

Item #170647 - Alternative Electric Rate Structures to Distribute Savings Related to GREC Acquisition

Statement written by UAB member Mary Alford to explain the two dissenting votes on the board's motion for this item.

The UAB, while all agreeing that the \$1.8M in tax revenue should be returned to the ratepayers, differed in their opinion as to how it should be returned. Members Denslow and Alford did not agree that the \$1.8M should be equally distributed among ratepayers, but instead suggested that those funds be used to fund low income energy efficiency improvements as well as to fund the various energy efficiency incentive programs recently discontinued by GRU for both residential and commercial customers.

It has been shown that the tiered rate structure intended to incentivize energy conservation does not always benefit those who would most benefit by the lower rates due to inefficient buildings. These incentives, which could be available to both homeowners and landlords, would help lower bills and would provide greater relief to the citizens that need it most as compared to a few dollars credit on a utility bill spread across all customers.