News Release

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Dec. 2, 2014

**Duke Energy announces 2014 Power Partners**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Local governments, major national retailers, a school system and two healthcare systems are among the organizations honored by Duke Energy as 2014 Power Partners.

The winners were chosen based on their commitment to responsible energy use and to creating lasting value for their organizations and the communities they serve.

The 2014 honorees carry on a tradition of creativity and innovation that has been at the core of the Power Partner awards for more than two decades.

Some of the winners have initiated projects that could be national models for energy efficiency. Others have instituted challenges to raise energy efficiency awareness, reduce operational expenses, improve backup power reliability and reward employees’ behavioral changes. In every case, these organizations have made impactful changes that translate to energy and money savings.

“Duke Energy is excited to recognize this year’s Power Partner award winners,” said Joni Davis, vice president, large account management at Duke Energy. “Our 2014 awardees demonstrate once again that organizations of all sizes can be smart energy consumers. We applaud their efforts.”

The following companies have been recognized as 2014 Duke Energy Power Partner award winners:

- Apex Tool Group (Sumter, S.C.)
- Carolinas HealthCare System (Charlotte, N.C. and surrounding area)
- CBRE (Greenville, S.C.)
- Cincinnati Financial Corporation (Fairfield, Ohio)
- City of Clearwater (Clearwater, Fla.)
- Fabri-Kal (Greenville, S.C.)
- Greenville County Schools (Greenville, S.C.)
- Novo Nordisk Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc. (Clayton, N.C.)
• Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners (Florida South Coastal Region)
• Sheetz (National account, headquartered in Pennsylvania)
• TJX Companies, Inc. (National account, headquartered in Massachusetts)
• Unilever Raeford, N.C. plant (Manufacturing site for Degree, Axe and Suave deodorants and body wash)
• Union Hospital (Terre Haute, Ind.)

Duke Energy established the Power Partner awards in 1992 to recognize businesses that achieve exemplary results in energy efficiency, sustainability and business growth. The 2014 Power Partner winners will be recognized at individual award ceremonies this winter.


###
**2014 Power Partner Award**

**Nomination Form**

**Nominee:**  Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

**Location:**  Florida South Coastal Region, and in the County where the FRH is located

**Submitted By:**  Michael Malley - DEF Large Account Management Account Executive
              Melissa Seixas - DEF Government & Community Relations Manager

**Date:**  October 9th, 2014

1. **An overview which describes the reason for nominating this customer**
   
   Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners has been nominated because of their attention and commitment as a power partner with Duke Energy Florida (DEF) to more efficiently meet the energy needs of county facilities and for the economic benefit of the citizens of the county. The counties involvement in a variety of partnerships and projects is clear evidence of their commitment to energy.

   Partnerships have included inviting DEF to train and educate county employees, agreeing to periodic team meetings to stay on top of issues and opportunities, providing tours of the county cogeneration plant, Earth Day and electric vehicle exhibits, and annual pre-storm executive meetings with the EOC teams.

   Projects initiated have been both innovative and extensive and included the construction of a new Public Safety Complex, and a downtown district chiller plant that will include thermal energy storage technologies.

2. **Specifics of Economic and/or Business Impact (on Customer and/or Duke Energy)**

   The county has committed to not just making behavioral energy changes within county facilities, they have made extensive capital improvements. As projects were being developed and completed the county real estate team coordinated with DEF energy advisors to apply for energy efficiency rebates. As of September 2014 the economic benefits of these rebates totaled over $170,000. On October 7th 2014 DEF attended a Pinellas County Commissioners Meeting and presented a ceremonial check for $170,497.80 to recognize the counties stewardship and partnership in energy efficiency.

   Examples of some of the Pinellas County & DEF **Partnerships and Projects** are summarized below:
Energy Partnerships
DEF attends some quarterly and annual planning and communications meetings with various county leaders including the Real Estate Department, Engineering, Permitting, Public Works, Emergency Management and other county facility managers in order to stay in communication with and partner on resolving outstanding or arising issues and opportunities. These meetings have led to great resolutions and partnerships.

DEF was invited to attend a Staff Meeting with County Electrical Inspectors to present and discuss a summary of the DEF Residential Efficiency Programs that inspectors receive questions on from homeowners.

Emergency Operation Center (EOC) Partnership:
- EOC Director Sally Bishop participated as a speaker at Duke Energy's Storm Seminar for business customers.
- Frequent County and DEF planning discussions to coordinate storm planning and processes.
- Pre-Storm Season Annual Meetings with Executive Management.

Pinellas County Cogeneration Plant Partnership:
- Partnered in teaching a green energy leadership module at a Chamber of Commerce event that DEF was involved in presenting.
- Provided Tour of Cogeneration Plant to Duke Energy employees.

Energy Efficiency
Interest in Energy Efficiency and Monitoring:
- The County Real Estate Department has had an ongoing and increased interest in monitoring energy efficiency and billing trends.
- Enrolled Real Estate and Billing Department administration team members in the DEF Energy Resource Center (ERC)
- Completed onsite ERC training for employees in Real Estate, Billing, and Facilities.

YTD 2014 energy efficiency rebates participated in and received total $170,497.80 including:

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<tr>
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<td>Total Rebate Amount</td>
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Energy Projects

Central Energy Plant – over the past several years Pinellas County, Tampa Bay Trane, and DEF have been consulting on plans for the county to construct a Central Energy Plant for district cooling network in downtown Clearwater. This construction started in 2014 and the Central Energy Plant will provide chilled water via a 3000+ ton chiller and Thermal Energy Storage that will make ice during off peak hours, and provide chilled water to downtown county buildings and other commercial facilities. Initial demand expected at around 1MW, and anticipated to increase up to around 3MW as the downtown community demand for chilled water increases. Duke Energy has coordinated with engineering and billing initiatives, finalized feeder upgrades, and completed construction of onsite distribution services that include 2 onsite padmount transformers. DEF anticipating to provide a significant rebate for the Thermal Energy portion of this project that will shift a significant load to off peak hours. Plant is expected to be operational near the end of 2014.

New Public Safety Complex – construction completed in 2014 Q2
- State of the art facility that houses the Sheriff’s Department, 911 Dispatch, Forensics, Emergency Management and EOC.
- Required approximately two years of coordinated DEF and County efforts to plan, engineer, project management, and construction of the energy systems that serve this complex.
- Complexity and expense of this project required a DEF Large Revenue Customer (LRC) project funding approval to reconstruct a new feeder, off load feeders, and install an onsite distribution grid that includes 8 padmount transformers.
- Energy Use is currently at just under 2MW.
- Installed a variety of high efficiency HVAC, controls, lighting, motors, communications, etc.

Keller Water Plant – coordinated efforts on plant remodeling and upgrades to motors and pumps, as well as current planning to replace transformers at dedicated DEF substation.

South Cross Waste Water Treatment Plant – partnered on engineering and scheduling of system upgrades and prearranged outages for customer maintenance, and in providing energy efficiency analysis on proposed high tech water system enhancements.

Criminal Justice Center/Jail – DEF extended electrical feeds to a parking garage that is currently under construction. Coordination of prearranged outages at the maximum security jail for electrical main replacements. Currently planning to begin engineering for future campus remodeling.

St Pete – Clearwater International Airport –
- Working with the airport on energy efficiency audits and recommendations,
- Airport allowed DEF to install monitoring and switching devices onsite for improved switchgear monitoring and control.
- At the request of the airport, DEF will be providing an estimate to add additional lighting in expanded parking areas.
- Coordinated with the FAA Control tower to replace aging transformer in order to enhance reliability to this critical infrastructure.

Star Center & Raytheon Complex
- Partnered as a participating exhibitor at Earth Day Celebrations onsite with employees,
where DEF showcased residential energy efficiency and electric vehicles.

- Recent completion of energy audits for future rebates.
- Providing periodic bids to repair customer owned distribution behind primary metering.

**Community Solar PV Project**

During DEF's initial discussion on future applications for Community Solar PV sites, the county has offered a closed landfill site as a viable prospect for this solar application. More to follow as energy regulations unfold on solar opportunities.