

Energy Action Month

October was an exciting month at the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC), as we celebrated National Energy Action Month. Throughout the month, the PSC participated in events highlighting lifestyle changes that can reduce your energy consumption and save you money.

To kick off the month, the PSC teamed up with the City of Tallahassee and S.A.I.L. High School students to produce an original play, *Turn It On; Turn It Off*. The play--performed on October 13, at the Arvah B. Hopkins Power Plant--taught children how to conserve energy, while celebrating October's *Energy Action Month* and *Public Power Week*.

Also in October, PSC Commissioners participated in the 2013 Florida Energy Summit, sponsored by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Office of Energy. The two-day conference in Orlando examined the changing energy sector and how Florida can prepare to take advantage of future economic opportunities. PSC Commissioner Lisa Polak Edgar participated in the opening Summit panel, *Florida by the Numbers*, featuring a presentation by Dr. Rick Harper, Director, University of West Florida Office of Economic Development and Engagement. The presentation featured important facts on Florida's changing demographics and continued with panelists' comments on how those changes will affect energy usage and infrastructure in Florida.

Bringing the month to a close, PSC Chairman Ronald A. Brisé and senior PSC staff exchanged their suits for jeans as they participated in a locally-sponsored Big Bend Habitat for Humanity (BBHH) build. BBHH, the November *PSC Helping Hand*, has been a vital partner for the PSC in helping to highlight the Energy Action Month's energy efficiency and conservation message, by building energy-efficient, affordable homes for low-income consumers in the community.

The PSC/BBHH event is also recognized by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' (NARUC) partnership with Habitat for Humanity as part of its "Anybody Can Serve, So Let's Conserve" campaign. NARUC Commissioners are encouraged to volunteer at various Habitat projects around the country and share their expertise on energy issues. This humanitarian spirit continued into November during NARUC's 125th Annual Meeting in Orlando, when Commissioners from around the country joined together to make "hygiene bags" stuffed with shampoos, conditioners, soap, toothbrushes, and other toiletries, often taken for granted, for a local charity.



PSC Chairman Ronald A. Brisé participates in a BBHH build.



Commissioners at the NARUC 125th Annual Meeting stuffed bags with toiletries for a local charity.