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## GEC Turns Weakness Into Strength with OKEECHOBEE'S TAYLOR CREEK SUBSTATION

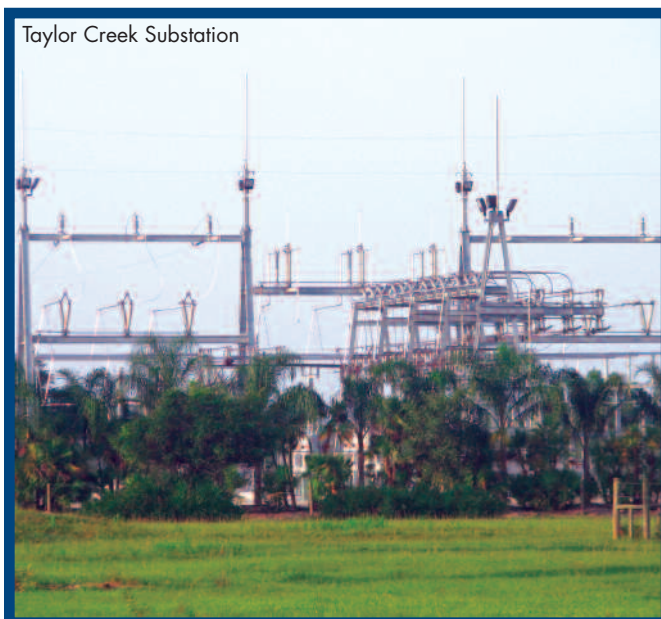
Glades Electric Cooperative is excited to announce the completion of the Taylor Creek Substation in Okeechobee County! This multi-year, multi-million dollar project highlights GEC's commitment to our System Restoration Plan and the promise to our members of providing the highest quality electric service possible.

In earlier years, Glades Electric served relatively few members in Okeechobee County and the area was adequately supplied by a single transmission feed, or route by which power is transmitted to an area. The line starts at GEC's transmission substation on Highway 70, runs through open land parallel to 9 Mile Grade, and ends in Basinger. Unfortunately for GEC, the landowner converted much of the property to water retention ponds, with the line running right through the middle! This makes the transmission feed extremely vulnerable to extended outages in the event of a hurricane or other catastrophe. The line is virtually inaccessible. The only way to reach the line is by air, or with highly specialized equipment too expensive to own and,

even if rented, difficult to find in an emergency. Every time a storm moved through the area, we held our breath and asked, "Is 9 Mile still standing?!" The cost to relocate the line was too high, and the density of the area too low, to justify. But GEC was determined to keep the promise of providing reliable service, and never quit investigating solutions.

An opportunity arose as a result of the sudden boom in real estate. Glades Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees determined that Okeechobee County was poised for tremendous growth as the coastal population discovered the natural beauty of the inland area and the benefits of small town life! The cooperative owned a piece of property on Highway 441 which was purchased years ago to store poles and transformers. The site would be an ideal location for a substation to serve the area's projected capacity.

The Taylor Creek substation will provide multiple benefits to the members living in the Okeechobee area. First and foremost, it will serve as the primary transmission



feed. The new transmission line is constructed with spun concrete poles and is designed to withstand much greater winds and should help prevent extended outages following a storm. The additional feeder eliminates the sole reliance on the previously mentioned, highly vulnerable transmission line. Instead, this line can now serve as “Plan B”. No more finger-crossing and breath holding!

A further benefit results from the construction of a double circuit distribution line along Highway 441 to take advantage of the new substation and increase the existing circuit’s capacity. This lays the groundwork for future growth along this north-south corridor.

Finally, members living in the Okeechobee area will benefit by increased reliability and overall quality of electrical service. The new substation will allow for shorter circuits, making the isolation of outages much quicker. This will help decrease the time required for line personnel to identify, locate, repair the cause of the outage. In other words, get the lights back on faster!

Glades Electric worked closely with Okeechobee County agencies and staff, as well as private landowners, to assure a smooth, efficient process and find the most cost-effective, enviro-friendly route possible. GEC made it a top priority to be as cost-conscious as possible, without sacrificing the high quality our members have come to expect from their cooperative.

We believe the Taylor Creek project speaks volumes regarding GEC’s dedication to quality electric service. We also hope the message is clear regarding our commitment to be good corporate citizens in the communities we serve, and truly be “Neighbors Working for Neighbors”.

*Members served by Taylor Creek experienced brief power interruptions the day the new substation was brought online. The outages were the result of the station’s internal safety devices recognizing incorrect relay settings. The engineering contractor was on site and corrected their error. We apologize for any inconvenience our members may have experienced.*



Left to Right: Apprentice Lineman, Sean Reark; Apprentice Lineman, Matt Perry; and Journeyman Lineman, Roy Bohannon were part of the team that brought the substation on-line



John Dean, Northern District Line Superintendent, closes the load side disconnect switch



Left to Right: Lead Lineman, Bill Lanier and Director of Substations, Pedro Navarro discuss the switching order

# STRAIGHT TALK

## ENERGY DIVERSITY: HEALTHY FUEL MIX BENEFITS ECONOMY, STABILITY AND RELIABILITY

The following is a guest column by Tim Woodbury, Executive Vice President & General Manager of Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc.



A common piece of advice many financial experts give is, "Don't put all your eggs in one basket." This is based on the notion that there are many unpredictable shifts in financial markets. When investing, it's best to spread your risk over a range of stocks and bonds.

The same applies to the challenge Seminole Electric Cooperative, Glades Electric's wholesale energy supplier, faces in producing electricity. Seminole must make choices years in advance among fuel and technology options to best supply the electricity to meet your Cooperative's current and future needs. These options include coal, natural gas, nuclear, fuel oil, renewable energy, and buying electrical energy from others when available and affordable.

Under the direction of Seminole's board of trustees, and with the encouragement of your Cooperative, Seminole continues to diversify its generation portfolio to protect consumers from changing world fuel markets. Fuel diversity provides a form of insurance against price spikes and events that would threaten electric service reliability.

For example, if Seminole were to put "all its eggs in the natural gas basket," and there was a major hurricane in the Gulf of Mexico, natural gas wells could be closed for weeks. That would cause gas prices to rise, or cut off gas supply, leaving Seminole unable to provide enough electricity.

Similarly, coal supply can be threatened by labor strikes, oil supply can be jeopardized by political turmoil in oil producing regions, and nuclear production can be affected by regulatory intervention. So over-reliance on any fuel could create a shortage that dramatically increases the price of electricity or affects reliability.

That's why Seminole uses a mix of fuels. Currently, Seminole's fuel mix includes domestic coal (59 percent), natural gas (35 percent), renewable (4 percent), nuclear (one percent) and fuel oil (one percent). The bulk of Seminole's fuels are from domestic sources which supports our domestic economy and jobs.

Today, coal provides a stable foundation for your Cooperative's power supply. As a principle source of fuel, coal is domestic, abundant, readily available, affordable, and its price is relatively stable. More than 35 states have coal. Seminole buys about four million tons annually in deep mines in southern Illinois, western Kentucky, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

In recent years, coal has been a target of environmental special-interest groups who have pressured our state and the federal government to enact expensive environmental legislation restricting carbon emissions. However, Seminole's coal plant near Palatka is one of the cleanest in the country.

When Seminole built the Seminole Generating Station in 1984, the cooperative installed almost \$250 million in pollution control equipment. In 2009, Seminole completed a \$280 million environmental improvement project that made it even better. Seminole is also seeking to expand its nuclear energy capacity.

While environmental groups are raising concerns about carbon emissions from coal, natural gas and renewable biomass facilities,

nuclear energy has essentially zero carbon or other emissions. While new nuclear units are expensive to build, they are one of the least expensive power sources to operate and should be a part of every utility's energy portfolio. Seminole currently has a small ownership in one Florida-based nuclear plant and is seeking to expand its nuclear diversity through partnering with other utilities.

Like other sources of power, the expansion of nuclear energy is facing challenges, such as construction costs and waste disposal. Yet polls show that 74 percent of Americans favor the use of nuclear energy as one of the options to provide abundant, affordable energy.

Seminole is a leader among Florida utilities in its use of renewable energy. Your Cooperative and the other nine electric cooperatives served by Seminole, receive about four percent of their electricity from renewable energy sources. This is the highest percentage of any Florida electric utility.

Seminole's renewable energy comes from a combination of municipal solid waste, landfill gas (methane), and wood biomass. Seminole is expanding its renewable resources even further through a new contract to receive all of the electricity produced from a future biomass plant that will produce electricity from an energy crop (sweet sorghum).

Hydroelectric power and wind are two of the most prominent renewable sources in the United States. Unfortunately, Florida is neither hilly enough nor windy enough to allow any significant amount of energy production from hydro or wind sources.

Although more expensive relative to other renewable resources, solar power is an option in some states. Ironically, although Florida is known as the "Sunshine State," because of extensive cloud cover, solar power is less efficient in the state and therefore even more expensive, compared to other areas.

Federal and state energy policy is another major influence on fuel mix. Due to strong lobbying by environmental groups for the past several years to restrict the use of coal, natural gas, and other carbon-based fuels, there has been a push by some in government to restrict these important sources of affordable and reliable energy.

These efforts, if successful, could produce new laws which could limit the diversity that your Cooperative and other utilities build into their electric supply portfolio. The result of such legislation will be to significantly increase your cost of electricity and put service reliability at risk.

In this energy policy debate, your Cooperative has been encouraging our elected officials to avoid over-reacting to unsettled science on climate change, and ensure that electric service remains reliable and affordable.

Providing you with reliable and affordable electric service requires us to consider all viable energy sources. That's why it's important for all of the Cooperative's members to contact their elected officials. An easy way to communicate with your congressional delegation is through your Cooperative's Our Energy, Our Future web site at <https://www.ourenergy.coop/>.

# FOR THE FASTEST POSSIBLE RESPONSE: Be prepared with the proper information when calling in a power outage!!

In an effort to operate more efficiently we are asking "YOU", our member-owners, to be prepared with accurate information when calling in a power outage. When calling in an outage, be prepared to provide our system operators with any of the following three identification numbers; **account number, meter number, or location number.** Due to today's technology, these numbers make it quicker and easier for our system operators to find your location and dispatch linemen to restore the power.

At Glades Electric Cooperative we provide a system operator, "live person", for you to speak with 24 hours a day 365 days a year to report a power outage. In instances where a high volume of calls are being received, our automated phone service will prompt you with the opportunity to report your outage. You can choose this option or hold to speak with a live GEC representative. The use of this option is solely at your discretion, but when used properly can reduce your time on the phone and speed up restoration.

We appreciate your help in this matter, which will expedite the restoration process and increase our overall operating efficiency!

Brett Whidden, Supervisor of System Operations



The diagram below displays where you can locate the identification numbers on your bill

1) Account Number

2) Meter Number

3) Location Number

ACCOUNT NUMBER		ACCOUNT NAME		RATE	CYCLE	BILL DATE	LOCATION NUMBER	SERVICE ADDRESS		
[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]		10	152	07/29/10	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		
SERVICE PERIOD		NO. DAYS	BILL TYPE	METER READING		METER NUMBER	MULT	KWH USAGE	\$ AMOUNT	
FROM	TO			PREVIOUS	PRESENT					
06/28/10	07/27/10	29	0	1718	3421	[REDACTED]	1	1703		
ENERGY CHARGES									240.79	
HOME GUARD CHARGE									6.00	
STATE SALES TAX									0.36	
LOCAL SALES TAX									0.06	
GROSS RECEIPTS									6.17	
CURRENT ELECTRIC CHARGES									253.38	
OPERATION ROUNDUP									0.62	
PREVIOUS AMOUNT DUE									297.00	
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PAYMENT 7/21/10									-297.00	
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE									254.00	
CURRENT CHARGES PAST DUE AFTER 08/19/10										

## PRIVATE Statement of Affirmative Action

Glades Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an Affirmative Action organization and will continue to meet its non-discrimination and affirmative action obligations by insisting that all contractors, subcontractors, suppliers and others who do business with the Cooperative also adhere to strict non-discriminatory and affirmative action practices.

Additionally, Glades Electric Cooperative will continue to insist on full compliance of its Affirmative Action Plan in its hiring, promotion and other employment practices. The Cooperative invites and encourages all minority individuals and groups to participate in all its membership activities, to be

active in the vending of materials and supplies, and to enter bids on contracts for services needed by the Cooperative.

Any minority individual or minority group interested in participation in any of these activities and needing more information about equal opportunities at the Cooperative, may contact L. T. Todd, General Manager and Affirmative Action Compliance Officer, Glades Electric Cooperative, Inc., by writing to him at Glades Electric Cooperative, P. O. Box 519, Moore Haven, FL 33471; or by calling him at (863) 946-0061.

## Statement of Non-Discrimination

Glades Electric Cooperative, Inc. is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utility Services, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1975, as amended; Executive Order 11246, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, sex, disability or handicap shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's non-discrimination compliance efforts is L. T. Todd, General Manager and CEO of Glades Electric Cooperative. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utility Services, Washington, D.C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.



Over 71% of our Members continue to participate in this very worthwhile program. Operation Round Up® assists people in our service area who have exhausted the normal avenues of financial assistance. Sign up today! And your electric bill will be rounded to the nearest dollar and placed into the Roundup fund for deserving individuals and organizations.

As of July 31st, 2010 your Charitable Trust Board of Directors has approved **\$585,330.02 in disbursements**. These funds have provided assistance with food, emergency lodging, disaster relief, and specific emergency needs for **407 individuals** and or families and **85 community organizations**. The Trust **does not** fund mortgage payments, utility bills (electric, phone, water and gas) or budgets of organizations. Organizations who are

involved in our service counties may apply for funding for a specific need or project. The Board of Directors meets monthly to review applications for funding. If you know of a needy individual who deserves some assistance and lives within our service area, please help them complete an application or encourage them to fill one out themselves. Applications can be picked up at each of our three offices: Moore Haven, Lake Placid and Okeechobee. Applications are considered on the 4th Wednesday of every month.

## SEPTEMBER REGULAR MEETING: SEPTEMBER 22, 2010

The Charitable Trust Board of Directors:

Barbara Hughes.....District 1 ....Moore Haven  
 Beverly Eaves .....District 2 ....Hendry County  
 Jim Herrington .....District 3 ....Ortona & Palmdale  
 Doris Evans .....District 4 ....Lakeport  
 Lewis Dixon.....District 5 ....Venus & Hicoria

Lee Andrus .....District 6 ....Highlands Park  
 Audrey Vickers.....District 7 ....Lorida  
 David Mc Cadam...District 8 ....Lake Josephine  
 Josephine Glenn.....District 9 ....Okeechobee



# CHURCH OF THE MONTH

## Eastside Christian Brethren Church

101 Peace Avenue  
 Lake Placid, FL 33852

Sunday Worship Celebration 10:15 am

## THIS MONTH'S WINNERS OF THE \$25.00 CREDIT ARE...

Edward/Mary Poff #100626-01  
 Steven Olsen #12983-01

Winners only: Just sign your name to this page mail it to FLM \$25.00 Credit  
 Glades Electric Cooperative  
 P. O. Box 519, Moore Haven, FL 33471.  
 or give us a call at 1-800-226-4024

## Co-op News

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John "Jack" Coxe, President, District 8  
Lake Josephine, (863) 655-3056

Shannon Hall, Vice-President, District 4  
Lakeport & Brighton, (863) 946-3242

Wallace "Wally" Birge, Secretary/Treasurer,  
District 5  
Venus & Hicoria, (863) 465-6829

Donnie Lundy, Trustee, District 1  
Moore Haven, (863) 946-0402

Barney Goodman, Trustee, District 2  
Hendry County, (863) 983-7324

Lee Henderson, Trustee, District 6  
Highlands Park, (863) 699-1859

James "Jim" Aul, Trustee, District 7  
Lorida, (863) 655-2565

Russell Henderson, Trustee, District 3  
Ortona & Palmdale, (863) 946-0865

Irene Lofton, Trustee, District 9  
Okeechobee, (863) 467-1219

### SENIOR STAFF

Tommy Todd General Manager and  
CEO

Jeff Brewington Chief Financial Officer  
Paul McGehee Business Development  
Manager

Jody Dotson Power Supply Manager  
Gwen Valentine Executive Assistant  
John Eisinger Engineering Services  
Manager

Yvonne Bradley Manager of Human  
Resources

### MONTHLY MEETING

Glades Electric's Board normally meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the Co-op offices in Moore Haven, Lake Placid or Okeechobee. The September board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 23, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in the Moore Haven office. If the meeting date or location is changed, a notice will be posted in all co-op offices.

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS TO CALL IN CASE OF POWER INTERRUPTION

1 (800) 226-4024 Moore Haven  
1 (800) 226-4025 Lake Placid  
1 (800) 226-4023 Okeechobee

GEC's telephones are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including weekends and holidays.

Please have your Location Number or Account Number handy when you call.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

**GLADES**  
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

## TUNE IN FOR HURRICANE INFORMATION

In the event of a major storm or hurricane causing widespread damage in the Glades Electric service area, GEC will provide the information you need. If there are hurricane-related outages in your area, tune in to the radio stations at the times below. GEC will provide updates twice a day for your area.



WWLL FM 105.7 6:20 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. Highlands County



WWOJ FM 99.1 6:20 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. Highlands County



WWTK AM 730 6:55 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. Highlands County



WOKC AM 1570  
FM 100.9 7:15 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. Okeechobee



WAFB FM 100.5  
AM 590 7:20 a.m. & 5:15 p.m. Clewiston



### Energy Efficiency

### Tip of the Month

Use the moisture sensor feature on your clothes dryer if it has one. This option shuts down the dryer when clothes are dry. In addition, clean the lint filter after each load. This improves air circulation and increases the dryer's efficiency.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy