

Tab 1	SB 90 by Simpson ; (Compare to CS/H 0285) Natural Gas Rebate Program
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Tab 2	SJR 170 by Brandes ; (Similar to H 0193) Renewable Energy Source Device
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Tab 3	SB 172 by Brandes ; (Similar to H 0195) Renewable Energy Source Devices
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The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

COMMUNICATIONS, ENERGY, AND PUBLIC UTILITIES

Senator Grimsley, Chair
Senator Hukill, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, November 3, 2015

TIME: 10:00 a.m.—12:00 noon

PLACE: 301 Senate Office Building

MEMBERS: Senator Grimsley, Chair; Senator Hukill, Vice Chair; Senators Abruzzo, Bradley, Dean, Evers, Garcia, Gibson, Hutson, and Sachs

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	SB 90 Simpson (Compare CS/H 285)	Natural Gas Rebate Program; Authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to receive additional applications from certain applicants; authorizing any remaining unencumbered funds to be used by the department to award additional rebates, etc. CU 11/03/2015 Favorable AGG AP	Favorable Yeas 8 Nays 0
2	SJR 170 Brandes (Similar HJR 193, Compare H 195, Linked S 172)	Renewable Energy Source Device; Proposing amendments to the State Constitution to require the Legislature, by general law, to exempt the assessed value of a renewable energy source device or a component thereof from the tangible personal property tax, to allow the Legislature, by general law, to prohibit the consideration of the installation of such device or component in determining the assessed value of residential and nonresidential real property for the purpose of ad valorem taxation, and to provide effective and expiration dates, etc. CU 11/03/2015 Favorable CA FT AP	Favorable Yeas 8 Nays 0
3	SB 172 Brandes (Similar H 195, Compare HJR 193, Linked SJR 170)	Renewable Energy Source Devices; Revising the term "renewable energy source device" to include certain devices that store or use solar energy, wind energy, or energy from geothermal deposits to generate specified forms of energy; specifying a period during which a property appraiser is prohibited from considering an increase in the just value of real property used for residential purposes which is attributable to the installation of a renewable energy source device; exempting a renewable energy source device, or a component of such device, which is installed upon real property on or after a specified date from the tangible personal property tax, etc. CU 11/03/2015 Favorable CA FT AP	Favorable Yeas 8 Nays 0

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities

Tuesday, November 3, 2015, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 noon

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
4	Presentation on "Overview of the Florida Energy Systems Consortium" by Dr. David Norton, Vice President of Research, University of Florida and Interim Director of the Florida Energy Systems Consortium	Presented	
5	Other Related Meeting Documents		

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities

BILL: SB 90

INTRODUCER: Senator Simpson

SUBJECT: Natural Gas Rebate Program

DATE: November 2, 2015

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Wiehle	Caldwell	CU	Favorable
2.			AGG	
3.			AP	

I. Summary:

SB 90 amends section 377.810, Florida Statutes, to authorize the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) to use unencumbered funds from the natural gas fuel fleet vehicle rebate program for additional rebates, giving preference to governmental applicants. Any remaining, unencumbered funds may be expended for commercial applicant rebates.

DACS will not require additional resources to implement the provisions in this bill.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2016.

II. Present Situation:

Section 377.810, F.S., creates the natural gas fuel fleet vehicle rebate program within DACS for the purpose of helping to reduce transportation costs in this state and encourage freight mobility investments that contribute to the economic growth of the state.

Forty percent of the annual refund allocation is reserved for governmental applicants, with the remaining funds allocated for commercial applicants. A rebate may not exceed 50 percent of the eligible costs of a natural gas fuel fleet vehicle with a dedicated or bi-fuel natural gas fuel operating system placed into service on or after July 1, 2013. An applicant is eligible to receive a maximum rebate of \$25,000 per vehicle up to a total of \$250,000 per fiscal year. All natural gas fuel fleet vehicles eligible for the rebate must comply with applicable United States Environmental Protection Agency emission standards.

An applicant seeking to obtain a rebate must submit an application to DACS by a specified date each year as established by department rule. The application must include:

- A complete description of all eligible costs,
- Proof of purchase or lease of the vehicle for which the applicant is seeking a rebate,

- A copy of the vehicle registration certificate,
- A description of the total rebate sought by the applicant,
- An affidavit from the applicant certifying that all information contained in the application is true and correct; and
- Any other information deemed necessary by DACS.

The total amount of rebates allocated to certified applicants in each fiscal year may not exceed the amount appropriated for the program in the fiscal year. Rebates are allocated to eligible applicants on a first-come, first-served basis, determined by the date the application is received, until all appropriated funds for the fiscal year are expended or the program ends, whichever comes first. Incomplete applications submitted to DACS are not accepted and do not secure a place in the first-come, first-served application process.

DACS is required to determine and publish on its website, on an ongoing basis, the amount of available funding for rebates remaining in each fiscal year.

By October 1 of each year that the program is funded, DACS must provide an annual assessment of the use of the rebate program during the previous fiscal year to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability. The assessment must include, at a minimum, the following information:

- The name of each applicant awarded a rebate;
- The amount of the rebates awarded to each applicant;
- The type and description of each eligible vehicle for which each applicant applied for a rebate; and
- The aggregate amount of funding awarded for all applicants claiming rebates.

According to DACS:

- The Legislature appropriated \$6 million for each fiscal year.
- In the first year of the program (fiscal year 2013-2014), 272 entities received rebates totaling \$3,871,603.34, with \$2,922,162 paid out to commercial entities and \$949,441.34 paid to governmental entities. (The unencumbered remainder, \$2,128,396.66, reverted to the General Revenue Fund.)
- In the second year of the program (fiscal year 2014-2015), 527 entities received rebates totaling \$5,236,351.92, with \$3,242,465.57 paid out to commercial entities and \$1,993,886.65 paid out to governmental entities. (The unencumbered remainder, \$763,648.08, reverted to the General Revenue Fund.)

By January 31, 2016, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability must release a report reviewing the rebate program to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The review must include an analysis of the economic benefits resulting to the state from the program.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill amends s. 377.810, F.S., to authorize DACS to use unencumbered natural gas fuel fleet vehicle rebate program funds for additional rebates. Between June 1 and June 30 of each fiscal year, applicants who had already met the program maximum of \$250,000 per fiscal year may file an application for additional rebates on additional qualified vehicles. If DACS has remaining unencumbered funds after June 30 of each fiscal year, it may use these funds to award additional rebates. Governmental applicants have preference, with any funds remaining and unencumbered after awards to governmental applicants available for commercial applicants. Rebates must be allocated to eligible applicants on a first-come, first-served basis, determined by the date the application is received, until all appropriated funds for the fiscal year are expended or the program ends, whichever comes first.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2016.

IV. Constitutional Issues:**A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

To the extent that there are unencumbered remaining funds, commercial applicants may receive additional rebates.

C. Government Sector Impact:

To the extent that there are unencumbered remaining funds, governmental applicants may receive additional rebates.

To the extent that there are unencumbered remaining funds, the use of those funds to make awards of additional rebates the following fiscal year instead of reverting them to the General Revenue Fund will decrease the amount of reversions to the General Revenue Fund.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

The bill authorizes DACS to retain unencumbered funds within the natural gas fuel fleet vehicle rebate program at the end of each fiscal year and to use such funds to award additional rebates.

Section 216.301, F.S., requires that “any appropriation not identified as an incurred obligation effective June 30th shall revert to the fund from which it was appropriated and shall be available for reappropriation by the Legislature.” Additionally, s. 216.351, F.S., provides that subsequent inconsistent laws supersede chapter 216, F.S., “only to the extent that they do so by express reference to this section.”

The bill does not make express reference to s. 216.351 or chapter 216 in general. This could be done by an amendment to the sentence beginning on line 30 to read: “Notwithstanding ss. 216.301 and 216.351, F.S., any unencumbered funds remaining after June 30 of each fiscal year may not revert and may be used by the department to award the additional rebates.” However, should the bill becomes law, it clearly authorizes the DACS to retain unencumbered funds and use them to award rebates after June 30, and, as a later-in-time enactment by the Legislature, would appear to be an exception to the requirements of ss. 216.301 and 216.351, F.S.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 377.810 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

By Senator Simpson

18-00068-16

201690__

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to a natural gas rebate program;
3 amending s. 377.810, F.S.; authorizing the Department
4 of Agriculture and Consumer Services to receive
5 additional applications from certain applicants;
6 authorizing any remaining unencumbered funds to be
7 used by the department to award additional rebates;
8 providing an effective date.

9
10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11
12 Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 377.810, Florida
13 Statutes, is amended to read:

14 377.810 Natural gas fuel fleet vehicle rebate program.—

15 (3) NATURAL GAS FUEL FLEET VEHICLE REBATE.—The department
16 shall award rebates for eligible costs as defined in this
17 section. Forty percent of the annual allocation shall be
18 reserved for governmental applicants, with the remaining funds
19 allocated for commercial applicants. A rebate may not exceed 50
20 percent of the eligible costs of a natural gas fuel fleet
21 vehicle with a dedicated or bi-fuel natural gas fuel operating
22 system placed into service on or after July 1, 2013. An
23 applicant is eligible to receive a maximum rebate of \$25,000 per
24 vehicle up to a total of \$250,000 per fiscal year. Between June
25 1 and June 30 of each fiscal year, the department may receive
26 additional applications from applicants that have met the
27 program maximum of \$250,000 per fiscal year. Those applicants
28 may apply for additional funds for vehicles that have not
29 received a rebate, for a maximum rebate of \$25,000 per vehicle

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30 up to a total of \$250,000. Any unencumbered funds remaining
31 after June 30 of each fiscal year may be used by the department
32 to award the additional rebates. Governmental applicants shall
33 have preference, and all remaining unencumbered funds may be
34 used by commercial applicants. Rebates shall be allocated to
35 eligible applicants on a first-come, first-served basis,
36 determined by the date the application is received, until all
37 appropriated funds for the fiscal year are expended or the
38 program ends, whichever comes first. All natural gas fuel fleet
39 vehicles eligible for the rebate must comply with applicable
40 United States Environmental Protection Agency emission
41 standards.

42 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities

BILL: SJR 170

INTRODUCER: Senator Brandes

SUBJECT: Renewable Energy Source Device

DATE: November 2, 2015

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Wiehle	Caldwell	CU	Favorable
2.			CA	
3.			FT	
4.			AP	

I. Summary:

SJR 170 proposes to amend Sections 3 and 4 of Article VII of the State Constitution, and to create Section 34 of Article XII of the State Constitution. These changes would: exempt the assessed value of a renewable energy source device, or a component of such a device, from the tangible personal property tax; authorize the Legislature to prohibit the consideration of the installation of renewable energy source devices and related components in determining the assessed value of a property for the purpose of ad valorem taxation; and establish an implementation schedule under which the amendments would take effect January 1, 2017, and would expire on December 31, 2036, with the text of the amended sections reinstated at that time, with the exception of future amendments, which will be preserved.

II. Present Situation:

The State Constitution authorizes finance and taxation, including local government ad valorem taxes on real property and tangible personal property,¹ assessment of taxes,² and exemptions to these taxes.³ Among these provisions is authority for the Legislature to prohibit the consideration of the following in the determination of the assessed value of real property used for residential purposes:

- Any change or improvement made for the purpose of improving the property's resistance to wind damage.
- The installation of a renewable energy source device.⁴

¹ Article VII, section 9.

² Article VII, section 4.

³ Article VII, section 3.

⁴ Article VII, section 4.(i).

The Legislature has implemented this prohibition in section 193.624, F.S. The statute prohibits a property appraiser who is determining the assessed value of real property used for residential purposes from considering an increase in the just value of the property attributable to the installation of a renewable energy source device. The statute applies to a renewable energy source device installed on or after January 1, 2013, on new and existing residential real property. The statute defines the term “renewable energy source device” to mean any of the following equipment that collects, transmits, stores, or uses solar energy, wind energy, or energy derived from geothermal deposits:

- Solar energy collectors, photovoltaic modules, and inverters;
- Storage tanks and other storage systems, excluding swimming pools used as storage tanks;
- Rockbeds;
- Thermostats and other control devices;
- Heat exchange devices;
- Pumps and fans;
- Roof ponds;
- Freestanding thermal containers;
- Pipes, ducts, refrigerant handling systems, and other equipment used to interconnect such systems; however, such equipment does not include conventional backup systems of any type;
- Windmills and wind turbines;
- Wind-driven generators;
- Power conditioning and storage devices that use wind energy to generate electricity or mechanical forms of energy; and
- Pipes and other equipment used to transmit hot geothermal water to a dwelling or structure from a geothermal deposit.

A renewable energy source device may be installed on real property through two alternative methods of ownership: the property owner may purchase and install the device, in which case it becomes a part of the real property and subject to ad valorem tax, or the property owner may lease the device from another person, with it remaining separate and distinct property from the real property and subject to tangible personal property tax.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

This bill proposes amendments to the State Constitution to prevent the application of taxes to a renewable energy source device with either type of ownership. For a leased renewable energy source device, the bill amends section 3, Article VII, to require the Legislature to exempt the assessed value of a renewable energy source device, or a component of such a device, from the tangible personal property tax. For a purchased renewable energy source device, the bill amends section 4, Article VII, to authorize the Legislature to make two types of expansions of the existing prohibition against a property appraiser considering the installation of renewable energy source devices in determining property value for the purpose of ad valorem taxation. The first expansion is the application of the prohibition to real property used for any purpose, not just for residential purposes. The second is including any component of a renewable energy source device in the prohibition.

The bill also creates section 34 of Article XII to provide a schedule of implementation. The amendments and addition to the State Constitution would take effect January 1, 2017, and would expire December 31, 2036. Upon expiration, the schedule of implementation (section 34 of Article XII) would be repealed and the text of the amended substantive sections (subsection (e) of Section 3 of Article VII and subsection (i) of Section 4 of Article VII) would revert to that in existence on December 31, 2016, except that any amendments to such text otherwise adopted are preserved and shall continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

The mandate provisions in Article VII, section 18, of the Florida Constitution, do not apply to joint resolutions.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. Other Constitutional Issues:

A joint resolution must be passed by three-fifths of the membership of each house of the Legislature. It must be submitted to the electors at the next general election held more than 90 days after the joint resolution proposing it is filed with the custodian of state records, unless, pursuant to law enacted by the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the membership of each house of the Legislature and limited to a single amendment or revision, it is submitted at an earlier special election held more than 90 days after such filing.⁵ To pass, a proposed constitutional amendment must be approved by vote of at least 60 percent of the electors voting on the measure, and if passed, it becomes effective as an amendment on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January following the election, or on such other date as may be specified in the amendment or revision.⁶

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

The Revenue Estimating Conference has not yet determined the revenue impact, if any, to local governments or the state.

⁵ Section 1, Article XI, State Constitution.

⁶ Section 5(e), Article XI, State Constitution.

B. Private Sector Impact:

The exemptions from tangible personal property tax and ad valorem tax may stimulate sales and leases of renewable energy source devices.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The Revenue Estimating Conference has not yet determined the revenue impact, if any, to local governments or the state. The Department of State provided the following information on the fiscal impact of the constitutionally required advertising and other notice requirements:

The Division of Elections is required to advertise the full text of proposed constitutional amendments in English and Spanish twice in a newspaper of general circulation in each county before the election in which the amendment shall be submitted to the electors. The Division is also required to provide each Supervisor of Elections with either booklets or posters displaying the full text of proposed amendments. The cost to advertise constitutional amendments for the 2014 general election was \$135.97 per word. Using 2014 rates, the cost to advertise this amendment for the 2016 general election could be \$349,578.87, at a minimum.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

SB 172 is the implementing bill for this proposed constitutional amendment.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends Sections 3 and 4 of Article VII of the State Constitution. This bill creates the section 34 of Article XII of the State Constitution.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

By Senator Brandes

22-00328-16

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Senate Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing amendments to Sections 3 and 4 of Article VII and the creation of Section 34 of Article XII of the State Constitution to require the Legislature, by general law, to exempt the assessed value of a renewable energy source device or a component thereof from the tangible personal property tax, to allow the Legislature, by general law, to prohibit the consideration of the installation of such device or component in determining the assessed value of residential and nonresidential real property for the purpose of ad valorem taxation, and to provide effective and expiration dates.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the following amendment to Sections 3 and 4 of Article VII and the creation of Section 34 of Article XII of the State Constitution are agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE VII

FINANCE AND TAXATION

SECTION 3. Taxes; exemptions.—

(a) All property owned by a municipality and used exclusively by it for municipal or public purposes shall be exempt from taxation. A municipality, owning property outside the municipality, may be required by general law to make payment

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30 to the taxing unit in which the property is located. Such
31 portions of property as are used predominantly for educational,
32 literary, scientific, religious or charitable purposes may be
33 exempted by general law from taxation.

34 (b) There shall be exempt from taxation, cumulatively, to
35 every head of a family residing in this state, household goods
36 and personal effects to the value fixed by general law, not less
37 than one thousand dollars, and to every widow or widower or
38 person who is blind or totally and permanently disabled,
39 property to the value fixed by general law not less than five
40 hundred dollars.

41 (c) Any county or municipality may, for the purpose of its
42 respective tax levy and subject to the provisions of this
43 subsection and general law, grant community and economic
44 development ad valorem tax exemptions to new businesses and
45 expansions of existing businesses, as defined by general law.
46 Such an exemption may be granted only by ordinance of the county
47 or municipality, and only after the electors of the county or
48 municipality voting on such question in a referendum authorize
49 the county or municipality to adopt such ordinances. An
50 exemption so granted shall apply to improvements to real
51 property made by or for the use of a new business and
52 improvements to real property related to the expansion of an
53 existing business and shall also apply to tangible personal
54 property of such new business and tangible personal property
55 related to the expansion of an existing business. The amount or
56 limits of the amount of such exemption shall be specified by
57 general law. The period of time for which such exemption may be
58 granted to a new business or expansion of an existing business

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59 shall be determined by general law. The authority to grant such
60 exemption shall expire ten years from the date of approval by
61 the electors of the county or municipality, and may be renewable
62 by referendum as provided by general law.

63 (d) Any county or municipality may, for the purpose of its
64 respective tax levy and subject to the provisions of this
65 subsection and general law, grant historic preservation ad
66 valorem tax exemptions to owners of historic properties. This
67 exemption may be granted only by ordinance of the county or
68 municipality. The amount or limits of the amount of this
69 exemption and the requirements for eligible properties must be
70 specified by general law. The period of time for which this
71 exemption may be granted to a property owner shall be determined
72 by general law.

73 (e) By general law and subject to conditions specified
74 therein:~~7~~

75 (1) Twenty-five thousand dollars of the assessed value of
76 property subject to tangible personal property tax shall be
77 exempt from ad valorem taxation.

78 (2) The assessed value of a renewable energy source device,
79 or a component thereof, shall be exempt from the tangible
80 personal property tax.

81 (f) There shall be granted an ad valorem tax exemption for
82 real property dedicated in perpetuity for conservation purposes,
83 including real property encumbered by perpetual conservation
84 easements or by other perpetual conservation protections, as
85 defined by general law.

86 (g) By general law and subject to the conditions specified
87 therein, each person who receives a homestead exemption as

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88 provided in section 6 of this article; who was a member of the
89 United States military or military reserves, the United States
90 Coast Guard or its reserves, or the Florida National Guard; and
91 who was deployed during the preceding calendar year on active
92 duty outside the continental United States, Alaska, or Hawaii in
93 support of military operations designated by the legislature
94 shall receive an additional exemption equal to a percentage of
95 the taxable value of his or her homestead property. The
96 applicable percentage shall be calculated as the number of days
97 during the preceding calendar year the person was deployed on
98 active duty outside the continental United States, Alaska, or
99 Hawaii in support of military operations designated by the
100 legislature divided by the number of days in that year.

101 SECTION 4. Taxation; assessments.—By general law
102 regulations shall be prescribed which shall secure a just
103 valuation of all property for ad valorem taxation, provided:

104 (a) Agricultural land, land producing high water recharge
105 to Florida's aquifers, or land used exclusively for
106 noncommercial recreational purposes may be classified by general
107 law and assessed solely on the basis of character or use.

108 (b) As provided by general law and subject to conditions,
109 limitations, and reasonable definitions specified therein, land
110 used for conservation purposes shall be classified by general
111 law and assessed solely on the basis of character or use.

112 (c) Pursuant to general law tangible personal property held
113 for sale as stock in trade and livestock may be valued for
114 taxation at a specified percentage of its value, may be
115 classified for tax purposes, or may be exempted from taxation.

116 (d) All persons entitled to a homestead exemption under

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117 Section 6 of this Article shall have their homestead assessed at
118 just value as of January 1 of the year following the effective
119 date of this amendment. This assessment shall change only as
120 provided in this subsection.

121 (1) Assessments subject to this subsection shall be changed
122 annually on January 1st of each year; but those changes in
123 assessments shall not exceed the lower of the following:

124 a. Three percent (3%) of the assessment for the prior year.

125 b. The percent change in the Consumer Price Index for all
126 urban consumers, U.S. City Average, all items 1967=100, or
127 successor reports for the preceding calendar year as initially
128 reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of
129 Labor Statistics.

130 (2) No assessment shall exceed just value.

131 (3) After any change of ownership, as provided by general
132 law, homestead property shall be assessed at just value as of
133 January 1 of the following year, unless the provisions of
134 paragraph (8) apply. Thereafter, the homestead shall be assessed
135 as provided in this subsection.

136 (4) New homestead property shall be assessed at just value
137 as of January 1st of the year following the establishment of the
138 homestead, unless the provisions of paragraph (8) apply. That
139 assessment shall only change as provided in this subsection.

140 (5) Changes, additions, reductions, or improvements to
141 homestead property shall be assessed as provided for by general
142 law; provided, however, after the adjustment for any change,
143 addition, reduction, or improvement, the property shall be
144 assessed as provided in this subsection.

145 (6) In the event of a termination of homestead status, the

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146 property shall be assessed as provided by general law.

147 (7) The provisions of this amendment are severable. If any
148 of the provisions of this amendment shall be held
149 unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the
150 decision of such court shall not affect or impair any remaining
151 provisions of this amendment.

152 (8)a. A person who establishes a new homestead as of
153 January 1, 2009, or January 1 of any subsequent year and who has
154 received a homestead exemption pursuant to Section 6 of this
155 Article as of January 1 of either of the two years immediately
156 preceding the establishment of the new homestead is entitled to
157 have the new homestead assessed at less than just value. If this
158 revision is approved in January of 2008, a person who
159 establishes a new homestead as of January 1, 2008, is entitled
160 to have the new homestead assessed at less than just value only
161 if that person received a homestead exemption on January 1,
162 2007. The assessed value of the newly established homestead
163 shall be determined as follows:

164 1. If the just value of the new homestead is greater than
165 or equal to the just value of the prior homestead as of January
166 1 of the year in which the prior homestead was abandoned, the
167 assessed value of the new homestead shall be the just value of
168 the new homestead minus an amount equal to the lesser of
169 \$500,000 or the difference between the just value and the
170 assessed value of the prior homestead as of January 1 of the
171 year in which the prior homestead was abandoned. Thereafter, the
172 homestead shall be assessed as provided in this subsection.

173 2. If the just value of the new homestead is less than the
174 just value of the prior homestead as of January 1 of the year in

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175 which the prior homestead was abandoned, the assessed value of
176 the new homestead shall be equal to the just value of the new
177 homestead divided by the just value of the prior homestead and
178 multiplied by the assessed value of the prior homestead.
179 However, if the difference between the just value of the new
180 homestead and the assessed value of the new homestead calculated
181 pursuant to this sub-subparagraph is greater than \$500,000, the
182 assessed value of the new homestead shall be increased so that
183 the difference between the just value and the assessed value
184 equals \$500,000. Thereafter, the homestead shall be assessed as
185 provided in this subsection.

186 b. By general law and subject to conditions specified
187 therein, the legislature shall provide for application of this
188 paragraph to property owned by more than one person.

189 (e) The legislature may, by general law, for assessment
190 purposes and subject to the provisions of this subsection, allow
191 counties and municipalities to authorize by ordinance that
192 historic property may be assessed solely on the basis of
193 character or use. Such character or use assessment shall apply
194 only to the jurisdiction adopting the ordinance. The
195 requirements for eligible properties must be specified by
196 general law.

197 (f) A county may, in the manner prescribed by general law,
198 provide for a reduction in the assessed value of homestead
199 property to the extent of any increase in the assessed value of
200 that property which results from the construction or
201 reconstruction of the property for the purpose of providing
202 living quarters for one or more natural or adoptive grandparents
203 or parents of the owner of the property or of the owner's spouse

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204 if at least one of the grandparents or parents for whom the
205 living quarters are provided is 62 years of age or older. Such a
206 reduction may not exceed the lesser of the following:

207 (1) The increase in assessed value resulting from
208 construction or reconstruction of the property.

209 (2) Twenty percent of the total assessed value of the
210 property as improved.

211 (g) For all levies other than school district levies,
212 assessments of residential real property, as defined by general
213 law, which contains nine units or fewer and which is not subject
214 to the assessment limitations set forth in subsections (a)
215 through (d) shall change only as provided in this subsection.

216 (1) Assessments subject to this subsection shall be changed
217 annually on the date of assessment provided by law; but those
218 changes in assessments shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the
219 assessment for the prior year.

220 (2) No assessment shall exceed just value.

221 (3) After a change of ownership or control, as defined by
222 general law, including any change of ownership of a legal entity
223 that owns the property, such property shall be assessed at just
224 value as of the next assessment date. Thereafter, such property
225 shall be assessed as provided in this subsection.

226 (4) Changes, additions, reductions, or improvements to such
227 property shall be assessed as provided for by general law;
228 however, after the adjustment for any change, addition,
229 reduction, or improvement, the property shall be assessed as
230 provided in this subsection.

231 (h) For all levies other than school district levies,
232 assessments of real property that is not subject to the

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233 assessment limitations set forth in subsections (a) through (d)
234 and (g) shall change only as provided in this subsection.

235 (1) Assessments subject to this subsection shall be changed
236 annually on the date of assessment provided by law; but those
237 changes in assessments shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the
238 assessment for the prior year.

239 (2) No assessment shall exceed just value.

240 (3) The legislature must provide that such property shall
241 be assessed at just value as of the next assessment date after a
242 qualifying improvement, as defined by general law, is made to
243 such property. Thereafter, such property shall be assessed as
244 provided in this subsection.

245 (4) The legislature may provide that such property shall be
246 assessed at just value as of the next assessment date after a
247 change of ownership or control, as defined by general law,
248 including any change of ownership of the legal entity that owns
249 the property. Thereafter, such property shall be assessed as
250 provided in this subsection.

251 (5) Changes, additions, reductions, or improvements to such
252 property shall be assessed as provided for by general law;
253 however, after the adjustment for any change, addition,
254 reduction, or improvement, the property shall be assessed as
255 provided in this subsection.

256 (i) The legislature, by general law and subject to
257 conditions specified therein, may prohibit the consideration of
258 the following in the determination of the assessed value of real
259 property ~~used for residential purposes:~~

260 (1) Any change or improvement to real property used for
261 residential purposes made to improve ~~for the purpose of~~

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262 ~~improving~~ the property's resistance to wind damage.

263 (2) The installation of a renewable energy source device or
264 a component thereof.

265 (j) (1) The assessment of the following working waterfront
266 properties shall be based upon the current use of the property:
267 a. Land used predominantly for commercial fishing purposes.
268 b. Land that is accessible to the public and used for
269 vessel launches into waters that are navigable.
270 c. Marinas and drystacks that are open to the public.
271 d. Water-dependent marine manufacturing facilities,
272 commercial fishing facilities, and marine vessel construction
273 and repair facilities and their support activities.

274 (2) The assessment benefit provided by this subsection is
275 subject to conditions and limitations and reasonable definitions
276 as specified by the legislature by general law.

277 ARTICLE XII

278 SCHEDULE

279 SECTION 34. Renewable energy source devices and components
280 thereof; exemption from certain taxation and assessment.—This
281 section, the amendment to subsection (e) of Section 3 of Article
282 VII requiring the legislature, by general law, to exempt the
283 assessed value of a renewable energy source device, or a
284 component thereof, from the tangible personal property tax, and
285 the amendment to subsection (i) of Section 4 of Article VII
286 allowing the legislature, by general law, to prohibit the
287 consideration of the installation of a renewable energy source
288 device, or a component thereof, in determining the assessed
289 value of real property for the purpose of ad valorem taxation
290 shall take effect on January 1, 2017, and shall expire on

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291 December 31, 2036. Upon expiration, this section shall be
 292 repealed and the text of subsection (e) of Section 3 of Article
 293 VII and subsection (i) of Section 4 of Article VII shall revert
 294 to that in existence on December 31, 2016, except that any
 295 amendments to such text otherwise adopted shall be preserved and
 296 continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not
 297 dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to
 298 this section.

299 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
 300 placed on the ballot:

301 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

302 ARTICLE VII, SECTIONS 3 AND 4

303 ARTICLE XII, SECTION 34

304 RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCE DEVICES AND COMPONENTS THEREOF;
 305 EXEMPTION FROM CERTAIN TAXATION AND ASSESSMENT.—Proposing an
 306 amendment to the State Constitution to require the Legislature
 307 to exempt the assessed value of a renewable energy source device
 308 or component thereof from the tangible personal property tax and
 309 allow the Legislature to prohibit consideration of the
 310 installation of such device or component in determining the
 311 assessed value of all real property for the purpose of ad
 312 valorem taxation. This amendment takes effect January 1, 2017,
 313 and expires on December 31, 2036.

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities

BILL: SB 172

INTRODUCER: Senator Brandes

SUBJECT: Renewable Energy Source Devices

DATE: November 2, 2015

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Wiehle	Caldwell	CU	Favorable
2.			CA	
3.			FT	
4.			AP	

I. Summary:

SB 172 is the implementing legislation for SJR 170.

The bill expands the definition of “renewable energy source device” to include devices that store solar energy or energy derived from geothermal deposits and expands the exemption for renewable energy source devices from consideration in appraised property value to all real property. It also creates s. 196.182, F.S., exempting renewable energy source devices, and any components thereof, from the tangible personal property tax.

These changes would take effect January 1, 2017, should the constitutional amendments proposed in SJR 170 or a similar joint resolution having substantially the same specific intent and purpose be passed by three-fifths of the membership of each house of the Legislature and be approved by vote of at least 60 percent of the electors voting on the measure at the next general election, in which case the constitutional amendments proposed by SJR 170 will become effective on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January following the election, or on such other date as may be specified in the amendment or revision.

Consistent with the implementation schedule established in SJR 170:

- The amendments made by the bill to s. 193.624, F.S., expire December 31, 2036, and the text of the section reverts to that in existence on December 31, 2016, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this bill are preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portion of text scheduled to expire, and
- Section 196.182, F.S., as created by the bill expires and is automatically repealed on December 31, 2036.

II. Present Situation:

The State Constitution authorizes finance and taxation, including local government ad valorem taxes on real property and tangible personal property,¹ assessment of taxes,² and exemptions to these taxes.³ Among these provisions is authority for the Legislature to prohibit the consideration of the following in the determination of the assessed value of real property used for residential purposes:

- Any change or improvement made for the purpose of improving the property's resistance to wind damage.
- The installation of a renewable energy source device.⁴

The Legislature implemented this prohibition in s. 193.624, F.S. The statute prohibits a property appraiser who is determining the assessed value of real property used for residential purposes from considering an increase in the just value of the property attributable to the installation of a renewable energy source device. The statute applies to a renewable energy source device installed on or after January 1, 2013, on new and existing residential real property. The statute defines the term "renewable energy source device" to mean any of the following equipment that collects, transmits, stores, or uses solar energy, wind energy, or energy derived from geothermal deposits:

- Solar energy collectors, photovoltaic modules, and inverters;
- Storage tanks and other storage systems, excluding swimming pools used as storage tanks;
- Rockbeds;
- Thermostats and other control devices;
- Heat exchange devices;
- Pumps and fans;
- Roof ponds;
- Freestanding thermal containers;
- Pipes, ducts, refrigerant handling systems, and other equipment used to interconnect such systems; however, such equipment does not include conventional backup systems of any type;
- Windmills and wind turbines;
- Wind-driven generators;
- Power conditioning and storage devices that use wind energy to generate electricity or mechanical forms of energy; and
- Pipes and other equipment used to transmit hot geothermal water to a dwelling or structure from a geothermal deposit.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SB 172 implements SJR 170, which would amend sections 3 and 4 of Article VII of the State Constitution to exempt the assessed value of a renewable energy source device, or a component of such a device, from the tangible personal property tax and authorize the Legislature to prohibit

¹ Article VII, section 9.

² Article VII, section 4.

³ Article VII, section 3.

⁴ Article VII, section 4.(i).

the consideration of the installation of renewable energy source devices and related components in determining the assessed value of a property for the purpose of ad valorem taxation. It would also create Section 34 of Article XII of the State Constitution to establish an implementation schedule under which the amendments would take effect January 1, 2017, and would expire on December 31, 2036, with the text of the amended sections reinstated at that time, with the exception of future amendments, which will be preserved.

This bill amends s. 193.624, F.S. to expand the definition of “renewable energy source device” to include devices that use solar energy and energy derived from geothermal deposits and devices that store energy from solar energy, wind energy, or energy derived from geothermal deposits. It also expands the application of the existing exemption of renewable energy devices from property value appraisal to all real property, as opposed to exclusively to residential property, as of January 1, 2017.

The bill also exempts a renewable energy source device or any component of such as device which is installed on real property on or after January 1, 2017, from tangible personal property tax.

The bill takes effect January 1, 2017, if SJR 170 or a similar joint resolution having substantially the same specific intent and purpose, is approved by the electors at the general election to be held in November 2016 or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose. Consistent with the implementation schedule established in SJR 170:

- The amendments made by the bill to s. 193.624, F.S., expire December 31, 2036, and the text of the section reverts to that in existence on December 31, 2016, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this bill are preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portion of text scheduled to expire, and
- Section 196.182, F.S., as created by the bill expires and is automatically repealed on December 31, 2036.

The bill also reenacts ss. 193.155 and 193.1554, F.S., to incorporate the amendments made to s. 193.624, F.S.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

This bill would implement the constitutional amendments proposed in SJR 170. When the Legislature is *required* to implement a constitutional provision, the mandate provisions do not apply; when it is *authorized* to implement a constitutional provision, mandate provisions do apply. SJR 170 would *require* the Legislature to exempt the assessed value of a renewable energy source device, or a component of such a device, from the tangible personal property tax and *authorize* the Legislature to expand the existing prohibition against a property appraiser considering the installation of renewable energy source devices in determining property value for the purpose of ad valorem taxation. As such, mandate provisions do not apply to the provisions in this bill relating

to tangible personal property tax, but do apply to the provisions on ad valorem real property taxes.

Section 18, Art. VII, State Constitution, provides that except upon approval by two-thirds of the members of each house, the Legislature may not enact, amend, or repeal any general law if the anticipated effect of doing so would reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate, as such authority exists on February 1, 1989. By reducing the tax base upon which counties and municipalities raise ad valorem revenue, this bill reduces their revenue-raising authority and may require a two-thirds vote of the membership of each house of the Legislature.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

The Revenue Estimating Conference has not yet determined the revenue impact, if any, to local governments or the state.

B. Private Sector Impact:

The exemptions from tangible personal property tax and ad valorem tax may stimulate sales and leases of renewable energy source devices.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The Revenue Estimating Conference has not yet determined the revenue impact, if any, to local governments or the state.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

This bill implements SJR 170.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 193.624 of the Florida Statutes.

This bill creates section 196.182 of the Florida Statutes.

This bill reenacts sections 193.155 and 193.1554 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

By Senator Brandes

22-00329-16

2016172__

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to renewable energy source devices;
3 amending s. 193.624, F.S.; revising the term
4 "renewable energy source device" to include certain
5 devices that store or use solar energy, wind energy,
6 or energy from geothermal deposits to generate
7 specified forms of energy; specifying a period during
8 which a property appraiser is prohibited from
9 considering an increase in the just value of real
10 property used for residential purposes which is
11 attributable to the installation of a renewable energy
12 source device; prohibiting consideration by a property
13 appraiser of an increase in the just value of real
14 property used for any purpose which is attributable to
15 the installation of a renewable energy source device
16 or of a component of such device on or after a
17 specified date; creating s. 196.182, F.S.; exempting a
18 renewable energy source device, or a component of such
19 device, which is installed upon real property on or
20 after a specified date from the tangible personal
21 property tax; reenacting ss. 193.155(4)(a) and
22 193.1554(6)(a), F.S., relating to homestead
23 assessments and nonhomestead residential property
24 assessments, respectively, to incorporate the
25 amendment made to s. 193.624, F.S., in references
26 thereto; providing that specified provisions of the
27 act expire on a certain date; providing a contingent
28 effective date.
29

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30 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

31
32 Section 1. Section 193.624, Florida Statutes, is amended to
33 read:

34 193.624 Assessment of real ~~residential~~ property.—

35 (1) As used in this section, the term “renewable energy
36 source device” means any of the following equipment that
37 collects, transmits, stores, or uses solar energy, wind energy,
38 or energy derived from geothermal deposits:

39 (a) Solar energy collectors, photovoltaic modules, and
40 inverters.

41 (b) Storage tanks and other storage systems, excluding
42 swimming pools used as storage tanks.

43 (c) Rockbeds.

44 (d) Thermostats and other control devices.

45 (e) Heat exchange devices.

46 (f) Pumps and fans.

47 (g) Roof ponds.

48 (h) Freestanding thermal containers.

49 (i) Pipes, ducts, refrigerant handling systems, and other
50 equipment used to interconnect such systems; however, such
51 equipment does not include conventional backup systems of any
52 type.

53 (j) Windmills and wind turbines.

54 (k) Wind-driven generators.

55 (l) Power conditioning and storage devices that store or
56 use solar energy, wind energy, or energy derived from geothermal
57 deposits to generate electricity or mechanical forms of energy.

58 (m) Pipes and other equipment used to transmit hot

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59 geothermal water to a dwelling or structure from a geothermal
60 deposit.

61 (2) In determining the assessed value of new and existing
62 real property used for:

63 (a) Residential purposes, an increase in the just value of
64 the property attributable to the installation of a renewable
65 energy source device between January 1, 2013, and December 31,
66 2016, may not be considered.

67 (b) ~~(3) Any purpose,~~ an increase in the just value of the
68 property attributable ~~This section applies~~ to the installation
69 of a renewable energy source device or of a component of such
70 device installed on or after January 1, 2017, may not be
71 considered ~~January 1, 2013, to new and existing residential real~~
72 ~~property.~~

73 Section 2. Section 196.182, Florida Statutes, is created to
74 read:

75 196.182 Exemption of renewable energy source devices and
76 components.—A renewable energy source device, as defined in s.
77 193.624, or a component of such device, which is installed on
78 real property on or after January 1, 2017, is exempt from the
79 tangible personal property tax.

80 Section 3. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
81 made by this act to section 193.624, Florida Statutes, in a
82 reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section
83 193.155, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

84 193.155 Homestead assessments.—Homestead property shall be
85 assessed at just value as of January 1, 1994. Property receiving
86 the homestead exemption after January 1, 1994, shall be assessed
87 at just value as of January 1 of the year in which the property

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88 receives the exemption unless the provisions of subsection (8)
89 apply.

90 (4) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) and s. 193.624,
91 changes, additions, or improvements to homestead property shall
92 be assessed at just value as of the first January 1 after the
93 changes, additions, or improvements are substantially completed.

94 Section 4. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
95 made by this act to section 193.624, Florida Statutes, in a
96 reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section
97 193.1554, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

98 193.1554 Assessment of nonhomestead residential property.-

99 (6) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) and s. 193.624,
100 changes, additions, or improvements to nonhomestead residential
101 property shall be assessed at just value as of the first January
102 1 after the changes, additions, or improvements are
103 substantially completed.

104 Section 5. The amendment made by this act to s. 193.624,
105 Florida Statutes, expires December 31, 2036, and the text of
106 that section shall revert to that in existence on December 31,
107 2016, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than
108 by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the
109 extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portion
110 of text which expires pursuant to this section.

111 Section 6. Section 196.182, Florida Statutes, as created by
112 this act, expires December 31, 2036, and shall be repealed on
113 that date.

114 Section 7. This act shall take effect January 1, 2017, if
115 SJR ____, or a similar joint resolution having substantially the
116 same specific intent and purpose, is approved by the electors at

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117 the general election to be held in November 2016 or at an
118 earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that
119 purpose.



Florida Energy Systems Consortium (FESC)

www.floridaenergy.ufl.edu

Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities

Nov 3, 2015



Florida Energy Systems Consortium (FESC)

Created by Florida Statute in 2008

Purpose... Unite Florida energy experts - including Florida's 12 Universities - so that the State leads in energy research and develops innovative energy systems giving rise to...

*Improved energy efficiency and
Expanded economic development*

Strategic Activities

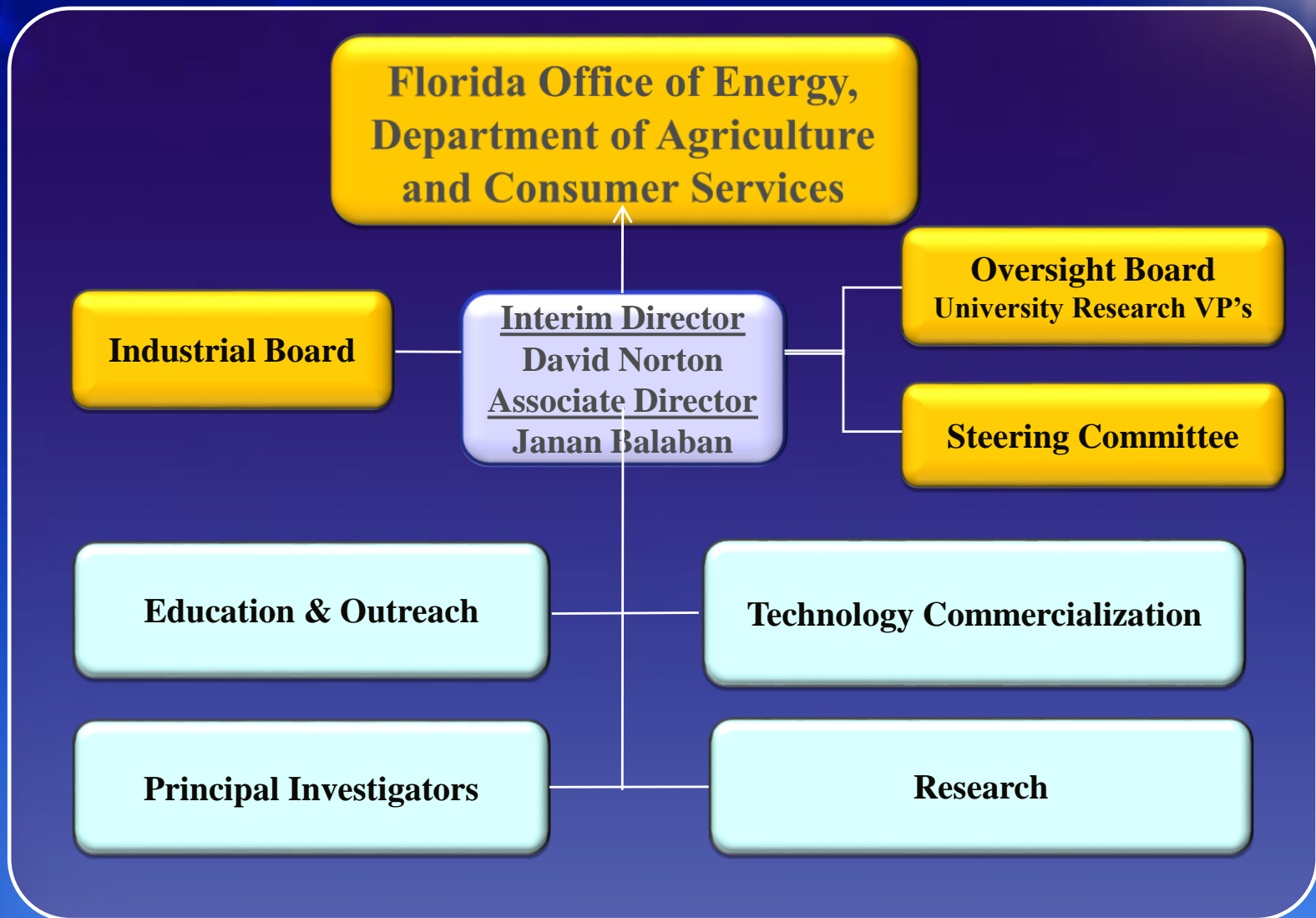
- Research
- Technology Commercialization
- Outreach
- Education

FESC involves more than

- 400 Faculty
- 100 Centers and Institutes
- 200 Companies within Florida



FESC Leadership Structure



Strategic Research Thrusts

- Developing Florida's Biomass Advantage for Renewable Fuels
- Harnessing Florida's Solar Resources
- Enhancing Energy Efficiency and Conservation
- Securing Energy Delivery Infrastructure and Energy Storage
- Capturing Florida's Marine Energy Resources for Power Generation



Developing Florida Biomass Resources

Example Project: Alternative Energy Crops for the Citrus Industry - Drop in Fuels

500,000 acres of Fallow Citrus Fields and \$1.6 Billion Annual loss

Replacement crops: Sugar beets, sweet sorghum, cane, tuber.

In communication with industry to attract bio fuel manufacturers to the State to produce drop in fuels from sugar/starch.

Potential Liquid Fuel Production: 550,000,000 gal of Ethanol

\$1.375 Billion Annual Sales

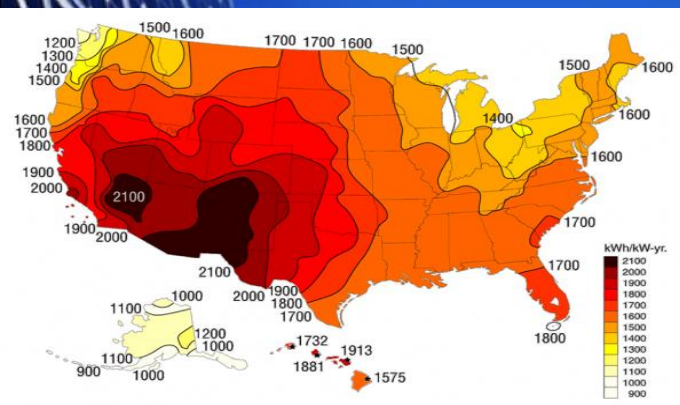
25,000 direct jobs + 75,000 indirect jobs (ref: TCERDA)



Solar Energy Research Focus Areas

Solar energy is Florida's most abundant domestic energy resource

- Low Cost CIGS Thin Film PV Process, PV panel Coatings, Materials and Organic PV
- Concentrated Solar Power (CSP)
- Solar Fuels



Enhancing Energy Efficiency & Conservation

Residences consume more than 40% of Florida's electricity

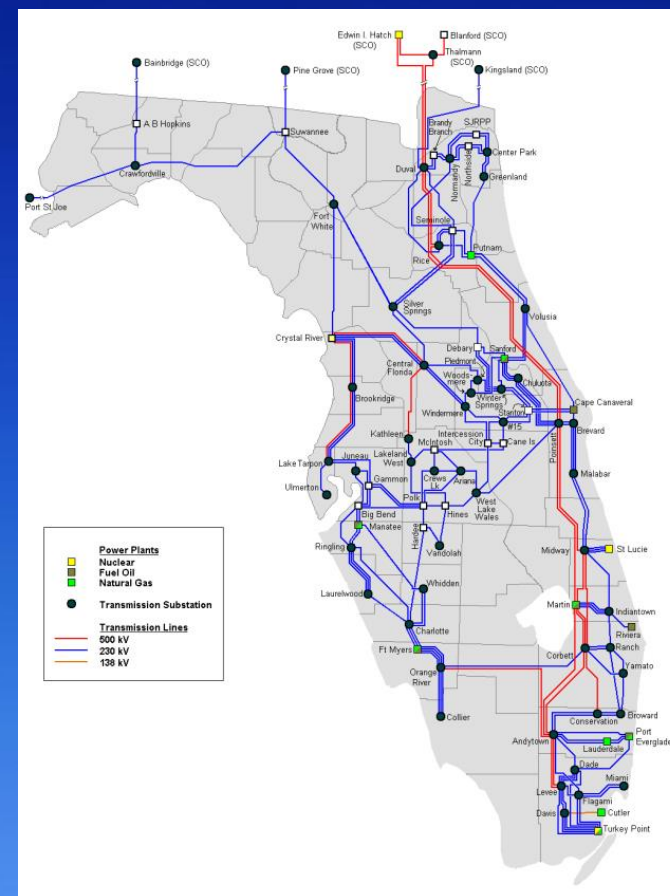
- **Net –zero or energy efficient demonstration homes at multiple campuses** - UCF, FSU, USF, FIU, UWF: Used for research, training, outreach.
- Two side by side buildings at FSEC for Energy Efficiency research



Flexible Residential Test Facility at FSEC

Securing Energy Delivery Infrastructure

- **Smart Grid Demonstration Project at USF in collaboration with Duke Energy:** Implementation of a “Smart Grid” with advanced sensors, communication and control technologies
- **Micro-grids:** PV and PHEV integration, micro-grid modeling and control, grid-tying inverters/converters, and energy storage (FIU, FSU, UCF, and UF)
- **Real Time Digital Simulation (RTDS):** By FSU Center for Advanced Power Systems
- **Grid Security**
- **Power Electronics, Micro Invertors**
- **Power Systems**
- **Energy Use Behavior**



Capturing Florida's Marine Energy Resources

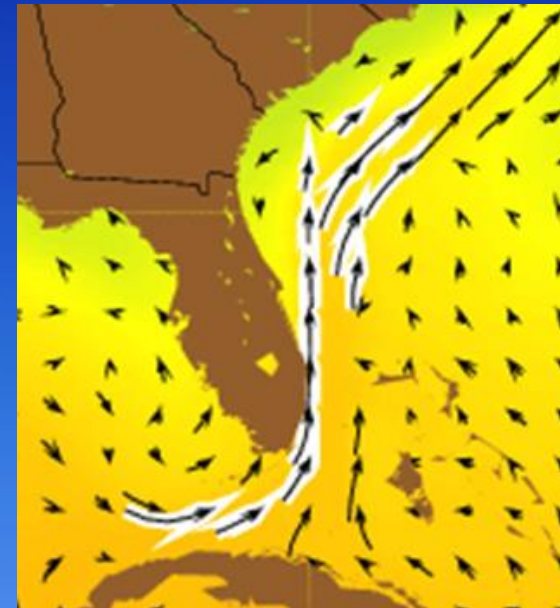
FAU Center was designated by US DOE as Southeast National Marine Renewable Energy Center (SNMREC)

Research Focus: Marine and Hydrokinetic (MHK)

Renewable Energy: Harnesses ocean current energy to generate electricity

Approach:

- Working with stakeholders, identifying barriers to market acceleration of MHK projects and solve through research, testing, and education.
- Focus areas include technological, environmental, and regulatory challenges.



<http://oceancurrents.rsmas.miami.edu/>

FESC Successes to Date - Research



Leveraged \$38 million in state appropriation to obtain \$425 million in energy research funding from third parties

Resulting dissemination of over 1000 publications and 1000 presentations – **promotes Florida's energy capabilities and technical leadership helping to attract energy industry and energy funding to FL**

Selected Award Examples

- US-India Joint DOE Clean Energy Research and Development Center in Biomass – UF Led
- US DOE funded FEEDER (Foundations for Engineering Education for Distributed Energy Resources) Consortium (UCF led with UF and FSU)
- Low Cost Thermal Energy Storage System Using Phase Change Materials funded by US DOE – USF Led
- FAU - designated by DOE as one of three National Marine Renewable Energy Centers
- Nation's only university-based Photovoltaic Regional Test Center at UCF, funded by NSF
- Electric Vehicle Transportation Center at UCF/FSEC funded by US DOE

FESC Successes to Date - Technology Commercialization

FESC Technology Commercialization Program

- Funding early stage market research/business plans – Phase I
- Matching funds for companies to leverage their R&D budgets – Phase II

Startup Companies – 32 companies formed based on university developed technologies

Technology Licensed – 101 licenses

Invention Disclosures – 459 submitted

Job Growth

- Across all diverse aspects of emerging energy technologies
- Over 100 new jobs

FESC Successes to Date – Education- Outreach

On-line Energy Certificate Program and 8 New Energy Courses

Over 100 specialized *Industry* Training and Education Events

Workforce Development - Program implementation with Florida Advanced Technological Education Center (FLATE).

– **Developed two energy degree programs**

- Alternative Energy Technologies
- Industrial Energy Efficiency

Outreach to the Public

UF Program for Resource Efficient Communities

- Over 50 Fact Sheets prepared to help Florida citizens better conserve and increase energy efficiency
- Sustainable Floridians program (8 week training program preparing Florida citizens to be ambassadors for sustainability)



State Funding Request

- FESC Bridge funding for fiscal year 2013-2014 for administrative support, energy education and outreach (till June 30, 2015)
- Recurring funding request of \$2.5Million. Request package for 2016-2017 has been submitted to the State through the Office of Energy
 - Administration, Education and Outreach Support – FESC (at UF)
 - Large scale research proposal coordination, interactions with FESC network, annual conference, website, etc.
 - Research and Technology Commercialization Support
 - Funds reside at Office of Energy and FESC responsible for technical oversight
 - Open, competitive process – all FL SUS universities

Energy Research Funds Requested

\$1,000,000

Facilities Support

- State-of-the-art energy research infrastructure – equipment and facilities required to conduct cutting edge, high quality energy research
- Available for industry use

\$750,000

Energy Technology Development Research Support

- Perform high quality applied research driven by real-world problems
- Partnership with industry, providing answers to pressing technical challenges

Energy Research Funds Requested

\$250,000 (starting in year 3)

Exploratory/Fundamental Energy Research Support

- Produces a steady stream of innovation which is key to Florida's sustained economic development
- Provides a major role in developing Florida's research leadership in the energy sector

\$250,000 (starting in year 4)

Technology Commercialization Support

- Develop commercially-applicable, new technologies through university/industry partnerships
- A minimum of 50% cost sharing provided by a Florida industry partner

Support Letters for the Legislative Request

- Signed support letters from:
 - FESC Advisory Board. They are unanimously supporting request
 - Vice Presidents of Research at all state universities are fully behind this initiative
 - FESC Steering Committee members (one faculty from each state university)
 - 20 Plus FL energy industry members
- FL Office of Energy is supporting this request. We are heavily engaged and in close communication with the Office of Energy

Contact Information

David Norton, Interim Director
dpnorton@ufl.edu

Janan C. Balaban, Associate Director
(352) 392-0899
cbalaban@ufl.edu



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Community Affairs, *Chair*
Environmental Preservation and Conservation,
Vice Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government
Finance and Tax
Judiciary
Transportation

JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Legislative Auditing Committee

SENATOR WILTON SIMPSON

18th District

August 25, 2015

Chairwoman Denise Grimsley
Committee on Communication, Energy, and Public Utilities
337 Knott Building
404 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Senator Grimsley,

Please place Senate Bill 90 relating to the Natural Gas Rebate Program, on the next Committee on Communication, Energy, and Public Utilities agenda.

Please contact my office with any questions. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wilton Simpson".

Wilton Simpson
Senator, 18th District

CC: Diana Caldwell, Staff Director

REPLY TO:

- 322 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5018
- Post Office Box 938, Brooksville, Florida 34605
- Post Office Box 787, New Port Richey, Florida 34656-0787 (727) 816-1120 FAX: (888) 263-4821

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

ANDY GARDINER
President of the Senate

GARRETT RICHTER
President Pro Tempore



The Florida Senate

Committee Agenda Request

To: Senator Denise Grimsley, Chair
Committee on Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities

Subject: Committee Agenda Request

Date: September 11, 2015

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill #170**, relating to **Renewable Energy Source Device**, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Brandes", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Senator Jeff Brandes
Florida Senate, District 22



The Florida Senate

Committee Agenda Request

To: Senator Denise Grimsley, Chair
Committee on Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities

Subject: Committee Agenda Request

Date: September 11, 2015

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill #172**, relating to **Renewable Energy Source Devices**, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Brandes", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Senator Jeff Brandes
Florida Senate, District 22



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Finance and Tax, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services
Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities
Community Affairs
Fiscal Policy
Regulated Industries

JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Legislative Auditing Committee, *Chair*

SENATOR JOSEPH ABRUZZO

Minority Whip
25th District

November 3rd, 2015

The Honorable Denise Grimsley
306 Senate Office Building
404 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Chairwoman Grimsley:

Please accept this letter as a formal request to excuse myself from the Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities committee meeting held today, Tuesday, November 3rd, 2015. Unfortunately, due to a personal matter I was unable to attend.

If I can provide any additional information for my excusal, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JA".

Joseph Abruzzo

REPLY TO:

- 12300 Forest Hill Boulevard, Suite 200, Wellington, Florida 33414-5785 (561) 791-4774 FAX: (888) 284-6495
- 110 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Belle Glade, Florida 33430-3900 (561) 829-1410
- 222 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5025

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

ANDY GARDINER
President of the Senate

GARRETT RICHTER
President Pro Tempore



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Higher Education, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development
Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities
Fiscal Policy
Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and
Domestic Security
Regulated Industries

SENATOR MARIA LORTS SACHS

Deputy Democratic Whip
34th District

The Honorable Denise Grimsley, Chair
Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities
306 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

November 3, 2015

Dear Chair Grimsley:

Please excuse my absence from the Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities
on Tuesday November 3rd, 2015. Due to a personal commitment I am unable to attend.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maria Sachs".

Senator Maria Sachs
District 34

REPLY TO:

- Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Avenue, Delray Beach, Florida 33444 (561) 279-1427 FAX: (561) 279-1429
- 216 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5034

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

ANDY GARDINER
President of the Senate

GARRETT RICHTER
President Pro Tempore

THE FLORIDA SENATE APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11/3

Meeting Date

SB 90

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Natural Gas Rebate Program

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Brewster Bevis

Job Title Senior Vice President

Address 516 N. Adams St

Street

Phone 850-224-7173

Tallahassee

FL

32312

Email bbevis@aif.com

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Associated Industries of Florida

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11/3/15

Meeting Date

SB-90

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic SB-90

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Frank Walker

Job Title Govt. Affairs

Address 136 S. Bronough St.

Street

Phone (850) 661-1200

Tallahassee, FL

City

State

32304

Zip

Email

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing FL Chamber of Commerce

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11/3/15
Meeting Date

SB 90
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic _____

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name JOSE L. GONZALEZ

Job Title REGION VP

Address PO BOX 836
Street

Phone 850-294-4057

TALLAHASSEE, FL 32302
City State Zip

~~JOSE~~
Email JOSE.GONZALEZ@ANHEUSER-BUSCH.COM

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing ANHEUSER-BUSCH

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

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11-3-15

Meeting Date

SB 90

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Natural Gas Rebate Program

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Donna Simmons

Job Title Dir, State Gov't Relations

Address 106 E College Ave
Street

Phone _____

TLH
City

FL
State

32301
Zip

Email _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing TECO Energy

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

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11-3-15

Meeting Date

90

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic _____

Name Dale Calhoun

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 201 S Monroe St Unit A

Phone 850 681 0496

Tallahassee FL 32201
City State Zip

Email _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Natural Gas Association

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11/3/15
Meeting Date

170
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCE Dev Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name DAVID CULLEN

Job Title _____

Address 1674 UNIVERSITY DRWY
Street
TARASOTA FL 34243
City State Zip

Phone 941-323-2404

Email dcullen@sierraclub.org

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing SIERRA CLUB FLORIDA

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

2

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3 NOV 15

Meeting Date

SB 170

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name RICHARD TURNER

Job Title V.P. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Address 230 S. ADAMS ST
Street

Phone 850.224.2250

TALLAHASSEE FL 32302
City State Zip

Email rturner@fla.org

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing FLORIDA RESTAURANTS & LODGING ASSOC

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11-3-15

Meeting Date

170

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic _____

Name Richard Pinsky

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 106 E college Ave

Street

Phone _____

Tallahassee FL

City

State

Zip

Email _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Solar Energy Installers Association

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11-3-2015
Meeting Date

SJR 170
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Renewable Energy

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Susan Glickman

Job Title Florida Director

Address PO Box 310
Street

Phone 727-595-7314

Indian Rocks Bch FL 33785
City State Zip

Email susan@cleanenergy.org

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Southern Alliance for Clean Energy

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11-3-15

Meeting Date

172

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Renewable Energy Constitutional Amend.

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Richard Pinsky

Job Title

Address 106 E College Ave

Phone

Tallahassee FL

Email

Speaking: [X] For [] Against [] Information

Waive Speaking: [X] In Support [] Against (The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Solar Energy Installers Association

Appearing at request of Chair: [] Yes [X] No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: [X] Yes [] No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

3

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11/3/15

Meeting Date

172
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCE Dev. Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name David Cullen

Job Title _____

Address 1674 University Pkwy #206
Street

Phone 941-323-2404

Gainesville FL 34223
City State Zip

Email cullen@sead.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing SIERRA CLUB FLORIDA

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11/3/15
Meeting Date

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Florida Energy & System Consortium (FESC) Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name David Norton

Job Title Vice President for Research, UF

Address 223 Grinter Hall
Street

Phone 352 392 9271

Gainesville FL 32611
City State Zip

Email dpnorton@ufl.edu

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing UF / FESC

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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