Countdown to energy independence

Our march toward energy independence continues this month with the demolition of our Port Everglades Power Plant in South Florida. We’re demolishing our 1960s-era power plant and replacing it with a more fuel-efficient clean energy center that will run on more affordable “Made in America” natural gas. The new center will be 90 percent cleaner and 35 percent more efficient – something that will help us keep your electric bill the lowest in the state.

This is the third in a series of power plants we’ve torn down since 2010. We’re replacing each with more efficient, state-of-the-art and cleaner energy centers. One in Cape Canaveral began serving customers in April, while another in Riviera Beach will come online next year. All this is helping us slash our dependence on foreign oil – a 98 percent reduction since 2001 – while saving you money by using more affordable U.S. energy sources. Visit www.FPL.com/ChangingTheCurrent to learn more about how we’re changing Florida’s energy today to create a better tomorrow for all of us.
Your safety is important to us

Outdoor work, such as trimming trees and making home repairs, can put you at risk of deadly contact with power lines. Following these safety rules will help to keep you safe:

» Stay more than 10 feet away from neighborhood power lines and at least 35 feet from large, high-voltage lines.
» Hire trained professionals to trim trees near power lines.
» Call 811 to locate underground lines at least two full business days before you dig.

We have more helpful tips for you online, just visit www.FPL.com/safetyvideo.

Learn about electric and magnetic fields

The use of electricity in our everyday lives creates electric and magnetic fields, or EMF. Common sources of EMF are wiring in our homes and schools; devices such as microwaves, computers, cell phones and Wi-Fi equipment; and power lines and utility facilities that bring electricity to us.

Some of the most prestigious scientific organizations, such as the National Academy of Sciences and the World Health Organization, have evaluated studies on EMF effects. None has found that exposure causes or contributes to cancer or any other disease or illness. Their reviews generally conclude that while some epidemiology studies report an association with childhood leukemia, which warrants further research, the scientific studies overall have not demonstrated that EMF causes or contributes to any type of cancer or other disease.

We are committed to providing safe and reliable electric service for our customers, and our facilities comply with EMF standards established by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Visit www.FPL.com/EMF or call 1-800-342-5375 for more information.

Learn how we get life back to normal after a storm

If a severe storm or hurricane knocks out power, we have a plan to get it back on quickly. Learn how we work to get life back to normal in our special storm Tweet Tip video series available at www.FPL.com/TweetTip or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone.

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You can help us fight crime

We investigated more than 20,000 cases of meter tampering last year. Not only is stealing power a crime, meter tampering can cause serious safety issues. You can help us stop electricity theft anonymously by calling 1-800-528-6621.

Streetlight out? Tell us about it

We’re always working to keep the lights on – streetlights included. If you notice a streetlight problem, please report it at www.FPL.com/streetlight or by calling 800-4-OUTAGE (800-468-8243).

Please have the following information ready:

» The location of the streetlight or the 11-digit number on the pole
» A description of the problem
» Your contact information (name, address, email address or phone number)

Not all streetlights are maintained by FPL. We’ll let you know if your local municipality or homeowners association is responsible for the light. Also, during sea turtle nesting and hatching season, we intentionally turn off some streetlights to avoid disorienting turtles near the beach.

Ask the Energy Expert

To submit a question on any energy-related topic or to comment on this one, please visit www.FPL.com/asktheexpert.

Q How do I find out how to save money and energy using my smart meter?

– Nancy M., Port Charlotte

A We have a great tool for you! Upgrading to smart meters has made it possible for us to create an Energy Dashboard for our customers. With your personalized dashboard, you can check your energy usage right down to the hour and then use that information to discover new ways to save energy and money. For example, when the weather heats up, check frequently to see the effect of high temperatures on your energy usage. You can make simple changes to avoid unpleasant surprises when the monthly bill arrives!

Your dashboard is simple to use. Just go to www.FPL.com and log into your account using the “Account Log In” box on the top left of your screen. Once logged in, click on “Billing & Usage History” to view your dashboard. You may also access the information by calling the number on your FPL bill. Visit www.FPL.com/asktheexpert to learn more.
Tips for keeping energy costs low this summer

As the days get longer and hotter, your air conditioner runs longer to keep you comfortable. That’s why we want to make sure you know these simple ways to control the cost of cooling your home:

» Keep your thermostat at 78 degrees or warmer with the fan on “auto” and raise the thermostat setting to 82 degrees while you’re away.
» Use a fan to cool the room you’re in, but turn it off when you leave.
» Close shades, blinds and drapes to keep the sun’s heat out.

We have more helpful tips for you online at www.FPL.com/summertips. You can also visit www.FPL.com/ohes to get personalized savings tips by taking our home energy survey.

Managing your summer energy bills is a breeze

With summer in full swing, FPL Budget Billing® gives you more predictable electric bills by leveling out your energy costs over the year. You pay about the same amount each month, making it a breeze to manage your expenses.

Visit www.FPL.com/budgetbill to enroll in this free bill management program today.

Did you know?

We offer you a full day’s energy for about the price of your favorite coffee. Visit www.FPL.com/ChangingTheCurrent to see how we’re working to keep your bill the lowest in the state.