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ome News > About JEA ▶ Report a Service Problem Storm Center Pav Bill Careers Public Notices Contact Us Electric · Water · Sewer

> In our Community

for your Business

> for your Home

Home > News > JEA Partners with other Utilities to Build North Florida Power Project >

- Recent Articles
- Archive
- · Accomplishments
- . Calendar of Events
- JEA Bond Investor
- · News Center

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The Latest JEA News

JEA Partners with other Utilities to Build North Florida Power Project

Jacksonville, FL (June 2, 2005) - To meet projected needs for energy in the Jacksonville area after 2010, JEA is working with two other Florida utilities to construct a \$1.4 billion, 800-megawatt power plant in north Florida.

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JEA, working in partnership with the Florida Municipal Power Agency (FMPA), a wholesale electric supplier based in Orlando, and the Reedy Creek Improvement District, which serves parts of Orange and Osceola counties near Orlando, is seeking a 2,500-acre site in north Florida for the project.

The North Florida Power Project is expected to create up to 1,500 construction jobs and about 150 full-time jobs when it goes into operation in 2012.

"The utilities' group selected JEA as project developer for the plant and JEA will receive 236 megawatts of the plant's output," said JEA CEO Jim Dickenson said. "While we have concentrated our site efforts in Taylor County, we are also looking at other potential locations throughout north Florida."

In addition to size, the optimum location would have access to rail, electric transmission corridors, offer an adequate water supply, would meet regulatory and environmental requirements, and be compatible from a land-use standpoint. JEA's Real Estate Department is currently reviewing potential sites.

"Wherever we end up, we will work very closely with the community to share information, respond to community interests and demonstrate that we can be a good neighbor and an asset to the community," Dickenson said.

Electric industry standards in Florida suggest that state utilities have a 15 percent

reserve generating capacity. Based on future electric demands, JEA currently projects that it will fall below that percentage in about seven years.

JEA's partners in the project share the same need in meeting future electric demands. Florida (excluding the panhandle area) had a 45,578-megawatt generating capacity in 2004 - and construction is planned for more than 13,000 additional megawatts through 2012 to meet the state's projected energy demand, according to the Florida Reliability Coordinating Council.

By partnering together, each utility owner can have access to the lower unit cost of constructing a large power plant, Dickenson said.

To diversify their fuel supplies, have a secure fuel supply and avoid the volatile price swings of natural gas, the partner utilities selected coal as the fuel source for the new plant.

"We are going to use the most advanced technologies to ensure that it will be one of the cleanest plants of its kind in the country," said Mike Lawson, a JEA employee selected as project manager for the new plant. "We are committed to minimizing emissions and protecting the environment. In fact, about one-third of project cost, more than \$450 million, will be spent to install the best environmental control technologies available."

Lawson has been with JEA for 21 years. He worked on the construction of the St. Johns River Power Park and recently as project manager for the Brandy Branch Combined Cycle Plant, two of JEA's three largest power plants. He also served as Site Construction Manager at JEA's Northside Generating Station.

The construction start on the project will be contingent upon site selection.

In addition to the three utilities involved to date, the City of Tallahassee is currently examining a potential role to participate in the project.

For more information about site criteria, people should contact the JEA Real Estate Division at 904-665-4957.

Program partners are currently developing a project website and plan to establish a toll-free phone number to receive and answer questions from the public about the North Florida Power Project.

JEA is the eighth largest community-owned electric utility in America, providing electric, water and sewer services to more than 750,000 accounts in Northeast Florida.

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JEA owns and operates three generating plants and all transmission and distribution facilities. A fourth power plant, the St. Johns River Power Park (SJRPP), is owned jointly by JEA and the Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) and operated by JEA. JEA and FPL are also joint owners of Unit 4 at Georgia Power Company's coal-fired Robert W. Scherer Plant (Plant Scherer), which is located in Macon, Georgia, JEA owns a 200 net megawatt share of Unit 4. JEA's ownership interest in Scherer is structured as a separate JEA bulk power supply system. In addition, JEA produces 3.2 megawatts from a methane-fueled generating facility at the Girvin Road Landfill, JEA's net generating capability is 2,361 megawatts.

Capacity expansion and renovation projects demonstrate JEA's commitment to environmental leadership, fuel diversification and rate stability. JEA's newest generating facility is Brandy Branch, located in west Jacksonville, home to three 170 megawatt combustion turbine units. These units are capable of operating on both natural gas and diesel fuel. Units1 and 2 went into commercial operation May 31, 2001, followed by Unit 3 on October 12, 2001.

The Northside Generating Station Repowering Project made Jacksonville home to two of the largest circulating fluidized bed combustors, or CFBs, in the world. These CFBs produce nearly 300 megawatts each and utilize coal and petroleum coke as fuels.

Water and Sewer Systems

JEA's Water System consists of 150 artesian wells tapping the Floridian Aguifer, which is one of the world's most productive aquifers. Water is distributed through 44 water

treatment plants and 3,480 miles of water lines. More than 2,500 miles of collection lines and six regional sewer treatment plants comprise the JEA sewer system.

JEA is committed to improving water quality of the St. Johns River. One outstanding example of how we're working to meet our goal to reduce nitrogen release into the river is through the use of reclaimed water for irrigation.

The Energy Authority

JEA is also a founding member of The Energy Authority (TEA), which was created in August 1997 to represent its member utilities in the sale and purchase of wholesale electricity. Today, TEA membership consists of 11 public power utilities in seven states. To learn more about TEA, click here.

Water and Sewer Expansion Authority

The Water and Sewer Expansion Authority was established in 2003 for the purpose of addressing challenges experienced by the approximately 175,000 homeowners dependent upon septic systems in connecting to municipal water and sewer. Many of these septic systems are aged and failing, which not only causes difficulties for homeowners in those areas, but presents environmental challenges to Duval County creeks and waterways.

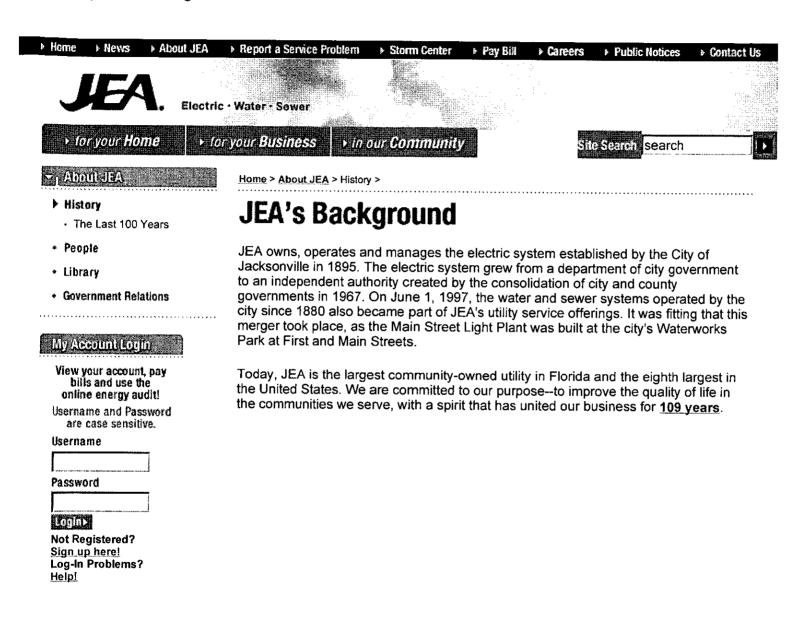
Since JEA does not fund water and sewer neighborhood infrastructure in neighborhoods, many communities without public water or sewer lines find it difficult to get the needed property owner commitment to pay for new infrastructure because of the cost. The WSEA will offer an alternative for financing an approved neighborhood infrastructure project by allowing the capital costs to be financed over a number of years through an additional capital charge on monthly utility billings.

JEA will support the WSEA with nearly full utility services including capital project management, purchasing, billing, customer service, operations and maintenance and some accounting and finance support on a contractual basis. To learn more about WSEA, click here.

Leadership

JEA's governing body consists of a seven-member <u>Board of Directors</u> appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. JEA is not subject to state regulation, except for certain environmental and health matters, power plant location, electric safety and electric rate structure matters.

Site Map



Site Map