



The Power Source

Igniting the Future of Florida

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Power Profile: Trish McFadin
Director, Government Affairs
SouthStar Energy Services LLC

In This Issue:

- * Power Profile: Trish McFadin
- * DEF Partners with St. Petersburg College
- * Tampa Electric to Install More than 200 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
- * DEF Announces 2 New Solar Plant Locations
- * PSC Nominating Council Sends 4 Candidates to the Governor
- * Utility Service has Never Been More Important
- * Registration for FWELF 2021 Now Open
- * FPL files details of proposed 2022-2025 rate plan with Public Service Commission
- * National Lineworker Appreciation Day

Describe your broader role with SouthStar Energy Services throughout all of the territories you serve?

Throughout the territories that we serve, I am responsible for regulatory and legislative engagement, as well as ensuring our operational compliance with regulatory..... [Read more](#)

Do you find commonalities in state commissions so that you are able to replicate your programs or strategies?

While each state and territory are unique with respect to rules and regulations, all public utility commissions support consumer protections and seek to ensure transparency.....[Read more](#)

How is the Florida market different from your other states?

The Florida market is different from our other states in several ways: firstly, it's a commercial and industrial customer base only, with no residential customers.....[Read more](#)

[Read Trish's Full Power Profile Here](#)

New electrical lineworker program and training ground now open at Florida's St. Petersburg College



St. Petersburg College (SPC) has opened a new Power Florida Training Center at the college's Allstate Center location. In collaboration with Duke Energy and PowerTown Line Construction, the center will serve as the home of SPC's new electrical lineworker program. In an effort to find local and diverse talent, Duke Energy donated \$100,000 to develop the training facility, hire an instructor and purchase classroom equipment.

"Duke Energy Florida is proud to collaborate with St. Petersburg College on its new electrical lineworker program. It strengthens the diverse workforce pipeline needed to provide reliable power and provides our neighbors good paying jobs to support the vitality of our communities," said Melissa Seixas, Duke Energy Florida state president. [Read more here](#)



Tampa Electric to Install More than 200 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations



The Florida Public Service Commission recently approved Tampa Electric Company's new Drive Smart EV charging pilot program. According to a press release by TECO, "the approval paves the way for the company to install more than 200 public charging stations. Customers selected to participate will receive an electric vehicle charger installed by the utility." "The pilot program offers an opportunity for business customers to install an EV charger for their customers and employees at little or no installation cost," said Kenneth Hernandez, business development manager for Tampa Electric.

The press release continues, "The intent of the pilot program is to learn firsthand how EV drivers charge their vehicles while also helping to increase customer confidence in the availability of public charging locations. As the adoption of EVs continues to grow, it will be vitally important that charging infrastructure is available to meet growing demand, which also requires proper utility planning." [Read more](#)

Duke Energy Florida Announces 2 Additional Solar Sites

Duke Energy Florida recently announced the locations of its two newest solar power plants, which continue the expansion of its renewable generation portfolio and help complete the three-millionth solar panel installation.

DEF currently has more than 900 MW of solar generation under construction or in operation and that number will quadruple over the next four years. The Fort Green Power Plant will be built on approximately 500 acres in Hardee County, FL the 74.9 MW plant will consist of approximately 265,000 solar panels. The Bay Trail Solar Power Plant will be built on 500 acres in Citrus County, FL. The 74.9 MW facility will consist of 197,000 tracking bifacial solar panels.

"These solar power plants are examples of how mining sites can be developed for renewable energy and benefit our communities and the environment," said Melissa Seixas, Duke Energy Florida state president. [Read more](#)



PSC Nominating Council Sends 4 Candidates to the Governor

The Florida Public Service Commission Nominating Council recently interviewed applicants to replace former Commissioner Julie Brown on the Florida PSC. The Council interviewed the applicants and voted on four to advance to the Governor. Those Four include Scott Plakon, a Longwood Republican who currently serves as a member of the Florida House of Representatives, Public Service Commission attorney Gabriella Passidomo, Consultant Rosanna Manuela Catalano and Ana Ortega, who has served as chief policy adviser to three members of the Public Service Commission. The Governor will conduct interviews of the candidates and make a decision within 30 days.

Utility Service has Never Been More Important



If you're planning landscaping or any other digging projects, contact 811 first. Kids tele-learning and adults telecommuting will thank you. April is National Call 811

Month, call before you dig! Call811.com



Registration for Florida's Women in Energy Leadership Forum Now Open

Registration for the 6th annual Florida's Women in Energy Leadership Forum is now open. FWELF 2021 #Resilience will be held at the JW Marriott Grande Lakes in Orlando, Florida October 27-29, 2021. To register for this year's forum, please visit our website at www.flwomeninenergy.com.

It is time to look and move forward to better days and opportunities. As energy industry professionals, you know resilience and it seems more than appropriate that the 2021 Forum will focus on “all things” RESILIENCE. It is a year of healing, moving forward, teamwork, and empathy. It will be a year where we help to highlight your RESILIENCE in employee development, grid reliability, environmental justice, financial stability, and advanced technology.

Thank you to all of our sponsors who ensure every year we are able to inform, inspire, and motivate through their collaboration and support. For sponsorship opportunities, please visit www.flwomeninenergy.com/sponsors.



FPL envisions a more resilient and sustainable Florida; files details of proposed 2022-2025 rate plan with Public Service Commission



Florida Power and Light recently filed a proposed 2022-2025 rate plan with the Florida Public Service Commission. “At FPL, we have a passion to deliver America’s best energy value and a commitment to do right by our customers, particularly during these challenging times,” said Eric Silagy, president and CEO of FPL. “We recognize there is never a good time to request a rate increase, and we remain steadfastly committed to providing customers unparalleled value while building an energy future they can depend on. Due to our consistent and disciplined, long-term investments, we’re able to provide service that is cleaner and more reliable than ever before while our residential, commercial and industrial bills have remained among the lowest bills in the state and the nation for over a decade. Our proposed four-year rate plan beginning in 2022 will help us continue delivering unmatched value to customers by ushering in Florida’s energy future and keeping bills among the lowest in America.” to read more about the proposed rate increases, read [FP&L’s full press release](#).



Duke Energy Celebrates the Power Behind the Power on National Lineworker Appreciation Day

Duke Energy celebrates the power behind the power on National Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 18. The annual recognition spotlights lineworkers' role in powering the lives of millions of people across the U.S.

“While the view from the top of the pole may change each day, the essential service lineworkers provide has not,” said Scott Batson, senior vice president and chief distribution officer. “Powering our customers and communities is the most important job we have, and I am proud of the unwavering commitment of our lineworkers serving on the front lines throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, even when severe weather struck.”

[Read More](#)



National Lineman Appreciation Day is a time to express our utmost appreciation to the great men and women that work so hard for us every day. It's our honor to celebrate the hard work, innovation, and dedication of Electrical Lineworkers. #thankalineman

National Lineworker Appreciation Day April 18

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