

**RUC OUTSTANDING REFERRALS STATUS REPORT**

1. **#100576 – GRU Class B Biosolids:**

On December 2, 2010 the City Commission referred the broad issue of long term waste disposal strategies to the Regional Utilities Committee. Staff made a presentation on this item at the February 27, 2012 meeting.

2. **#100339 – Conservation Strategies Referral: \***

On September 2, 2010 the City Commission referred the issue of conservation strategies to the Regional Utilities Committee. On November 10, 2010 the RUC agreed to combine Item #080184 regarding Water Conservation with this item. Staff gave an update on this item at the 4/30/12 RUC meeting.

3. **#090588 – Dedicated Funding Source to Assist Non-Project Agencies:**

At the request of Commissioner Poe, the City Commission referred to the Regional Utilities Committee the issue of GRU finding a dedicated funding source to assist with updating utility infrastructure for non-profit agencies that provide a public service. This item was discussed at the May 13, 2010 and November 10, 2010 meetings. Staff will continue to evaluate the options and bring back some recommendations at a future meeting.

4. **#120721 – Monitor the Progress of the Clean-up of Cabot Carbon/Koppers Superfund Site:\***

On October 2, 2008 the City Commission adopted the alignment of strategic goals and initiatives with the Standing Committees and the CRA. The Commission also authorized staff that is responsible for the implementation of the goal to go directly to the appropriate Standing Committee for policy direction and to provide the committee with two updates throughout the fiscal year. This is the second of two strategic initiatives for FY 2009/2010 assigned to the Regional Utilities Committee. (SI 6.4) The RUC received a report at the January 14, 2009 meeting. Staff gave a progress report at the June 8, 2011 meeting. The item was discussed again at the 8-13-12 meeting.

6. **#120726 – Develop a Coordinated Response at the Local Level to Address Energy Policy and Climate Change (C/C Strategic Initiative):\***

On October 2, 2008 the City Commission adopted the alignment of strategic goals and initiatives with the Standing Committees and the CRA. The Commission also authorized staff that is responsible for the implementation of the goal to go directly to the appropriate Standing Committee for policy direction and to provide the committee with two updates throughout the fiscal year. This is one of two strategic initiatives for FY 2009/2010 assigned to the Regional Utilities Committee. (SI 7.3) The RUC received a report at the January 14, 2009 meeting. Item was discussed again at the 9-12-12 meeting.

7. **#080183 – Coal Acquisition Policy:**

At the July 10, 2008 GRU budget meeting the City Commission referred the issue of GRU's coal acquisition policy to the Regional Utilities Committee for their consideration. Commissioner Poe brought up the issue of having a problem with the coal we are using now. Commissioner Lowe asked if our coal is coming from mountaintop removal. Commissioner Poe moved to refer the policies of coal acquisition to the RUC. This item was discussed at the October 20, 2008 meeting. The RUC asked for more information on the impacts of mountaintop removal and other types of mining so that it can compare them and perhaps have a presentation from Coal Mountain Watch.

Staff made a presentation on our current RFQ for coal contracts at the August 16, 2011 meeting. Staff provided an additional update at the November 28, 2011 meeting, including a discussion about the regulations that govern the coal mining industry. The committee voted to keep this in committee and hear further updates. An additional update was given at the January 23, 2012 meeting. Staff gave an update at the 2/19/13 meeting. The item will remain in committee for further discussion. Item was discussed again at the 9/12/13 meeting. Commissioner Poe will bring an item back to the full commission for discussion.

8. **#110125 – Utilities Undergrounding Update:**

At the June 16, 2011 City Commission meeting, Commissioner Hawkins requested that the RUC hear an update on utility undergrounding plan and consider possible modifications to the plan. Staff gave a presentation on the present status of undergrounding utilities at the November 28, 2011

meeting. The item will remain in committee for further discussion at a future meeting.

**9. #110210 – GREC Status Update:**

At the July 7, 2011 City Commission meeting, Commissioner Chase requested that the RUC hear an update on the Gainesville Renewable Energy Center (GREC). Staff made a presentation on current cost assumptions at the October 10, 2011 meeting. An update on the arbitration process was given by the Legal office at the August 8, 2013 meeting.

**10. #120727 – Energy Efficiency Standards and Requirements: \***

On January 28th, the CDC made a presentation to the City Commission recommending adoption of an ordinance amending the minimum housing code to include a minimum efficiency standard of R19 insulation in the attic. This recommendation was referred back to the Community Development Committee for further discussion. Subsequently, on August 19th the CDC presented recommendations to the City Commission which were passed on consent. The recommendations included Education, Social Pressure and Multi Dwelling Unit components. The remaining item regarding "R19 Attic Insulation as a Standard of the Minimum Housing Code" was kept in Committee. At the 07/21/11 City Commission meeting, this item was referred back to the RUC. (SI 7.4)

The item was discussed again at the April 30, 2012 meeting. The Committee asked Staff to look at more aggressive options for putting tools for tenants into people's hands to help them factor energy costs into their decisions when deciding whether to rent a home or apartment, such as making it mandatory that landlords share energy use information with tenants when they sign a lease. The Committee agreed to consider this issue with Item #050761, Energy Efficiency Standards and Requirements.

Staff gave an update on GRU's research into energy efficiency requirements for landlords and home sellers at the July 9, 2012 meeting.

**11. #110665 – Review of the GRU Cost Allocation Study:**

At the March 15, 2012 City Commission meeting, Commissioner Hawkins requested that the RUC review GRU's cost allocation study. The study was completed by an independent accounting firm in October 2012. They presented an overview of the process at the 10-11-12 meeting. Details of

the study were presented at the November 20, 2012 RUC meeting. This item was discussed at the June 24, 2013 meeting.

**12. #110783 – Green Energy Payment Options**

At the 3/1/12 City Commission Meeting, Commissioner Chase requested the Commission refer to the RUC the issue of customers being able to purchase green energy by making a monthly contribution on their electric bill. Staff gave presentation at 2/19/13 meeting, combined with items 120686, 120687 and 120516.

**13. #120126 – Glen Springs Restoration**

At the 6/7/12 City Commission meeting, Commissioner Poe requested that the RUC discuss what role, if any, GRU might play in restoring Glen Springs with regard to Connect Free, water quality and other issues. The item was discussed at the 8-13-12 meeting.

**14. #120516 - Review of Solar Feed-In-Tariff**

At the October 4, 2012 City Commission meeting, Commissioner Chase asked that the RUC review the Solar FIT program, considering potential enhancements, rate impacts and related issues. Staff gave presentation at 2/19/13 meeting, combined with items 120686, 120687 and 110783. Additional updates given by staff at the April 17, 2013 meeting.

**15. #120686 - Low Income Solar**

At the December 6, 2012 City Commission meeting, Commissioner Hinson-Rawls asked that the RUC investigate ways to make solar accessible to low income homeowners. Staff gave presentation at 2/19/13 meeting, combined with items 120516, 120687 and 110783. Additional updates given by staff at the April 17, 2013 meeting.

**16. #120687 - Solar Feed-In-Tariff Customer Survey**

At the December 6, 2012 City Commission meeting, Commissioner Chase asked that the RUC develop language for a survey on the solar FIT and the impact on rate payers using the current cost as a benchmark as to whether they would want to add additional capacity in the future. Staff gave presentation at 2/19/13 meeting, combined with items 120686,

120516 and 110783. Additional updates given by staff at the April 17, 2013 meeting.

18. **#120724 Protect the Quality of Drinking Water in Gainesville:**

Strategic initiative 7.1, referred by the CCom at the 1/3/13 meeting.

18. **#120883 Late Fees and Utility Terminations**

At the January 17, 2013 meeting, Commissioner Chase requested that the RUC review GRU's policies regarding late fees, payments and termination policies, and explore community partnerships for helping people. Item was discussed at the 9/12/13 and 11/14/13 meetings.

19. **#121029 Review of the Fuel Adjustment Policy**

At the March 7, 2013 CCom meeting, Commissioner Chase asked that the RUC review the fuel adjustment policy and make a recommendation to the full Commission. This item was discussed at the June 24th meeting. It was discussed again at the August 8, 2013 meeting.

20. **#130325 Net Metering Policy/ Cap on Pay-out and Existing Installations**

At the August 1, 2013 CCom meeting, Commissioner Poe asked that RUC discuss a potential cap on any pay-out on energy above what is used by residents or commercial properties; also discuss policy concerning existing installations (grandfathering). Item was discussed at the 11/14/13 meeting.