

THE POWER SOURCE

IGNITING THE FUTURE OF FLORIDA



May 2025

Kim Shumway

Executive Vice President

Allconnect

Kim, can you describe how Allconnect services the energy industry.

Allconnect builds personalized customer experiences for utilities that are designed to leave a lasting impression. We have a variety of solutions tailored for the industry that connect millions to energy products, simplify complex processes like moving essential services.....[Read More](#)

What goals are the companies trying to achieve when they partner with you for these services?

Companies who partner with us are looking to enhance customer satisfaction, increase brand awareness and generate economic return. Allconnect is often an accelerator to achieving these goals quickly as we are able to test, deploy and adapt to innovative.....[Read More](#)

What personally inspired you to use your expertise in the energy industry?

I thrive navigating complexity and adapting to an ever-changing landscape. The dynamic nature of this industry, the unique business model and the regulatory nuances never fail to uncover new opportunities for growth and innovation. I have a knack for connecting dots across a journey that spans business functions. Ideas surface when I can see customer moments in actions.....[Read More](#)

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Streetleaf Becomes a National Vendor for Forestar



Streetleaf, the leading provider of solar-powered streetlight services in the United States, today announced a national vendor agreement with Forestar Group Inc. “Forestar”, one of the largest single-family community developers in the U.S. This collaboration marks a significant milestone in Streetleaf’s mission to provide an energy and cost-efficient alternative to traditional on-grid services for communities across the country.

“Forestar develops approximately one in 50 single-family homesites across the country, and we’re thrilled by the possibility of lighting their communities with solar-powered streetlights that run on clean energy and operate dependably through storms and power outages,” said Liam Ryan, CEO of Streetleaf. “By using smart technology to provide a better homeowner experience, Forestar is building for the future.”

The agreement between Forestar and Streetleaf streamlines the process for the developer’s divisions to selectively incorporate innovative solar-powered streetlights into their new communities. This underscores Forestar’s dedication to enhancing the living experience of residents by making environmentally thoughtful and safety-focused decisions.

“We work with trusted organizations to meet the needs of our customers, and Streetleaf offers reliable, cost-effective streetlights,” said Marc Parker, Forestar Corporate Vice President of Development. “Residents in our developments deserve neighborhoods that prioritize safety and quality.” [Read More](#)

Electric Power Engineers Names Stephanie Badr as CEO



Electric Power Engineers (EPE), a global leader in power systems engineering, recently announced that Stephanie Badr has been appointed Chief Executive Officer, effective immediately. Badr succeeds Hala Ballouz, EPE’s co-founder and longtime CEO, who is transitioning to the role of Chief Vision Officer and Chair of the company’s board of directors.

Badr brings over two decades of industry experience, most recently serving as EPE’s Chief Operating Officer. As one of the company’s original 10 employees, Badr has played a pivotal role in EPE’s global growth since 2007 and has led operations and strategic planning since 2017.

“We work at the center of solving the grid’s most complex problems,” Badr said. “We take pride in how clients turn to us with their biggest challenges. No power-systems problem is too hard for EPE.”

“Stephanie’s appointment marks an exciting new chapter for our company,” said Ballouz. “Her talent as a global business leader, fluency across stakeholders, and gift for team leadership make her an exceptional choice. I am very excited for EPE’s legacy to continue in such great hands, for the rest of our team, and for the industry.” [Read More](#)



PSC Delivers Advanced Nuclear Power Feasibility Report to the Florida Governor and Legislature

The Florida Public Service Commissioners (PSC) approved the Advanced Nuclear Power Feasibility Report containing findings and recommendations for potential legislative or administrative actions to enhance use of advanced nuclear technologies at its Internal Affairs meeting on March 20. The report was delivered to the Governor and the Legislature, as required, by April 1, 2025.

In 2024, the Governor enacted a law requiring the Commission to study and evaluate the technical and economic feasibility of using advanced nuclear power technologies, including small modular reactors, to meet the electrical power needs of the state. The report must also include research to encourage and foster the installation and use of these technologies at military installations in partnership with public utilities.

The PSC's recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature include:

- Commissioning a more comprehensive study beyond the impacts to Florida's electricity needs including its influence in attracting new economic development, manufacturing, workforce development, and a potential site inventory;
- Ensuring cost recovery for preliminary costs incurred during site evaluations to mitigate financial risks during the early phases of project development, building upon prior legislative actions;
- Enhancing stakeholder engagement and education concerning advancements in nuclear safety to help dispel misconceptions and build public confidence in advanced nuclear energy; and
- Moving forward with additional initiatives if the costs associated with advanced nuclear technologies are more certain and demonstrate clear benefits to utility customers.

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**FWELF 2025
IMPACT**

August 25-27, 2025
The Four Seasons Orlando

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 <https://flwomeninenergy.com/>



FMEA Applauds Passage of Utility Worker Protection Legislation (SB 1386)

STATEMENT BY:

AMY ZUBALY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FLORIDA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION



"The Florida Municipal Electric Association (FMEA) applauds the Florida Legislature for passing Senate Bill 1386/House Bill 857, which installs further protections for utility workers by reclassifying and strengthening criminal penalties for those who knowingly commit assault or battery against a utility worker.

Electric utility workers perform jobs that keep our businesses running and provide for our most basic needs. They are first responders who already work an inherently dangerous job. Utility workers are often asked to work in extreme conditions following severe weather events, such as hurricanes. This bill will help ensure utility workers are able to work unimpeded and in a safe environment, especially as they work on repairing and maintaining critical infrastructure in their daily jobs and in response to disasters and other events causing widespread power outages.

We express our gratitude to the sponsors of these bills, Senator Clay Yarborough and Representative Jennifer Kincart Jonsson, for championing this effort to tighten penalties on those who would seek to threaten or harm our critical utility workers." [Read More](#)

OUC Announces Leadership Changes: Luz Aviles and Jenise Osani Take on New Roles



Luz Aviles has been appointed Vice President of Marketing and New Products and Jenise Osani has been appointed Vice President of Customer Experience & Sales for the Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC—The Reliable One), effective April 1.

"We are excited for Luz and Jenise to step into these key roles at OUC," said Linda Ferrone, Chief Customer & Marketing Officer. "Their leadership, experience, and commitment to excellence will help drive our mission forward and enhance our services for customers."



As Vice President of Customer Experience & Sales, Osani will focus on revenue generation and growth while maintaining OUC's commitment to sustainability and exceptional customer service. She joined OUC in 2009 and most recently served as Vice President of Marketing and New Products for five years.

[Read More](#)



Announcing: FWELF 2025 CEO Panel

We are excited to announce a powerful discussion with Utility Executives across the southeast. We are honored to have these industry leaders and look forward to an insightful conversation. This year's Forum, themed **IMPACT!** will be held at The Four Seasons Orlando, August 25th-27th, **2025**. Please join us for discussions on the industry's commitment to a stronger and cleaner energy portfolio, consumer engagement, and advanced technology integration, as well as the impact all of that has on the bottom line. **REGISTER TODAY!**

CEO Panel Discussion



Archie Collins
Tampa Electric



Matt Valle
NextEra Energy



Vickie Cavey
JEA



Jacob Williams
FMPA



Moderator
Michelle Ubben
Sachs Media

Port Tampa Bay and Tampa Electric Announce Strategic Land Deal

Following formal approval from the Port Tampa Bay board today, Tampa Electric and Port Tampa Bay have announced a mutually beneficial land deal involving the sale of nearly 22 acres of waterfront property, marking a milestone for both organizations.

Since converting its Bayside Power Station from coal-burning to an efficient natural gas plant in 2003, and as operational efficiencies continue, Tampa Electric does not need the parcel to support electric generation. The transaction supports Tampa Electric's ongoing work to benefit customers, while allowing Port Tampa Bay to identify the best business partners for the marine terminal and to build the port's diverse lines of business.

"We are thrilled to expand our partnership with Port Tampa Bay with this mutually beneficial agreement," said Carlos Aldazabal, vice president of Energy Supply at Tampa Electric. "This land sale aligns with our commitment to operational efficiency while supporting our region's economic growth opportunities."

"Port Tampa Bay has long considered TECO to be one of our most strategic partners, and we continue to work together to enhance our working waterfront," said Paul Anderson, Port Tampa Bay president and chief executive officer. "This is a win for both organizations and will bring additional economic opportunities and jobs to the region we serve." [Read More](#)

Construction now underway on 765 MW of New Battery Energy Storage Systems Across Georgia



Georgia Power recently announced that construction is underway on 765-megawatts (MW) of new battery energy storage systems (BESS) strategically located across Georgia in Bibb, Lowndes, Floyd and Cherokee counties. The BESS projects were authorized by the Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC) through the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) process and provide quickly dispatchable capacity for customers. The new projects follow the company's first-ever BESS facility at Mossy Branch near Columbus, which entered service last year.

BESS projects support the overall reliability and resilience of the electric system, while also enhancing the value of intermittent renewable generation resources such as solar. Storage systems can improve the efficiency of renewable energy by storing excess energy produced during periods when the demand for electricity is lower, for use when the demand is higher, such as on cold winter mornings. Because battery storage can provide stored energy to the grid for hours on demand, BESS resources enhance the overall reliability of the electric system.

"At Georgia Power, we work with the Georgia PSC and many other stakeholders to make the investments required for a reliable and resilient power grid, integrating new technologies to better serve our customers today and as Georgia grows," said Rick Anderson, senior vice president and senior production officer for Georgia Power. [Read More](#)

