

# THE POWER SOURCE

IGNITING THE FUTURE OF FLORIDA



**THANKFUL!** As we reflect on FWELF 2024, The Power of Collaboration, we are incredibly grateful for our speakers, sponsors, students, and almost 400 attendees. The 2024 Forum was comprised of c-level discussions, professional development workshops, and insights into leading industry topics and trends, all while staying true to our mission to inform, inspire, and motivate the next generation of women in energy. As we head into 2025 and celebrate a decade of Florida's Women in Energy Leadership Forum, we encourage you to stay engaged and involved with us as we announce exciting updates for the new year.



**Don't forget your CLE! If you're an attorney who attended FWELF 2024, please email [sarahsims@lilajaber.com](mailto:sarahsims@lilajaber.com) to obtain your CLE certificate.**



# FWELF 2024 DAY 1

Day one of FWELF 2024 showcased dynamic discussions and insights from industry leaders, with a focus on collaboration within the industry. The day began with inspiring welcome remarks by Jeff Householder, President & CEO of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation, and Lila A. Jaber, Founder of Florida's Women in Energy Leadership Forum, emphasizing the power of partnership in driving progress. Helen Wesley, President and CEO of Peoples Gas, delivered a keynote address, followed by the presentation of The Florida Natural Gas Scholarship Awardees by Chris Turner, highlighting the importance of supporting the next generation of energy leaders. See more below about our exciting awardees.



Laura Guitar, alongside a panel of industry experts, provided predictive insights into the energy industry's future, sparking engaging discussions facilitated by Sandra Ericson. Insights came from leaders like Linda Ferrone of OUC, Jorge Herrera of Nopetro, and Lauren Sher of NextEra. A keynote by Mike La Rosa, Chair of the Florida Public Service Commission, offered additional perspectives from a regulator of the importance of partnership and innovation within the industry.



After a brief break, Chris Womack, President and CEO of Southern Company, inspired the audience with his keynote address. The day concluded with a panel discussion on the economic impact of natural gas, led by Beth Keating, featuring perspectives from executives across the industry. The sessions underscored the pivotal role of natural gas in shaping a thriving economy while balancing sustainability goals.



## FWELF 2024 Day 2

Day two delivered a robust lineup of thought leadership, collaboration-focused panels, and discussions on emerging technologies. The morning began with an insightful keynote by Armando Pimentel, Jr., President and CEO of Florida Power & Light, who emphasized innovation and leadership in driving the energy transition.

The first panel, Synergy in Collaboration: Bridging Engineering and Energy for a Sustainable Future, moderated by Lisa Johnson of Seminole Electric Cooperative, brought together experts from Siemens Energy, HDR, Burns & McDonnell, and POWER Engineers. They explored how engineering advancements and cross-industry teamwork are paving the way for sustainable energy solutions.

A fireside chat led by Lila A. Jaber offered a CEO perspective on collaboration, featuring Archie Collins (Tampa Electric) and Sharon Arroyo (Duke Energy Florida). They discussed the value of partnerships in achieving organizational and industry goals. This was followed by a second fireside chat, Breaking Down Silos, which explored how organizational culture can accelerate the energy transition. Insights came from leaders such as Raynetta Marshall (JEA), Karen Hutt (Emera Inc.), and Jim Kerr (Southern Company Gas).

During lunch, the FWELF/AABE Florida and Siemens Energy Scholarships were awarded, celebrating the next generation of energy leaders. Willie Phillips, Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, delivered the lunch keynote, outlining the regulatory framework's role in shaping the energy industry's future.

Afternoon breakout sessions explored critical themes. Community Collaborations in Renewable Energy, moderated by Julia Hamm of the Ad Hoc Group, highlighted partnerships driving renewable energy projects. Concurrently, Collaboration in Economic Development, moderated by Korey Bush, of Lakeland Electric, featured leaders discussing the role of energy infrastructure in regional economic growth.

Alexandra Liftman, Global Environmental Executive at Bank of America, addressed the intersection of sustainability and corporate responsibility. Erin Smith facilitated an engaging Q&A session.

The day concluded with a cutting-edge panel on The Use of Artificial Intelligence in Energy Delivery and Customer Experience, moderated by Michelle Six. Industry experts, including Jose Medina (Florida Power & Light) and Mike Murtagh (OUC), shared how AI is revolutionizing energy operations and enhancing customer engagement.

Day two provided a comprehensive exploration of collaboration, innovation, and the technological advancements shaping the energy industry's future.



# FWELF 2024 Day 2 Pictures



## FWELF 2024 DAY 3

The final day of The Forum highlighted skills development, legislative collaboration, and workforce initiatives essential for the energy industry's growth. The morning began with the Dale Carnegie Workshop: How to Connect with Confidence, facilitated by Dakota Frazier. Panelists Amy Kemp (Florida Power & Light) and Siobhan O'Connor (TEA) shared strategies for building impactful professional relationships through authentic communication.



The program progressed with a panel discussion on A Collaborative Legislative Process, moderated by Sarah Sims of LilaJaber Consulting. Experts Justin Thames (TECO), Victoria Price Langan (Chesapeake Utilities), Kevin Doyle (CEA), and Renee Goode (JEA) discussed how open communication and shared goals between industry and government drive effective energy policy and regulation.



The day concluded with a forward-looking session, Best Practices in Developing Florida's Energy Workforce in Collaboration with Education Institutions, moderated by Commissioner Andrew Fay. Leaders such as Marian Cacciatore (Tampa Electric), Tonya Klingen (Siemens Energy), Sharon Arroyo (Duke Energy Florida), and Dr. Jackie Skryd (St. Pete College) provided insights into building robust talent pipelines through partnerships with educational institutions and innovation hubs.



Day three underscored the importance of personal connection, policy alignment, and workforce readiness in advancing the energy industry's mission. It provided actionable takeaways for attendees to implement in their organizations and communities.



# Announcing FWELF 2025: More Info Coming SOON!

## ANNOUNCING:

### FWELF 2025 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY FOUR SEASONS ORLANDO

**AUGUST 25-27, 2025**

FLORIDA'S WOMEN IN ENERGY  
LEADERSHIP FORUM<sup>®</sup>

**10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY**



**FPL<sup>®</sup>**

Thank you to our Title Sponsors, TECO, Duke, and FPL and our Gold Sponsor, Florida Public Utilities for your commitment to support FWELF 2025. For sponsorship opportunities for the 2025 Forum, please reach out to Sarah Sims at [sarahsims@lilajaber.com](mailto:sarahsims@lilajaber.com)



## 5 Students Awarded Scholarships at Florida's Women in Energy Leadership Forum

### The Future of Energy Scholarship



Thank you to Florida Natural Gas for generously providing \$3,000 in scholarship funding for two FWELF student participants. The scholarship, titled The Future of Energy Scholarship, was created to provide funds to FWELF student participants pursuing higher education. We received numerous deserving applications, we thank all of the students for their participation and congratulations to both awardees, Ashley Stevens, Stetson University College of Law and Jephthe Moise, Tallahassee State College.



### 2024 Impact Tomorrow College Scholarship



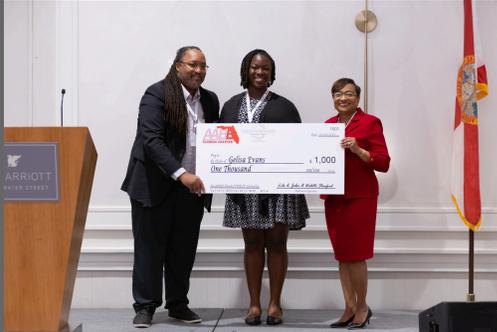
Thank you to Siemens Energy for generously providing \$3,000 in scholarship funding for two FWELF student participants. The scholarship, titled The Impact Tomorrow College Scholarship, was created to provide funds to FWELF student participants pursuing higher education. We received numerous deserving applications, we thank all of the students for their participation and congratulations to both awardees, Destinee Britto, Tallahassee State College, and Krisztina Sipos, Stetson University.



# 5 Students Awarded Scholarships at Florida's Women in Energy Leadership Forum

## AABE FL Scholarship

AABE FL has been a generous partner of FWELF for many years, together providing \$1,000 in scholarship funding for a deserving student. The student is chosen through AABE Florida's application process and attends FWELF as a student participant. Congratulations to this year's AABE FL awardee, Gelisa Evans, University of South Florida.



Thank you to Walmart for sponsoring 25 student attendees at FWELF 2025

