



Legislation Text

File #: 110177., **Version:** 1

Review of the GRU Solar Feed In Tariff (FIT) Application Process (B)

On May 5, 2011, the City Commission referred to the City Auditor a review of the 2011 GRU Solar Feed In Tariff Application Process. Discussions at the time of the referral indicated a desire to obtain independent and objective information to help the City Commission better understand the issues involved, so that if necessary, the process can be improved for the future.

The position of City Auditor is established by the Gainesville City Charter and reports directly to the City Commission. This structure provides the City Auditor's Office with the level of independence necessary for the objective and effective completion of audits of City organizations, programs and activities. All audits completed within the Office are conducted in accordance with Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. These standards require auditors to operate ethically and professionally; and to possess and maintain the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to complete any audit assignment undertaken. All auditors within the Office have extensive experience completing a variety of audits and hold multiple professional certifications.

The attached report provides a summary of the review procedures completed during our review and provides recommendations for improvement in the solar FIT application process. We have prepared recommendations related to improving communication with prospective applicants, clarifying the administrative policies and procedures associated with this program, and considering the eligibility of city employees and officials for future participation in the program. Each of these recommendations has been discussed with GRU management and the City Attorney's Office.

We request that the Committee recommend the City Commission accept our report and instruct the City Auditor to conduct a follow-up review on recommendations made and report the results to the Audit, Finance and Legislative Committee.

The City Commission: 1) Accept the City Auditor's report; and 2) instruct the City Auditor to conduct a follow-up review on recommendations made and report the results to the Audit, Finance and Legislative Committee.