SUNDANCE CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTIONS

PROJECT STATUS COMMENTS

GRU

• Review the status of using LEED certification (or Green Globe or other appropriate standard) for city buildings and renovations.	Energy and Water Efficiency Team	
• Benchmark energy usage in city buildings and create an interdepartmental or inter-building competition to reduce energy demand (review this on a basis that can be compared easily, like \$/year/sq ft. or kWh/year/sq ft. "The Inter-departmental Energy Challenge". Suggest the County and School Board do the same (to be fair to those in older buildings, perhaps we should just measure the reduction in usage).	Energy and Water Efficiency Team	The challenge part could come after the recommendations by the Team and come from the City Commission
• Review whether there are lighting fixtures and/or appliances or other energy users that should be updated.	Energy and Water Efficiency Team	
• Review policies for turning off lights, computers, etc. at the surge protector. Communicate good practices to employees.	Energy and Water Efficiency Team	
Review water conservation programs within city buildings.	Energy and Water Efficiency Team	
• Follow-up on offer from Austin Energy official to visit Gainesville and provide peer review for our energy efficiency programs.	Scheduled for the week of May 7 with Roger Duncan of Austin Energy.	
 Review status of ICLEI commitment (Cities for Climate Protection Agreement) and US Conference of Mayors Resolution that the city has adopted and obtain an update on our progress. Coordinate our efforts (and possible membership in ICLEI) with Alachua County government. 	Hired a consultant to assist, proposed goals and objectives by April 2007.	
Look at the city's lighting standards for buildings.	Energy and Water Efficiency Team	May wish to assign to Energy Delivery and Community Development (Land Development Regulations.)
Make sure our requirements for solar permitting are encouraging use of that option, including use of solar pool heaters.	This was referred to the RUC and changes approved by the City Commission 9/11/2006. Will continue to monitor.	
 Look at encouraging those with large, industrial facilities and appropriate roofs and other conditions to install solar arrays. This is an equipment consideration allowed under our customized commercial rebate program. 	Decide if it should be part of the site plan review and considerations, a requirement of CRA, or included in the Green Building Ordinance	

SUNDANCE CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTIONS

PROJECT	STATUS	COMMENTS
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GRU Continued

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Hold a summit with the hotel industry to encourage use of fluorescent light bulbs, reducing hot water temperatures, and implementing other energy efficiency measures.	Utility staff has participated in Green Hotel conferences and assisted the Hilton in Green Hotel certification.	Large Account Rep for hotels also discuss programs such as Commercial Lighting and Customized Commercial with these customers. This might be a good target market for upcoming conservation programs.
• Research the "Healthcare Without Harm" organization that focuses on greening hospitals, in association with Shands, North Florida Regional Medical Center, and the Veterans Administration.	GRU's Planning Staff will research this program.	
List those businesses that have done energy efficiency retrofits on our city and/or GRU websites. The Customized Commercial rebate recipients could be listed on the web site.	Currently GRUgreen Energy participants are listed when they purchase renewable energy.	
Consider having a feature on our website that allows citizens to sign a "personal commitment" to reduce energy use. (See Salt Lake City's website).	GRU is currently requiring a pledge for the use of CFLs upon distribution and also offers a voluntary pledge on the web site that links to the DOE program. We are looking to expand these "pledge" programs.	
Suggest use of LEED certification (or similar) for library, county, and school board buildings and renovations. Most think of LEED for new construction.	Utility staff recommends energy and water efficiency retrofit plans for these customers to help improve resource efficiency in poor performing public buildings.	City commission might be most appropriate to recommend this.
• Look into state and federal policies on transferable energy efficiency tax credits and lobby to have them apply to public power organizations.	This is underway through the American Public Power Association.	These are referred to as CREBs. CREBs are being considered for renewable projects. Recently authorized.
 Hold an energy efficiency challenge with Tallahassee to see who can save the most energy and money (Mayor John Marks has already expressed tentative agreement for this and suggested we send a formal proposal). 	Florida Municipal Energy Efficiency Committee (FMEC)	This challenge be developed through the FMEC members, of which Tallahassee is a member, to see if other utilities/cities would participate, help develop a proposal, and gain maximum efficiency and publicity.

SUNDANCE CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTIONS

PROJECT	STATUS	COMMENTS
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GRU Continued

Look into applicability of buying Tribal Wind Power.	Staff recommends the development of a policy requiring local development of renewable energy to adhere to principals of sustainability.	
Hold a "Summit" of energy innovation and environmental protection businesses and professionals in Gainesville and encourage their suggestions.	Tourist Development Council or Cultural Affairs Department	GRU and fellow FMEC members (JEA, OUC, Tallahassee, Lakeland and FMPA) are holding a solar contractors workshop in Orlando in February. GRU was a sponsor of the Social Marketing workshop presented by Doug McKenzie-Mahr in January 2007. GRU also sponsored the sustainability conference held at the University of Florida and would like to participate in this again. This effort might be best coordinated by the University of Florida. They have conferencing facilities and staffing for such events. The City of Gainesville/GRU could sponsor such an event.
Develop (revive) a "Green Business" program to recognize businesses taking a leadership role in energy efficiency, climate protection and other environmental stewardship initiatives. (See the City of Austin's Green leaf Award and Green Tree Award).	GRU Marketing Staff / Economic Development Department	GRU Marketing staff has been working with the Chamber of Commerce about the development of such a program that would include an awards component.
Hold an annual awards program for businesses most deserving of recognition, and publicize winners.	See above	
Engage faith leaders and congregations on conservation and climate change issues.	Utility staff continues to meet and work with the Action Network. However, the City Commission may wish to pursue further.	
Establish a feature in our website that allows people to input how many fluorescent bulbs they have installed, and tally the total pounds of CO2 reduced and the energy saved city-wide.	There is a web site already designed that includes this and vehicular use and a link could be provided to the city and GRU web sites.	