

Regulators to look at need for two power plants

Bu Jim Saunders
The News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — State regulators will hear arguments in March on proposals for two new power plants in Putnam and Pasco counties that would supply electricity to customers of electric cooperatives throughout Florida.

Filings last week with the state Public Service Commission show a two-pronged strategy by Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc., to help meet future power needs. Seminole, which provides wholesale power to cooperatives throughout the state, wants to build a 1,050-megawatt plant at its already-existing site in Putnam County and contract for electricity generated at a 573-megawatt plant in Pasco County that would be owned by a subsidiary of General Electric Co.

The Public Service Commission has scheduled a hearing March 21 on key regulatory approvals — known as seeking determinations of need — for the projects.

Tampa-based Seminole Electric Cooperative also has a proposal pending in the Florida Division of Administrative Hearings as it seeks a separate regulatory approval for the Putnam County project under a state power-plant siting law. Both new plants would be fueled with natural gas, and the strategy also includes shutting down a smaller coal-fired plant at the Putnam site north of Palatka.

In the petitions filed with the Public Service Commission, Seminole said it has a “significant need” for additional power in the 2021 and 2022 timeframe. At least in part, that stems from the expiration of agreements to purchase electricity from other sources.

The new Pasco County plant, which would be adjacent to the existing Shady Hills power plant, would start operating

Dec. 1, 2021, according to the filings. Seminole would have a 30-year contract to buy electricity produced at the plant.

Seminole, meanwhile, would start operating the Putnam County plant on Dec. 1, 2022, the filings show.

If the determinations of need are denied, Seminole said it would have to continue operating the coal-fired plant in Putnam County and would need to buy power at a higher cost.

“Non-approval would mean that Seminole’s members (electric cooperatives throughout the state) and the members’ retail member-consumers would be denied the most cost-effective, risk managed power supply solution,” the petitions said.

Seminole’s members are Central Florida Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Glades Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Peace River Electric Cooperative, Inc.; SECO Energy; Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc.; and Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

The Seminole proposals are part of a broader move in the state’s utility industry to build natural-gas plants and shut down older facilities. Florida Power & Light, for example, is seeking approvals for a new Dania Beach plant and has undertaken projects in recent years at Cape Canaveral, Riviera Beach, Port Everglades and in Okeechobee County. Also, Duke Energy is building a natural-gas plant at Crystal River.

Police: ‘Housewives’ star tried to flee from patrol car

By Meryl Kornfield
The Palm Beach Post (TNS)

PALM BEACH — A star of the “Real Housewives of New York” reality TV show managed to slip out of her handcuffs and tried to flee from a patrol car following her arrest early Sunday, Palm Beach police said.

“I’m going to (expletive) kill you,” Luann de Lesseps told town officers as they tried to put her back in the car, according to the report.

The 52-year-old de Lesseps is facing a total of five charges following the incident at The Colony Hotel. She was released from the Palm Beach County Jail on Sunday and is due back in

county court Jan. 25.

De Lesseps stayed in Room 327 at The Colony, an 89-room hotel a block from the beach, during her visit to Palm Beach. A security guard told police he found her and a man in bed in Room 407, which the housekeeping staff was turning down for the night, according to an arrest report. After five minutes of trying to get de Lesseps and the man to leave, the guard called police at about 9:30 p.m.

But when officers arrived, they found de Lesseps and a female friend in Room 407, and both appeared to be intoxicated, police said. The women slurred their words and

smelled of alcohol, according to the report.

When both were told to leave, the other woman did so but de Lesseps refused and locked herself in the bathroom, police said. The report does not state either when the female friend arrived in the room or what happened to the man.

Officers tried to open the bathroom door, and de Lesseps shoved one of them in the chest, according to the report.

She slammed the door on another officer, hitting that officer in the face, police said.

After being handcuffed and placed in a patrol car, the reality star removed the cuffs and tried to leave the car. As an officer tried to put her handcuffs back on, she threatened him. She also threatened to kill other officers while in a holding cell at the police department, according to the report.



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Berman: Smoking-age bill to continue in Hahnfeldt’s honor

The News Service of Florida


Rep. Lori Berman, a Lantana Democrat, intends to move forward with a bill seeking to raise the legal age for smoking in honor of the measure’s co-sponsor, Rep. Don Hahnfeldt, a Republican from The Villages who died of cancer on Sunday.

“I was saddened to learn of Rep. Don Hahnfeldt’s passing,” Berman tweeted on Tuesday. “I was honored to have worked with him on raising the tobacco purchase age to 21 and will pursue this important issue in his legacy.”

Last week, Hahnfeldt and Berman filed a proposal (HB 1029) that would raise the legal age for smoking from 18 to 21. In a press release issued with Berman, and Senate sponsor David Simmons, R-Altamonte Springs, Hahnfeldt said raising the legal age “will save a projected early loss of life of 270,000 young lives and \$8.6 billion in health care costs, as well as \$8.3 billion in productivity losses.”

Hahnfeldt, 73, was a first-term member of the House whose district includes Sumter and parts of Lake and Marion counties.

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PUBLISHES: Saturday, January 27th, 2018
DEADLINE: Tuesday, January 23rd, 2018

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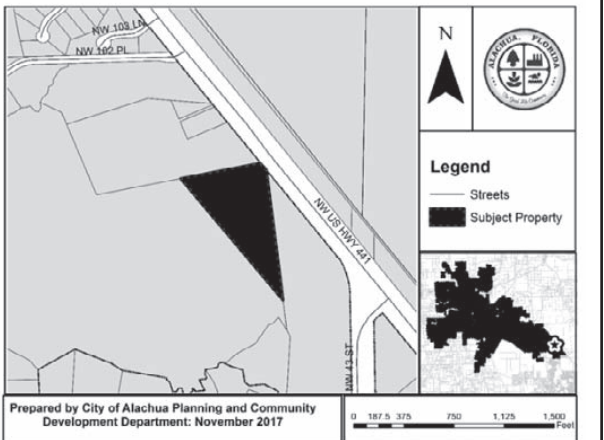
PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENACTMENT OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA

Notice is hereby given that the City Commission of the City of Alachua will hold a public hearing on a proposed ordinance. The hearing will be held on January 8, 2018 at 6:00 PM in the James A. Lewis Commission Chambers in City Hall, located at 15100 NW 142nd Terrace, Alachua, Florida.

The ordinance title is as follows:

ORDINANCE 18-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE AMENDMENT OF THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS; AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS FROM AGRICULTURAL (A) TO COMMERCIAL INTENSIVE (CI) ON APPROXIMATELY 9.99 ACRES; LOCATED AT 9900 NW US HIGHWAY 441; NORTHWEST OF THE INTERSECTION OF US HIGHWAY 441 AND NW 43RD STREET, SOUTHEAST OF THE BROOKE POINTE SUBDIVISION, SOUTH OF THE STAGHORN SUBDIVISION, AND WEST OF US HIGHWAY 441; A PORTION OF TAX PARCEL NUMBER 05936-001-000; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



At the public hearing, all interested parties may appear and be heard with respect to the application. Copies of the application are available for public inspection at the Planning and Community Development Department, 15100 NW 142nd Terrace, Alachua, Florida, on any regular business day between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Written comments on the application may be sent to the following address: City of Alachua, Planning and Community Development, P.O. Box 9, Alachua, FL 32616. Notice is given pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, that, in order to appeal any decision made at the public hearing, you will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, you may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any persons with a disability requiring reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk at (386) 418-6100 x 101 at least 48 hours prior to the public hearing.



City of ALACHUA

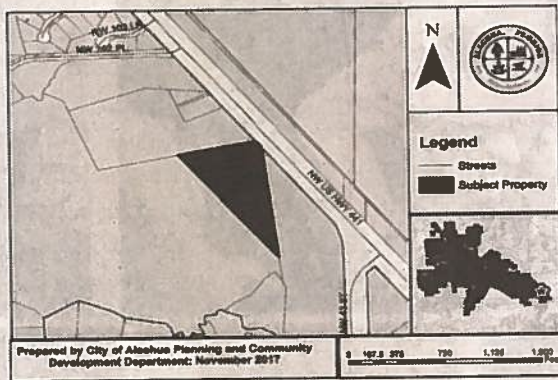
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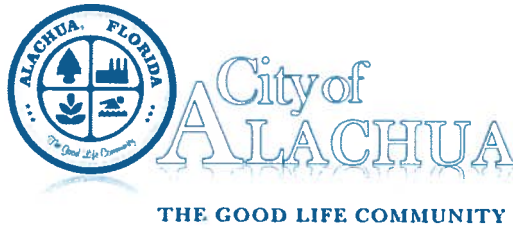
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(Published: Alachua County Today - December 28, 2017)



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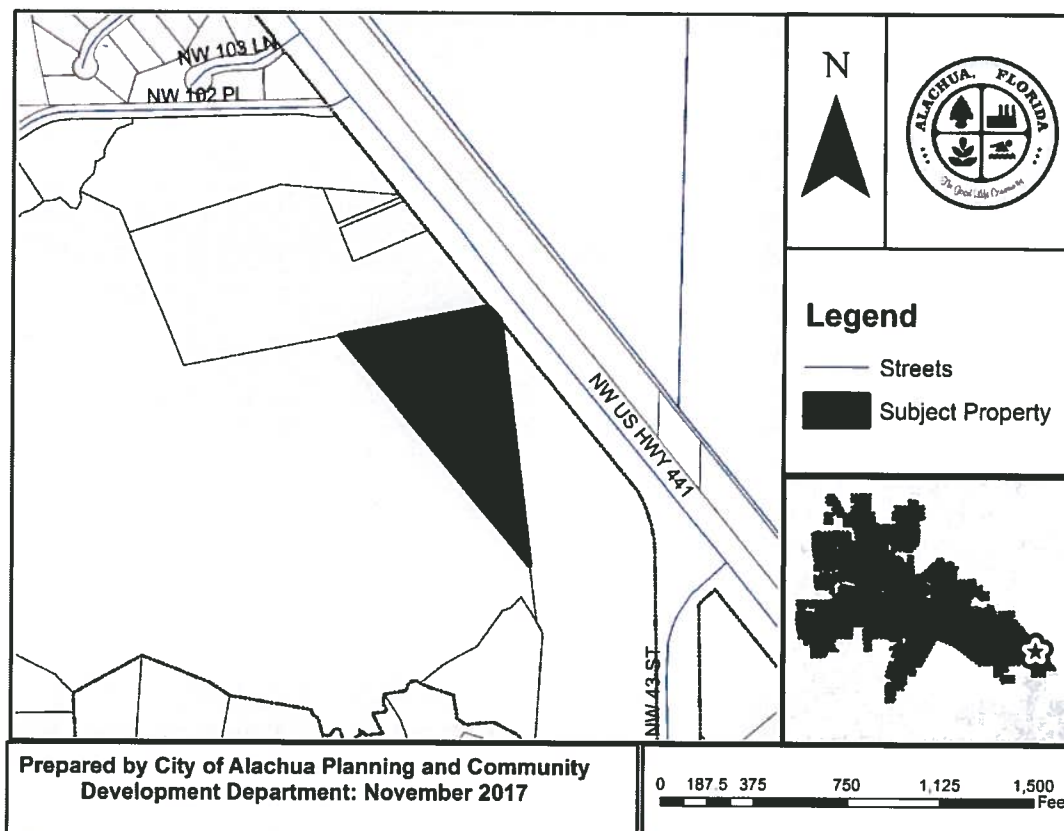
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Alachua, FL 32615

Tamara Robbins
PO Box 2317
Alachua, FL 32616



AFFIDAVIT FOR POSTED LAND USE SIGN

I Jackie Curry, POSTED THE LAND USE
(Name)
SIGN ON 11-22-17 FOR THE Rezoning – Meeks Rezoning
(Date) (State type of action and project name)
LAND USE ACTION.

AS PER ARTICLE 2.2.9 D OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS.

THIS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE STAFF REPORT.

Jackie Curry
(Signature)

1
(Number of signs)