

Submitted by UAB Chair Darin Cook on behalf of the Board.

On September 5 the Utility Advisory Board (UAB) made two votes.

The first was by a vote of 4-1 (with Annie Orlando in dissension) the UAB voted that due diligence activities were satisfactory, but the UAB would like transitional contracts negotiated by Mr. Bielarski to be sent to the UAB. We also had much discussion on benchmarking Mr. Beilarski's negotiations with vendors to what the current cost is for GREC.

The second vote by a vote of 5-0 was to recommend that the Gainesville City Commission (GCC) delay a vote on allowing the Mayor to sign the Asset Purchase Agreement (APA) until after the hurricane Irma threat passes which would be next week. The UAB believes a larger than small chance exists that significant damage could occur to the biomass plant by hurricane Irma. For instance, the cooling towers are only rated to withstand category 1 hurricane winds. Irma is capable of much more. Also, the UAB felt voting on approval might be a distraction to getting ready for this monster of a storm.

Mr. Bielarski's reasoning that we are spending \$212,000 dollars a day may be true (please note that we would be paying two thirds of that after the buyout in financing and operating costs so the real expense is only around a third of \$212,000 of day), but in the wake of the threat of such possible devastation by Irma, the more prudent course would be to delay the vote a week.

If the vote is delayed until next week, the deadline for the Mayor signing by September 14 can still be made.

For these two reasons, the UAB strongly recommends by a unanimous vote that the GCC delay the vote to allow the Mayor to sign the APA by one week.