rate side of this, or that cost is borne on the
13 customer side. So we can provide rebates, grants,
14 but when you are looking at, say, investment in
15 rooftop solar, investment in an electric vehicle,
16 the large portion of that cost is borne by the
17 customer.

18 When they step back and look at that cost
19 over, say, the lifetime, life cycle, and begin to
20 understand, you know, holistically it begins to
21 make sense, then it's a proposition for them to
22 understand, well, you know, upfront cost versus
23 life cycle cost, so that cost messaging, I think,
24 will evolve in those spaces as well.

25 I -- I am not in a position yet to speak on,

1 well, what would the potential impacts to rate be?
2 I will say that in the clean energy resolution, the
3 broad public input, the including our traditionally
4 marginalized vulnerable populations in this
5 conversation was a nod to that the starting point
6 for our residents, our businesses, is different.
7 This gets into the concept of energy burden. You
8 know, what percentage of a household income goes
9 out towards utility?

10 And as we map out this pathway forward, we do
11 so with a keen eye that everyone in our community
12 has an opportunity to contribute, to be part of
13 this, without putting sort of undue burden or
14 pressure.

15 That's so easy to say in this large space of
16 policy talk. What the reality is in terms of
17 actual impact to rates, the ability of our
18 customers to make those additional investments,
19 kind of gets back to, yeah, we have to evolve our
20 -- or we have to advance our messaging around that
21 cost. And -- and I think this is the time to do
22 it, as we start to look at here are the pieces we
23 are going to focus on for the foreseeable future.

24 I know I danced around an actual answer there.
25 Did you have a follow-up maybe?

1 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Not a follow-up maybe
2 to that. Chairman, just last question.

3 CHAIRMAN FAY: Sure.

4 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: It looks like you are
5 getting close towards the end of the timeline of
6 the energy roadmap --

7 MR. OHLSEN: Yes.

8 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: -- that I assume you
9 are going to present to -- to the City Commission.
10 You did mention that, you know, there maybe some
11 things that you do in there. I think you said an
12 ordinance to direct. I am assuming that means an
13 ordinance to direct certain action.

14 Can you maybe elaborate a little bit more on
15 that? And -- and does that mean that there would
16 maybe be a requirement to enact certain -- I am
17 going to call renewable energy policies, or not
18 policies, but items to someone's home, like a solar
19 panel or other items that I may not be thinking of?

20 MR. OHLSEN: Commissioner, thank you for the
21 opportunity to clarify that comment. It was in
22 that bundle. So what program elements, from
23 education and awareness, to incentives, rebates,
24 grants, to ordinances, all of those policy tools to
25 direct, or to nudge, or to move the community to

1 both attend to this. On top of everything else you
2 are doing, hey, here's this clean energy piece.

3 So while ordinance was the last part of that,
4 it wasn't an ordinance alone to direct. It was
5 this suite of kind of policy tools to direct.

6 An ordinance might come in the form of our --
7 our brothers and sisters in the county last year
8 put out an electric vehicle ordinance that sought
9 to -- to require any new major development be built
10 electric vehicle ready, with some of the
11 infrastructure in place to facilitate a quick and
12 economic transition down the road -- pardon the pun
13 -- when the time is right to make the investment,
14 say, in a charging infrastructure and such.

15 So we would contemplate, and are currently
16 working on, tools in that space to both sort of
17 signal, hey, this is the direction, the vision of
18 sort of a clean energy future, so let's get the
19 design right, especially as we build out. Here are
20 the guidelines.

21 Whether we call that an ordinance, or maybe
22 incentives for developers or -- the City has a
23 green building policy for city folks. These are
24 all part of a suite of tools that help direct both
25 attention and action towards clean energy future.

1 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Thank you for -- for
2 the clarification on that.

3 MR. OHLSEN: Sure.

4 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: And I appreciate you
5 coming forward today. I know that when -- any time
6 you talk about renewables or new technologies, you
7 know, being introduced, you know, into our
8 electrical system, it's -- it's confusing, and --
9 and there is a lot of options, and I think, you
10 know, especially when we are talking about rooftop
11 solar, it's not an easy decision, you know,
12 directly to one individual, or to one family, that
13 may be a more direct decision to another.

14 So I appreciate you coming forward, and I know
15 I get asked a lot of questions. And I am still
16 trying to navigate through some of the fog and --
17 and what's real, what's science, what's not
18 science, what's good marketing, but thank you. I
19 very much appreciate the discussion.

20 MR. OHLSEN: Absolutely. And, Commissioner,
21 thank you for your comments.

22 I will share that our integrated resource plan
23 study, while it clocks in at over 100 pages, it's a
24 fairly technical piece, it is complete. And while
25 I don't have it published yet, we'll be putting

1 that up on our website soon. That might give you
2 an additional lens into some of the technical
3 complexities or realities.

4 It's easy to talk renewable and say, hey, we
5 have to do it. The realities are, there is
6 challenges with the physics of doing this just at
7 the city scale, let alone the fact that we are grid
8 tied to two other utilities at four to five other
9 points. We are all part of this larger network.
10 So we are trying to understand where growth is
11 happening with other utilities. How we balance
12 both our place in this space, how that maintains
13 stability in this larger regional grid, gosh, we --
14 that's what we are -- what we do within the
15 planning section.

16 And I would be happy to follow up with you
17 off-line and share with you, as you go through some
18 of your own learning, what additional questions you
19 have.

20 It's really fascinating, very complex, and
21 getting back to your question on how do you
22 communicate this to the public? How do you even
23 begin to have a conversation around it? It's
24 challenging. And I admit, at times, we barely
25 scratch the surface. But I think in part of this

1 engagement is reaffirming trust in the process.
2 That we are doing this not on emotion, but on
3 science and studies. And that trust, I think, goes
4 a long way in terms of moving us forward.

5 Thank you, Commissioner.

6 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Awesome. I look
7 forward to reviewing it.

8 Thank you, Chairman.

9 CHAIRMAN FAY: Thank you, Commissioner La
10 Rosa.

11 Commissioner Clark.

12 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
13 I will be brief, two quick questions.

14 Thank you, again for your presentation
15 today --

16 MR. OHLSEN: Absolutely.

17 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- I -- the City is to be
18 commended on the job they've done in leading the
19 renewable effort. I am -- I'm a little bit more
20 old school, and I just want to kind of ask a couple
21 of questions.

22 Municipals have an advantage of not having to
23 follow traditional ratemaking theology, if you
24 will, and you have some options there. How much --
25 how much consideration do you really give into what

1 the cost impacts are going to be as you look at
2 making these changes to renewable energies? What
3 -- what -- what goes in -- and my real question --

4 MR. OHLSEN: Yeah.

5 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- if you have an
6 ordinance -- and I understood you to say you are
7 looking at an ordinance that might be drafted in
8 order to direct you. Would cost be any
9 consideration in the implementation of the
10 ordinance?

11 MR. OHLSEN: Yeah. Absolutely.

12 So on -- on that last point, Commissioner,
13 cost is directing the ordinance, because if we are
14 serious about ushering in, let's say, electric
15 vehicles in new developments or significant
16 expansions, it is more cost-effective to
17 contemplate that EV, say, charging infrastructure
18 need at the time of design. Get the conduit in
19 place. Maybe size the electric panel so that, down
20 the road, it can handle an additional load.

21 That ordinance would not necessarily come out
22 and say, thou shall have all of the charging
23 infrastructure in place ready to go. We just don't
24 see the electric vehicle penetration just yet. But
25 down the road, it would be much more cost-effective

1 to have some of that basic infrastructure that
2 costs very little at the -- at the design and
3 construction, and already in place to make the
4 pivot in four years, five years, and versus having
5 to do that at that point.

6 So those ordinances are with cost
7 considerations in mind. If developers aren't
8 thinking about it, that's what we want to do. Do
9 we have do that through an ordinance? Can we do
10 that through other means? Perhaps. But again, the
11 County has one out there. We are contemplating, on
12 the city side, sort of a sister one on that space.

13 As far as cost considerations for the -- for
14 the balance of it, I think it's, first and
15 foremost, maybe in line with resilient, robust grid
16 operations, but that what I -- what I think
17 municipal utilities have an advantage in is that,
18 again, our shareholders, our -- our customers, are
19 benefactors of our utility.

20 So where a measure might be a bit more costly
21 than what an investor-owned utility might stomach,
22 if that does result in significant maybe household
23 or business savings, what that translates into is
24 increased disposal income, you know, in that
25 household, or at that business, that then gets

1 spent elsewhere in our community.

2 So that cost proposition for municipal
3 utilities I think expands beyond just the narrow
4 scope of how does this serve the utility to say, we
5 can also take into consideration how it benefits
6 the community in a larger space.

7 Is that helpful?

8 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Oh, yes, sir, very much.

9 On e-one final question. Many years ago in
10 the implementation of your net metering policy, if
11 I recall right, you were paying significantly more
12 than retail. What's the current -- what's the
13 current rate that you are paying for net metering?

14 MR. OHLSEN: Oh, we -- we pay the retail.

15 COMMISSIONER CLARK: You are paying retail
16 now? Okay.

17 MR. OHLSEN: Yeah. So it's just sort of the
18 classic net metering.

19 COMMISSIONER CLARK: One for one swap?

20 MR. OHLSEN: Yes.

21 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay. Thank you.

22 MR. OHLSEN: Absolutely.

23 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you.

24 Any other questions? Seeing none.

25 I want to thank you for being here -- excuse

1 me -- for a number of reasons. The first being
2 that I think you have some customers up here on the
3 bough. I won't say who, but you have got customers
4 up here on the bench, so coming before just as a
5 commission but also as people who are impacted by
6 what you do locally is key.

7 And the other just being that, you know, I
8 think it took me a while when you peel back the
9 statutes to even fully understand the regulatory
10 oversight of the Commission and municipalities, and
11 historically what that's looked like, and even
12 current discussion now about what that -- that
13 should look like. And I think that based on your
14 comments today, we've heard a lot of we are on the
15 same team, either way. I mean, I think Florida
16 holistically is trying to make thoughtful,
17 informed, quantitative and community supported
18 decisions as to what makes sense, and I think you
19 are -- you are to be commended for spending the
20 time to come in front of the Commission this
21 morning to give us the information that you did. I
22 think you have served your community well, but
23 probably most municipalities, because other than
24 maybe a few questions you danced around a little
25 bit, right, your answers overall were substantive

1 and important to us. So -- so I really do
2 appreciate you being here again, Mr. Ohlsen, and
3 for your team to prepare what they did for us. So
4 thank you again.

5 We will be moving to other official business.
6 You don't have to hang around if you don't want to,
7 but thank you again for your time today.

8 MR. OHLSEN: Thank you, Chairman and
9 Commissioners. I appreciate it.

10 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you.

11 All right. Commissioners, with that, we will
12 move into the next segment of our Internal Affairs
13 meeting for a legislative update.

14 MR. WATSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and
15 Commissioners.

16 CHAIRMAN FAY: Good morning.

17 MR. WATSON: Good morning. Happy weekday 50
18 of session to all who celebrate. We've got 10 days
19 left, and all indications show that we -- we should
20 -- we should end on time this year, next Friday,
21 May 5th.

22 We still do have three sets of bills that we
23 are watching that are making their way through the
24 process, and I will go through those quickly.

25 The first set being House Bill 125 and Senate

1 Bill 194. Again, this is the Fair Market Valuation
2 bills. The House bill is on special order in the
3 House for April 27th, and the Senate Bill, Senate
4 Bill 194, is on the agenda in Senate Fiscal Policy
5 today. That committee started about half an hour
6 ago, and they did indicate that should it be voted
7 on favorably, they will receive that on special
8 order for the 27th as well.

9 Moving along to House Bill 1221 and Senate
10 Bill 626. That's our Broadband Internet Service
11 Provider bill. The Senate Bill is on special order
12 for April 26th, and the House Bill received a
13 unanimous floor vote in the House, has been
14 received in Senate -- has been received in Senate
15 messages and is waiting to be placed on special
16 order there.

17 And then lastly, our House Bill -- House Bill
18 821 and Senate Bill 1162. This is our Renewable
19 Energy Cost Recovery. I will note that the House
20 Bill is still stuck in its last committee stop and
21 has not moved since I last briefed you all, but the
22 Senate Bill is on special order in the Senate for
23 April 26th as well.

24 Other notes, things to -- to let you all know
25 about. Budget conferencing began yesterday at 9:00

1 a.m., and as of this morning's conf -- notice
2 meeting, the Senate and House have agreed to the
3 PSC portion of conference.

4 And both Commissioners Clark and Passidomo,
5 the last slate of confirmees made their way through
6 Ethics and Elections yesterday, so we are just,
7 again, just waiting for -- for that final floor
8 vote for both of you. And certainly, if we get any
9 sort of notice, we will let you all and your staff
10 know that.

11 As far as Office of Public Counsel, our very
12 own Walt Trierweiler was selected last Thursday, so
13 congrats are in order to him. We certainly wish
14 him luck in his new role.

15 Other than that, just be on the lookout for
16 our weekly reports that we send out every Friday.
17 And if you all want to go over -- go over anything
18 with me one-on-one, I'm certainly happy to set that
19 up as well.

20 And with that, that -- that concludes what I
21 have unless there are any questions. Thank y'all.

22 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Great. Thank you.

23 Any questions? No. Seeing none.

24 Thank you. You did a great job. We
25 appreciate you jumping into the role this session.

1 MR. WATSON: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN FAY: All right. Commissioners, next
3 we will move to our General Counsel's report, Mr.
4 Hetrick.

5 MR. HETRICK: Yes. No report, Mr. Chair, but
6 I would note that good news for us. We had two of
7 our attorney hires recently passed the Florida Bar,
8 Austin Watrous and Daniel Dose, so we are pretty
9 excited for them and for us.

10 And as Lance said, congratulations to Walt
11 Trierweiler, who is the new Public Counsel, who was
12 in Adria's section, so we do have a vacancy there
13 to fill.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN FAY: Yeah. Thank you.

16 All right. With that, we will move into the
17 Executive Director's report. Mr. Baez, good
18 morning.

19 MR. BAEZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good
20 morning, Commissioners.

21 Well, as you know, you have A Special agenda
22 coming up right after Internal Affairs for Florida
23 City -- Florida City Gas.

24 Other -- other scheduling that are coming up
25 of note, the demand-side management goals, the rule

1 hearing is scheduled for May 2nd following the
2 Agenda Conference. As you recall, we -- you all
3 passed a rule a few weeks ago, and it was
4 challenged, so this is the -- the following -- the
5 follow-on process to that.

6 And lastly, the Hurricane Preparedness
7 Workshop for 2023 is scheduled to be held on May
8 23rd following Internal Affairs. So Internal
9 Affairs at 9:30 and the workshop immediately
10 following.

11 We are having a panel of utility experts that
12 will be giving presentations, and they will be on
13 hand to respond to your questions. As usual, the
14 topics -- main topics of discussion are their
15 preparation efforts and -- and the restoration
16 process, things like customer outreach and
17 communication, and the vegetation management and
18 pole inspection practices.

19 And most notably, and probably most topical
20 are the lessons learned from the '22 storm season.
21 And I am told, I believe, that Lee County Electric
22 Cooperative is going to be on hand to give their
23 story as well, so we are looking forward to that.
24 Again, that's May 23rd.

25 I have nothing further unless you have

1 questions.

2 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you.

3 Commissioners, any questions for Executive
4 Director Baez? All right. Thank you.

5 Seeing none, we will take up any --
6 Commissioners, do you have any other matters at
7 this time?

8 Commissioner Passidomo, you are recognized.

9 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10 I just have a quick -- I wanted to bring to
11 the Commission's attention a request put out by
12 NARUC, the Low-Income Household Water Assistance
13 Program, also known as LIHWAP, is a program that
14 was initially created under the American Rescue
15 Plan of 2021 as an emergency program during the
16 COVID-19 pandemic. It provides funds to assist
17 low-income households with water and wastewater
18 bills. It's modeled similar to the LIHEAP program,
19 which we are all familiar with.

20 The primary goal of LIHWAP is to retain
21 continuity of water services to low-income
22 households with an emphasis on prevention of
23 disconnection and restoration of water services to
24 households whose water services were previously
25 disconnected.

1 So by all accounts, I went through the data.
2 It seems like this program has been of national
3 success, and including in Florida. So it's aided
4 more than 430,000 house -- low-income households
5 across the country, and including 406 in Florida.

6 So the program is set to expire at the end of
7 September, and NARUC has petitioned its members to
8 reach out to our respective congressional
9 delegations and seek to support to continue the
10 funding beyond its expiration date.

11 So I propose, if the other Commissioners are
12 on onboard, that we have staff coordinate with the
13 Chairman's office to draft a letter to our
14 congressional delegation to, you know, provide our
15 support to -- to continue this funding, if you all
16 agree with that. I just want to put that out
17 there.

18 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you.

19 Any comments or questions for Commissioner
20 Passidomo?

21 I -- I think it's a great idea. I know
22 sometimes it's tough with these congressional
23 delegation letters to know sort of where they land
24 and what they can do, but I am presuming that it
25 would be feasible, consistent with what NARUC has

1 put out, for us to put something together and send
2 it out from the Commission's perspective, I guess
3 fairly quickly. I don't know if that program runs
4 out or --

5 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Yeah. I think it's
6 set to expire September 30th of this year. So I
7 think if they are -- you know, they will -- over
8 the summer is when they will be going through
9 budgets for the next fiscal year. So I think if we
10 can get that letter to especially our Senate
11 delegation, Senators Scott and Rubio, that would
12 probably be best if we get that going.

13 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Great.

14 So could we get fairly quick turnaround on
15 something like that, Mr. Baez?

16 MR. BAEZ: I don't think it should take too
17 long to get something turned around. What I would
18 -- what I would ask is, under normal circumstances,
19 this is something that we would bring to another
20 Internal Affairs, but since time being of the
21 essence, if -- if the Commission -- if it were the
22 Commission's will to give the Chairman, or
23 Commissioner Passidomo, however y'all decide, give
24 us a point of contact so that we can work directly
25 with them and kind of approve editorial changes,

1 and so forth, ahead of time so that we can work
2 with one office, and that way we don't have to
3 bring it back as -- as an IA item, that would help
4 with expediting the turnaround.

5 CHAIRMAN FAY: Yeah, I agree. And I'm -- I'm
6 obviously happy to do it from the Chairman's
7 perspective, but I would -- I would probably prefer
8 -- Commissioner Passidomo has raised the issue, and
9 I think it would be appropriate to have her sign
10 off on it. And I don't think you -- I don't think
11 you want two lawyers looking at it. I mean, that
12 probably would slow this down --

13 MR. BAEZ: That could get in the way.

14 CHAIRMAN FAY: -- pretty significantly. But,
15 yeah, if we want to get it out efficiently, I think
16 that would make sense. And I'm -- I would be more
17 than happy to support that. So, yeah, I think with
18 that directive, we will go forward and submit that
19 letter.

20 And I believe the program funding goes out
21 through DEO --

22 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Yeah.

23 CHAIRMAN FAY: -- correct? So we don't have
24 -- we don't have an operational component --

25 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: No.

1 CHAIRMAN FAY: -- but knowing that we regulate
2 utilities and customers are utilizing this.

3 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Right. And I am sure
4 they might be, you know, have their own letter, but
5 this is just something that NARUC proposed to us,
6 and I thought, you know, it doesn't -- it doesn't
7 hurt to show our support for the program.

8 CHAIRMAN FAY: Yeah. I appreciate you
9 bringing it forward. I think it's an important
10 issue. So we will move forward with that.

11 MR. BAEZ: We will make sure and work with the
12 Commissioner's office and make sure the appropriate
13 parties get copied, and we will do that post haste.

14 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Great.

15 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN FAY: Thank you for bringing that
17 forward.

18 Commissioners, any other issues or comments at
19 this time?

20 With that, we will adjourn our Internal
21 Affairs meeting this morning. We will start the
22 Special Agenda meeting at 10:45 a.m.

23 Thank you so much.

24 (Proceedings concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

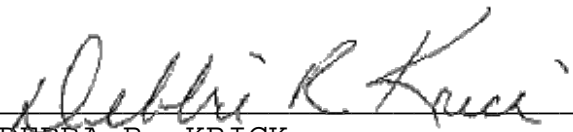
STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF LEON)

I, DEBRA KRICK, Court Reporter, do hereby
certify that the foregoing proceeding was heard at the
time and place herein stated.

IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED that I
stenographically reported the said proceedings; that the
same has been transcribed under my direct supervision;
and that this transcript constitutes a true
transcription of my notes of said proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative,
employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor
am I a relative or employee of any of the parties'
attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I
financially interested in the action.

DATED this 8th day of May, 2023.


DEBRA R. KRICK
NOTARY PUBLIC
COMMISSION #HH31926
EXPIRES AUGUST 13, 2024