27. Troy Kuphal, Marion Co. Planning Dept. 352.620-3316, Horse Bedding disposal;
28. Tom Lane, Owner, ESC Inc., Gainesville, 352.377.8866, Solar Energy Equipment;
29. Roy Lerman, Owner, Lambholm So., Marion Co. 352.629.7060, Disposal of horse bedding;
30. John Martin, Mayor, City of Hawthorne, Alachua Co., 352.481.3374, Distributed Gnrtn.;
31. Sandy McArthur, Timber/Forestry, Union Co.; 904.655.6928; Fuel wood for biopower;
32. Gerald Mizzoni, Marion Co., 360.608.3151. Contracted Quality Control for Ind. Constr.;
33. Tirso Moreno, Director, Farm Worker Assoc. of FL, Apopka, 407.886.5151; Goat Coop;
34. Ken Murray, USDA, NRCS, RC&D State Coordinator, 352.338.7509;
35. Peter Nesmith, Environmental Engineer, Alachua Co., 378-5712, Biodiesel from waste oil;
36. David O'Keef, Full Circle Solutions, Inc. Alachua Co. 373-9313, Anaerobic fermentation;
37. Al Oliver, District Conservationist, USDA, Union Co., 386.755.3194 Ext 3;
38. Bryan Olmert, President, Loncala Corp., High Springs 386.454.1511, Fuel Wood Supply;
39. John Owens, Biologist, UF College of Agricultural and Biological Sciences, 392-1864;
40. Don Post, Forester, retired UF Forestry Dept. 352.376.0125, Supply and Wood Gasification;
41. Pat Post, Owner, Southern Fuelwood, Newberry, 352.494.6306, Fuel Wood Supply;
42. Marvin Pritchett, Pritchett Trucking, Union County, 386.496.2630, Fuel wood supply;
43. Ricky Quintana, Science Curriculum Supervisor, SBAC, Gainesville, 955-7617;
44. Wilson Rivers, Union County, 386.496-3841, Land and Timber; Supply of fuel wood;
45. Avery Roberts, Roberts Land and Timber Investment Co., Union County, 386.496-3509;
46. Don Rockwood, UF School of Forestry, Alachua, 352.846.0897, Fuel Wood Supply;
47. Eileen Roy, Board Member, SBAC, 352.955-7253 Ext. 272; Biodiesel and Heavy Equipment Operator Training;
48. Ron St. John, Owner, Alliance Dairy, Levy Co. 352.463.6613, Renewable Energy;
49. Richard Schroeder, Forester, Bradford Co., 352.367.1235; efficient biotechnology for cities;
50. Wayne Smith, UF College of Agriculture and School of Forestry, 352.846.0868;
51. Augie Spicher, Ocala Tree Debris, Ocala 352.629.9911, Fuel Wood Supply;
52. Mark Spiller, Strategic Planning, GRU, Alachua Co., 334.3400, Renewable Energy;
53. Blaine Suggs, Public Works, City of Newberry 352.472.1537, Alternative Energy;
54. Rodney Schwab, Pres., M.A. Rigoni, Inc. Taylor Co. 850.584.7030, Chipping/Logging;
55. Chuck Thomas, Progress Energy, Largo, FL ,727. 518.3622. Alternative Energy Strategy;
56. Doug Ulmer, Suannee RC&D Council, Coordinator; 386..364.4278;
57. Mark Van Soestbergen, ICBE, Inc. Software development, Alachua Co., 367-1144; Insourcing the fuel solution;
58. Larry Watson, Watson Construction, Newberry 352.472.9157, Fuel Wood Supply;
59. Anne Wilke, Soil/Water Science Dept. UF 352.392.8699 , Anaerobic Fermentation;
60. Don West, District Forester, FL Div. of Forestry, (352) 955.6270.; Recruitment of suppliers.

"Cultivators of the earth are the most valuable citizens. They are the most vigorous, the most independent, the most virtuous and they are tied to their country and wedded to its liberty and interests by the most lasting bonds." Thomas Jefferson

POWER TO AND FOR THE PEOPLE

For those with questions about this proposed Council or wishing to join as a member but unable to this meeting, please call Tom Cunilio, the interim coordinator, at 352.376.6254.

040841
Submitted by
Tom Cumbie

RENEWABLE FLORIDA RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

CONSTITUTIONAL MEETING: Tuesday, January 18th, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. at the Newberry City Auditorium in Newberry at 25440 West Newberry Road (right next to the City Hall).

Directions: Newberry is at the crossroad of Hwy 26 (Newberry Rd) and Hwy 41 and is west of Gainesville. City Hall and the Auditorium are west of the Hwy 26 and Hwy 41 intersection. Hwy 26 goes through downtown Newberry. A block after the RR track, look for the city buildings on the right. Parking is available throughout the downtown area. The Newberry Backyard Barbecue is a real good place to eat across from the City Auditorium.

Because of your interest and/or commitment, you are invited to become a voting Council Member at this meeting and to elect a leadership group:

1. John Adams, President, State Council of RC&Ds. Homestead FL 954.214.8503;
2. Bill Agricola, Timber owner, Union Co., 904.655.6928, Fuel wood for biopower;
3. Joan Bradshaw, Citrus Co. Ext. Agent in Resource Mngmt., 352.726.2141; Recruitment;
4. Bryan Becker, UF Forestry Grad. Student, (352) 246.6239; seeking PhD topic;
5. Ron Bishop, Alachua County Public Works, 352.374.5245 X279, Landfill gas;
6. David Bruderly, Bruderly Engineering, Alachua, 352..377.0932, Organizing suppliers' coop;
7. Mark Brown, Agrisource, Inc., Marion Co. 352.351.2700; Waste wood utilization;
8. Kathy Cantwell, Sierra Club, Alachua Co., 352.395-7441, Renewable Energy;
9. Nicholas Comerford, UF Soil and Water Science Dept., 352.392.1951; C sequestration;
10. Dian Deevey, Environmental Scientist, Gainesville, 352.373.0181, Wood Plant for GRU;
11. Josh Dickinson, Gainesville, Forest Stewardship Council, 373-2377, un-even forest thinning;
12. Jill Dobbs, District Conservationist, Marion and Citrus Co., 352.622-3971;
13. Greg Driskell, Plum Creek, Union Co. 386.496.2215, Pulp wood for energy;
14. Dave Edwards, SBAC, Dir. Career, Technical and Adult Educ.; (352) 955-7600;
15. Clyde Forbes, FL West Coast Railroad, Trenton, 352.221-1146, Fuel Wood Supply;
16. Lowell Garrett, City Planner, Newberry 352.472.3927, small Power Plant for Newberry;
17. John Glanzer, Mayor, City of Newberry, 352.472.2446, Host Venue;
18. Tom Gorman, Treasurer, FL Meat Goat Assoc., Gainesville, 352.377-6157; Goat Coop;
19. Alex Green, Professor Emeritus, UF College of Engineering, 352.392-2001, Thermal Conversion and Economic Modeling of Waste Wood Supply (BANG);
20. Ken Griner, Forestry, Usher Land and Timber, Chiefland, 352.493.4221, Fuel Wood Supply;
21. David Harlos, Environmental scientist, Alachua Co., 352.375-8797, CO2 control strategies;
22. Donna Hopwood, District Conservationist, USDA, Bradford and Alachua Co., 352.376-7414
23. Ellen Huntley, Program Dir., Alachua Co., Neighborhood Nutrition Network, 352.377.6345;
24. Kerry Johanson, Industrial Scholar, UF Materials Science Dept. 352.303.9123 (cell), Materials Handling and Continuous Fermentation to Methane and Compost;
25. Harry Kegelmann, FL Digital Turnpike, Inc. Gnvl, 352.335-0858, Solar Manufacturing;
26. Doug Kinsey, Ocala Tree Debris, Marion Co., 352.266.1486; Fuel Wood Supply;

040841
submitted
6/28/05
by
P/ Linda.

Richard Morgan
Green Building Program Manager
Austin Energy

Richard Morgan has managed the Austin Energy Green Building Program for the past six years. In this capacity Richard manages 13 architects, engineers and other building and energy industry professionals who work with private sector developers, designers and builders to assist in the design and construction of commercial and residential buildings that are highly energy and resource efficient. Richard is also responsible for Austin Energy's Manage it Green program which consults with other utilities and municipalities to develop or enhance green building and energy efficiency programs.

Prior to joining Austin Energy, Richard spent seven years managing not for profit, affordable housing initiatives. He was a member of the team that developed the concept for the award winning Casa Verde Builders program at American Youth Works. Richard also managed Casa Verde Builders for more than 5 years. Casa Verde is an AmeriCorps and YouthBuild program that works with at-risk young people to build very energy and resource efficient, affordable housing in Austin. Richard also spent more than 20 years in the private sector building industry as a licensed general contractor and cabinet shop owner.

Richard was educated as a linguist, speaking Arabic and German and is certified by the National Development Council as a Housing Development Finance Professional.

Richard maintains membership in the Urban Land Institute, U.S. Green Building Council, National Association of Home Builders, Energy Efficient Builders Association, and the Sustainable Buildings Industry Council. He is currently a member of the core committee for LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Homes Committee of the U.S. Green Building Council and the National Association of Home Builders Green Building Subcommittee.

Austin Energy is the 10th largest municipal utility in the U.S. with about 380,000 customers and 3,000 MW of generation capacity. Of the 3000 MW of capacity, 213 MW is from renewable energy sources including wind, landfill methane, and solar. Austin Energy has operated energy efficiency and peak load reduction programs since 1982. The peak load reduction of those programs has resulted in a "Conservation Power Plant" of more than 600 MW of peak demand eliminated.

Manage it Green Consulting Clients

Memphis Gas, Light, and Water
CA Public Utility Commission/Pacific Gas and Electric
EPA Energy Star Homes Programs/ICFConsulting
U.S. Department of Defense
U.S. Green Building Council

GAINESVILLE ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Gainesville City Commission

January 25, 2005

RE: Recommendations on GRU Integrated Resource Plan

Honorable Mayor and Commissioners:

The Gainesville Energy Advisory Committee, by a 8 - 0 vote at its January 25, 2005 meeting, re-affirms its support for the City Commission to approve the initiation of the engineering design stage for the 220 MW generator at Deerhaven, with emphasis on the optimization of biomass to fossil fuel uses in the design, conservation measures and the enhancement of control systems to minimize release to the environment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Albert H. Linden, Jr.
Gainesville Energy Advisory Committee Chair

CC: City Commissioners

#040841
3/1/05
submitted by Gabriel

The Public Has A Right to Know about risks as well as benefits of a proposed GRU sooty-coal plant energy-producing long-range plan when it is compared with ideas relying on alternative energy sources.

GOVERNMENT

Commission to discuss energy during meeting

■ The Gainesville City Commission will continue discussion about the future of the city's energy supply at a special meeting tonight at 6:30 in the City Hall Auditorium, 200 E. University Ave.

The commission has been debating a Gainesville Regional Utilities proposal to build a power plant fired primarily by coal. The municipal utility is seeking approval to move ahead to the design phase of the project, which could result in a $535 million, 220-megawatt plant.

Critics of the proposal argue that using coal to fuel the plant will have negative environmental consequences, particularly with regard to the release of greenhouse gases

UF
GAINESVILLE
WE CAN DO BETTER

INSIDE THE BOX–C--03-07-05

CAMPAIGN FOR GABRIEL

For Gainesville City Commissioner at Large (2)(Too, also, etc.).

WHAT WE DON'T KNOW IS HURTING US

Gabriel's legal advisor and learned mentor Gabe Kaimowitz–who is listed in every Marquis' *Who's Who in America, in American Law*, sometimes even the *World* in the 21st Century--has advised him that this first-time candidate should speak out about a proposed long-term energy plan being offered by a municipal monopoly Gainesville Regional Utilities ("GRU") operation. Guarding access to the history of the plan and the proposed plant is Michael Kurtz. He is an unelected Gainesville Charter Officer who watches and listens like a bird of prey from his seat at every City Commission meeting.

Mister Kurtz will be looking out at the people who assemble tonight, in the Gainesville City Hall Auditorium starting about 6 p.m. Based on observations of his past behavior, Mister Kurtz will listen patiently to everything that is said, however long that takes. He then will return to the GRU staff during the work week and they will continue doing whatever it is they have been doing about the proposed $500+ million sooty-coal-reliant energy producing plant that they have been doing until now. It is Gabriel's experience that neither Mister Kurtz nor his staff adjusts well to new information, unless,--as occurred several years ago in a discussion of rates--the GRU facts are shown to be filled with hot air and/or hot water. Even the Gainesville Sun had to report that story.

SO WHAT WILL GABRIEL SAY?

For the GRU dirty-coal reliant energy producing plant proposal, the three incumbent candidates for the two district and one at-large City Commission seats will be sitting looking out at the people, just as Mister Kurtz will do. On controversial issues like the messy-coal reliant energy producing plant proposal, those three usually do not listen well. Commissioner Tony Domenech did listen, and responded positively to us by his rejection of a proposed Wal-Mart Maul at Hogtown Creek. Don't expect similar response tonight. Commissioner Domenech has couched his defense of the plan in the clothing of the poor and working class people. He wants action to keep rates down. The ugly-coal reliant energy producing plant proposal is his solution to getting action swiftly. Gabriel almost fell for that reasoning, until he recognized that Commissioner Tony and the other incumbents would be the ones most likely to favor the ugh-coal reliant energy producing plant proposal regardless of the reason for it.

Let's keep our eyes on the prize, folks. Gabriel did not enter this "throw the incumbents out" "anybody but Rick" campaign just to have a gummy-coal reliant energy producing plant proposal made palatable for the audience. Others -- especially Gainesville City Commissioner-at-large (2) candidate Rob Brinkman--will question its merits more knowledgeably and eloquently than he can. So Gabriel simply will make a Florida Public Records Act request for all documents in whatever form which would show GRU consideration of alternative energy sources in the course of its development of its proposed coal-based plan. Perhaps there are none. Perhaps GRU considered alternatives. Let's find out. That's the least we can do.

Political Advertisement Paid for by the Campaign for Gabriel
for Gainesville City Commissioner-at-Large (2)

Submitted by Peter Rebmann 1/31/2005

040841

Good evening Madame Mayor and Commissioners, my name is Peter Rebmann. I am here tonight in my capacity as president of the Northwest Gainesville Coalition of Homeowners Associations.

Last week, I appeared before you as a spokesman for Citizens for Affordable and Renewable Energy and, in that capacity, I introduced a resolution for your consideration to appoint a panel of independent experts to review GRU's proposal with an eye to developing viable fuel options that incorporate extensive use of renewable resources.

As president of the Northwest Gainesville Coalition of Homeowners Associations, I want to affirm our support for that resolution and to provide some background information as to why we believe it is important.

We first heard of GRU's proposed new plant in the fall of 2003. We were immediately concerned about it because the residents of our member associations live closer to the Deerhaven plant than most residents of Gainesville and because many of them are elderly and suffer from serious respiratory illnesses which could be exacerbated by the proposed plant. We therefore sought to have an independent expert analyze the proposal and make a presentation on it to our board members.

We found that such an expert, Adrienne Burgess, had analyzed the proposal and was willing to present her findings to us. Accordingly, we arranged for a presentation on her findings which she made on October 11, 2003.

Subsequently, on February 12, 2004 we also heard a presentation on GRU's proposal by Ed Regan of GRU's staff.

We found that hearing both the GRU proposal and an independent analysis of that proposal was a tremendous help not only in understanding it but also in understanding implications and aspects of it that were not obvious to us from studying the proposal itself.

Based on this experience, we believe that it will be a great help to you also to hear an analysis of this proposal by independent experts. And since the fuel source for the proposed plant is its most fundamental aspect, we believe that an independent review of its fuel options by independent experts is of fundamental importance.

We therefore urge you to appoint a panel of experts as expressed in the C.A.R.E. resolution and, if possible, to empower them to look into other aspects of this proposal as well such as the need for a plant of the proposed size, the health impacts of such a plant, and the economic viability and financial feasibility of the proposed plant during its early years of operation when its output will not be needed in GRU's service area. But, at the very least, we urge you to empower the panel to investigate alternatives to coal.

Madame Mayor, this concludes my presentation. I thank you and your fellow commissioners for your time and your kind attention and I ask that a printed copy of my remarks be made part of the permanent record of this meeting.

040841

NOTES FOR AMATEURS ON WOOD CONVERSION MATTERS SINCE CONVERSION OF WOOD MATTERS

1. First, a brief summary of the approximate totals of hurricane wood collected in just one county: Alachua. The City of Gainesville is still grinding its 300,000 yds. This material will not be burned. Alachua Co. itself has collected 200,000 yds. and it is being burned with some selected large logs being removed for value added purposes. The total then, not including the smaller municipalities' wood, is approx. 500,000. This represents, according to Rick Hedrick, Public Works Dept. Dir., about 70,000 tons. (This number is converted in the following explanation.)

2. According to David Tillman in his Wood as an Energy Resource green wood averages 5250 Btu/lb., oven dry wood averages 9,000 Btu/lb. and air dry wood (defined as wood that's been in the air for 1,000 hrs and is at equilibrium with the atmospheric moisture) averages 6300 Btu/lb. (Thirty percent moisture).

3. Using 6300 Btu/lb. for the hurricane debris for example, we have the following calculations to arrive at kWh or electricity:

   a. For a ton of such air-dried wood and in a 100% efficient system of conversion we must multiply the 6300 Btu/lb. X 2000 lbs. per ton and multiply the product by the "run time" in one year (80%) for the plant. This gives us 10.08 million Btu/ton.
   b. To obtain kWh we divide the 10.08 million Btu by 3414 Btu/kW if this 1 ton is to be converted in one hour. The result is 2953 kW. This says that if you converted thermally one ton of this wood in one hour in a perfectly efficient system you would produce 2,953 kW of electricity which is 2.9 MW. But of course no system is 100% efficient.
   c. Instead, one must consider the technology being used to convert the fuel to energy. (We have to allow for the efficiency factor of the technology before converting Btu's into kWh.) So let's jump to the 700 ton per day of wood feed into the CFB plant being proposed by GRU that is not 100% efficient. That would be 29.16 tons per hour. Using 30 tons/ hour then is a real world calculation. The 30 ton X 2000 lbs/ton X 6300 Btu/lb. is 378 million Btu with which to begin.
   d. The HEAT RATE of the plant is the next parameter to factor in. The CFB plant proposed by GRU has an unknown Heat Rate but one of the more efficient technologies is the Combined Cycle system where only 7500 Btu is consumed per Kwh.*
   e. The 378 million Btu per hour is divided by the 7500 Btu/kWh and multiplied by the "run time" factor of 0.8 to obtain 40,320 kW which is 40.0 MW in one hour. (The GRU CFB plant supposedly will produce 30 MW implying that the Heat Rate of the CFB is greater than 7500 Btu/kWh. CFB = circulating fluidized bed.)

* Combine Cycle is a technology used with a Natural Gas fired combustion turbine where the gas is burned in the turbine and the exhaust heat is captured and used in a boiler to heat water and run a second smaller low pressure steam turbine. Only if wood were gasified would this efficiency be possible. A wood-fired plant of 40 MW in Polk Co. (Ridge Energy) has a Heat Rating of 15,000 Btu/kWh which is 22% efficiency.

RENEWABLE FL RC&D CONSTITUTIONAL MTNG FOR JAN. 18TH, NEWBERRY

Dear Colleagues - As we may have been able to see at the last informational meeting of the proposed Renewable FL RC&D Council in December, there are more than a few of us who are willing to tackle one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century: the need to think ecologically as well as profitably about Renewable Energy in our lives. I am pleased to invite each of you back for a "constitutional" affirmation of these sentiments in the form of a RC&D Council.

Owing to the sponsorship of the USDA and its NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service), we are being assisted at several levels to come together in what can only be termed a new "Energy Community", and to declare our membership and vote for either a Steering Committee or an Executive Committee (Board of Directors).

The time is ripe for us to act. We are running out of time as well as fossil fuel (including compliance coal). We have been allowed to use the structure of an already existing NGO (the Center of Sustainable Agroforestry, Inc. known as CoSAF) to become Florida's last but hopefully most dynamic Council. State Senator Rod Smith who was invited to address us has had a last minute change of plans but we hope that Mike Murtha will stop by. All we really need to do is decide to commit time, talent and hopefully some treasure to this effort. Projects in renewable energy are needed more than ever and are requested from you, the future Council members. The proposed agenda for a 2:30 p.m. meeting on Jan 18th is below:

I. Review the intents and purposes of the RC&D Councils; John Adams;
II. Fill out membership cards and Vote for a Name for the Council; Tom Cunilio;
III. Discuss the merits of a Steering Committee vs. an Executive Group. Take nominations for the one chosen.

Among their tasks are:

A. Rewrite some By-laws and Articles of Incorporation;
B. Develop the Five Year and One Year Plans for the Council with membership input;
C. Begin fielding preproposals from you, the members, who see projects in your minds eye and would be willing to develop with the Coordinator the necessary plans. (These projects can be for profit ventures in which you the developer can participate.)
D. Raise Funds for the smooth functioning of the Council and a pro-active coordinator.
E. Membership and recruitment across Alachua, Marion, Union, Bradford and Citrus counties is extremely important.

IV. Estimated yearly budget will be $2,000 for start up with Accounting Package, $2500 for office space, phone line and undetermined salary for part- time coordinator(s).

V. Election of Committee leadership and decision on first Council Board meeting date.
VI. Adjourn

Tom Cunilio
Interim Coordinator 376-6265

6/14/05
040841

SCOPE OF SERVICES DRAFT
FOR INDEPENDENT CONSULTATION
ON OPTIONS FOR MEETING THE LONG TERM ELECTRICAL SUPPLY
FOR THE GAINESVILLE COMMUNITY

MY PREFERENCES FOR THE RFP

1. Change the title/heading to wording as given above.

2. Under "Background," delete the description of the history of the current proposal. Replace it with a description of our community's socio-economic demographics, uses of electric power, and fundamental goals relevant to energy demand and supply goals.

3. Under "Objectives," note that a proposed plan has been developed (put the above deleted summary of the plan in an appendix) and then present the following two questions as the guiding questions of our query:

a) Are there better goals toward which we should plan than our current goals?
b) Is there a better plan than the one proposed to reach our goals or better goals?

4. Under "Objectives," do not make it a requirement that analysis be done "against commonly recognized prudent utility practices," but rather encourage regular reference to such standard practices and indicate where analysis and recommendations are consistent with or contrary to recognized standards.

5. Under "Qualified Reviewers," delete qualification #1 and replace it with "Will have professional qualifications relevant to the analysis of issues regarding power production, utility planning, utility regulation, future pricing of energy producing technologies and fuels, changes in the pollution control regulations, practices for reducing demand through conservation and efficiency, pollution control and health concerns."

6. Under "Project Schedule and Deliverables," delete the current requirements and replace them as follows:

a) The city commission will hire up to four independent consultants
b) Each consultant will draft an individual report in response to our two primary questions and submit them for review the City Commission and GRU.
c) The City Commissioners and GRU will review the drafts and return written comments and questions to the writer for further analysis if necessary.
d) Each consultant will finalize his/her report and resubmit it to the City Commission and GRU, as well as to the other consultants.
e) Each consultant will make a presentation based on his/her report to the City Commission and GRU, whereafter the City Commission, in consultation with GRU and the public, will move to a decision.

Jack Donovan

040841

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Clarifying the biomass issue

The Sun's Dec. 26 article about power and pollution included some misunderstandings regarding the local biomass option. Our climate and geography are ideal for biomass.

In a "what- if" scenario with Gainesville Regional Utilities, several biomass producers clearly stated that GRU's biomass needs for producing 30 to 40 megawatts could easily be met from identifiable supplies within a 25-mile radius. Since woody biomass is typically transported 50 miles or more, extending the reach could have identified many more tons of biomass from existing sources.

Should dedicated plantations linking urban waste, such as biosolids and wastewaters, with production systems be needed, even more biomass would be possible. Small-diameter trees, which are now in abundance in plantations and natural stands because of the massive reduction in the pulpwood market, could provide additional biomass. Harvesting these trees would not only provide a biomass supply but improve forest health.

We believe more than 30 megawatts could be fueled from biomass. Nobody has suggested that GRU purchase plantations, nor did they hint that GRU would have to "get involved in wood harvesting, a field it has no experience in." There are an abundance of wood production contractors that are equipped, capable and willing to harvest any amount GRU would want.

And finally, we take exception to the "bogeyman" of invasive species being used to frighten people away from the biomass option. To our knowledge, no invasive woody species were ever discussed. Our native cottonwood and two noninvasive exotic eucalyptus species produce high yields in biomass plantations. Let's not equate exotics with invasives.

We should concentrate on real problems with the biomass option, such as economically affordable versus physically available biomass, long-term contracts, public acceptance and environmental sustainability — all topics amenable to research and potentially solvable. Such investigations could provide useful information as we develop our local renewable energy options!

Wayne H. Smith,
Donald L. Rockwood,
Gainesville