



# **Integrated Resource Plan Stakeholder Engagement Meeting Series**



# IRP Stakeholder Meeting Agenda

Stakeholder Engagement and Participation

Cantrece Jones, Acuity Design Group Team

GRU Electric System Overview

Chuck Heidt, Project Engineer and IRP Technical Lead, GRU

What is an IRP

Brad Kushner, Acuity Design Group Team

GRU's Mission and the IRP

Eric Walters, Interim Chief Sustainability Officer, GRU

Open Discussion & Next Steps

Cantrece Jones, Acuity Design Group Team

Integrated Resource Plan

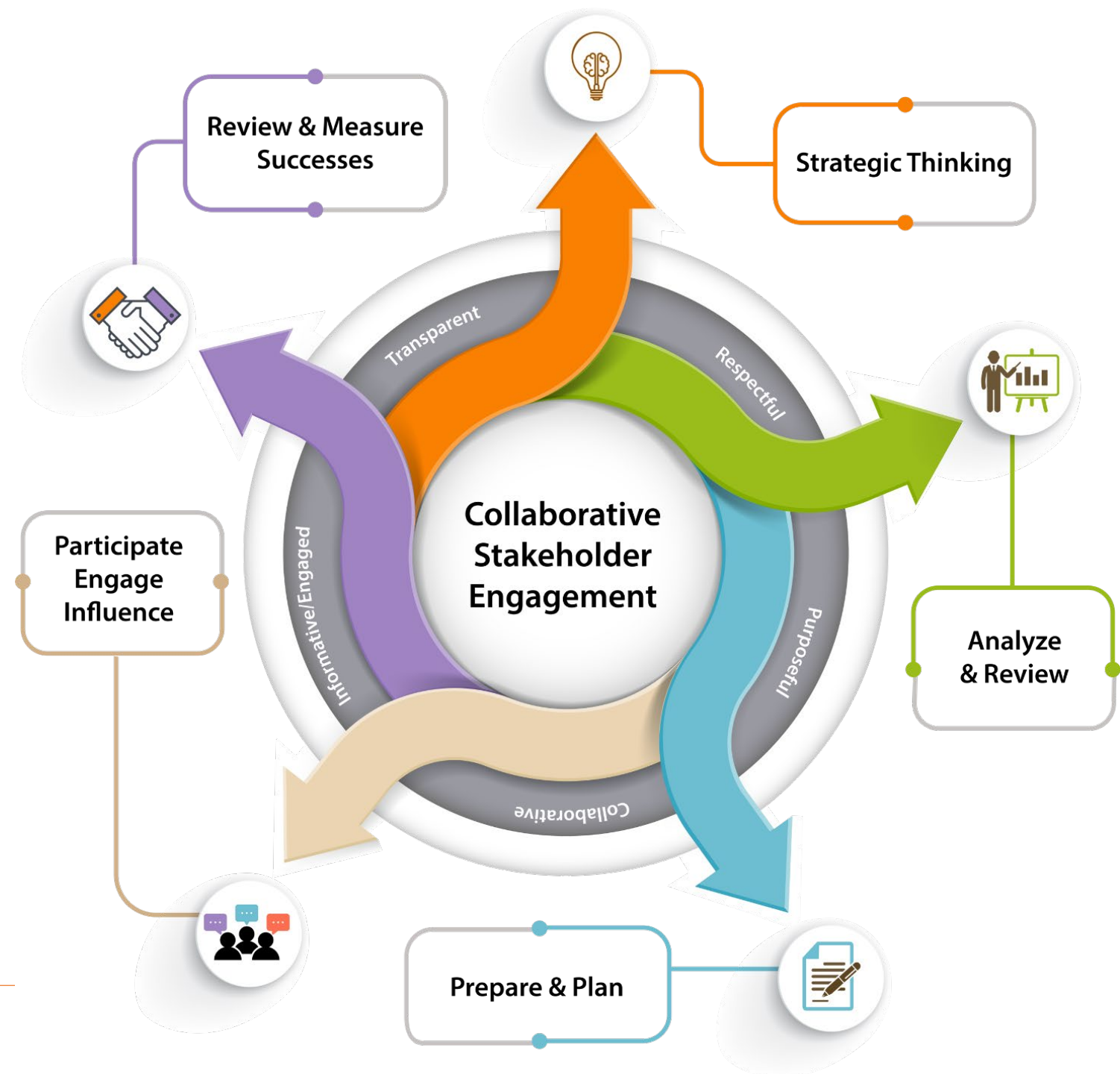
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# Stakeholder Engagement and Participation

**Open and Inclusive  
Participation  
with Every Stakeholder**

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# Stakeholder Participants

## **Alachua County School Board**

**Theresa Spurling-Wood**

## **Alachua County Sustainability Manager**

**Betsy Riley**

## **Audubon**

**Helen Warren**

## **Builders Association of North Central Florida**

**Sara Emmanuel**

## **Central Florida Community Action Agency**

**Caroline W. Ruff-Looney**

## **Citizen Climate Advisory Board Member**

**John Nix**

## **COG Chief Climate Officer**

**Dr. Dan Zhu**

## **Community Weatherization Coalition**

**Alane Humrich**

## **Housing and Community**

**Development Director**

**Corey Harris**

## **League of Women Voters**

**Janice Garry**

**Roberta Gastmyer**

## **Ministerial Alliance**

**Elder Karl Anderson**

## **NAACP Environmental Justice**

**Nkwanda Jah**

## **Rotary Club**

**Casey Fitz**

## **Santa Fe College**

**Gary Cothren**

## **SciVance**

**Jason Roe**

## **Sierra Club**

**David Hastings**

## **SWAG**

**Dorothy Benson**

## **TriMark**

**John Fleming**

## **UAB & Solar Impact**

**Barry Jacobson**

## **United Way**

**Amber Miller**

## **University of Florida**

**Chris Whitehurst**

## **University of Florida - Director of**

**Energy Studies Public Utility Research**

**Center**

**Ted Kury**

## **University of Florida - Health**

**Bobby Baird**

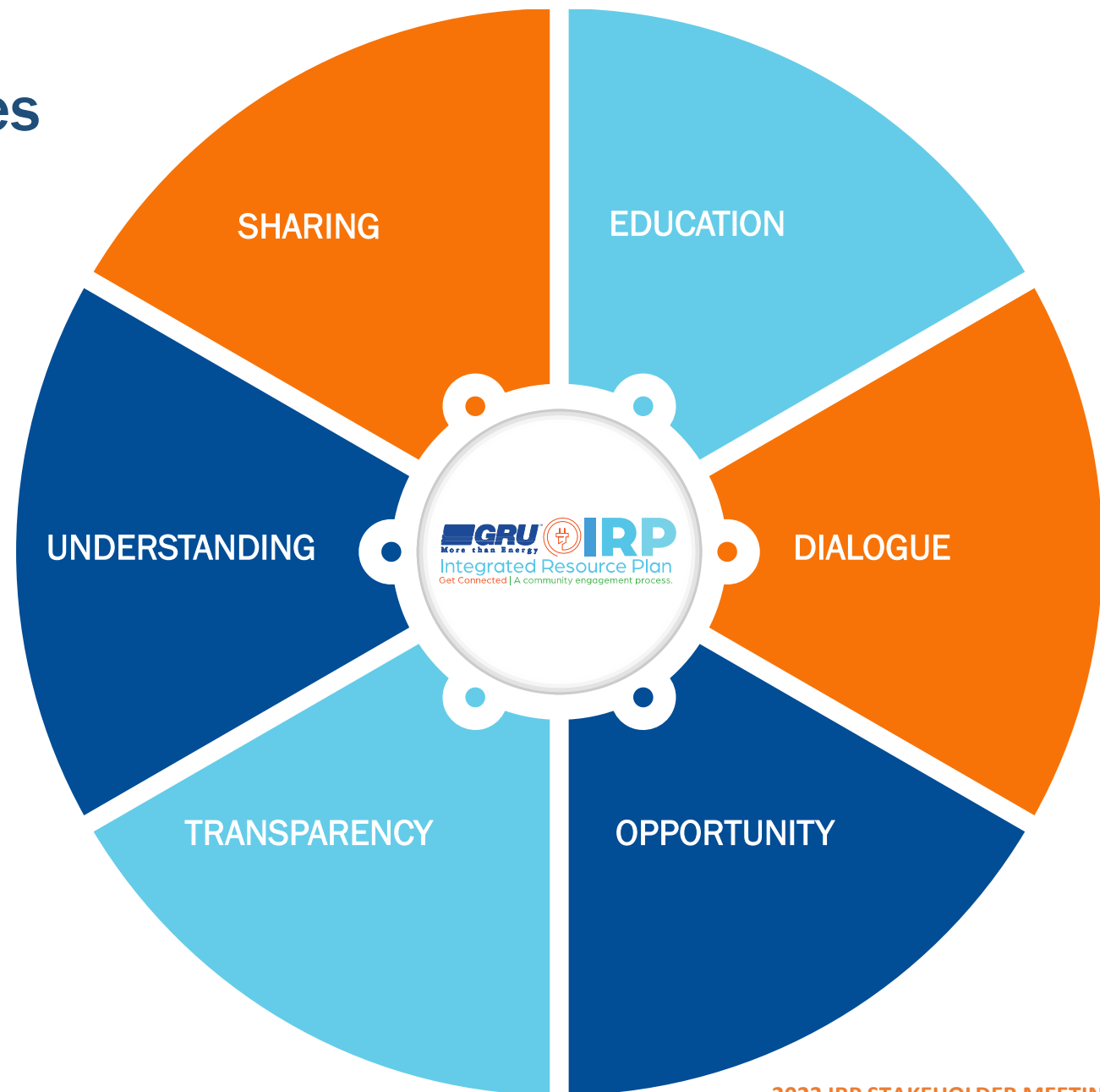
# Participation Guidelines

**You and your organization  
represent the diverse  
community we serve.**

**We appreciate the value  
your time and effort will  
bring to the future of GRU  
and our region.**

**What is  
Important  
to YOU?**

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# GRU Electric System Overview



**Chuck Heidt**

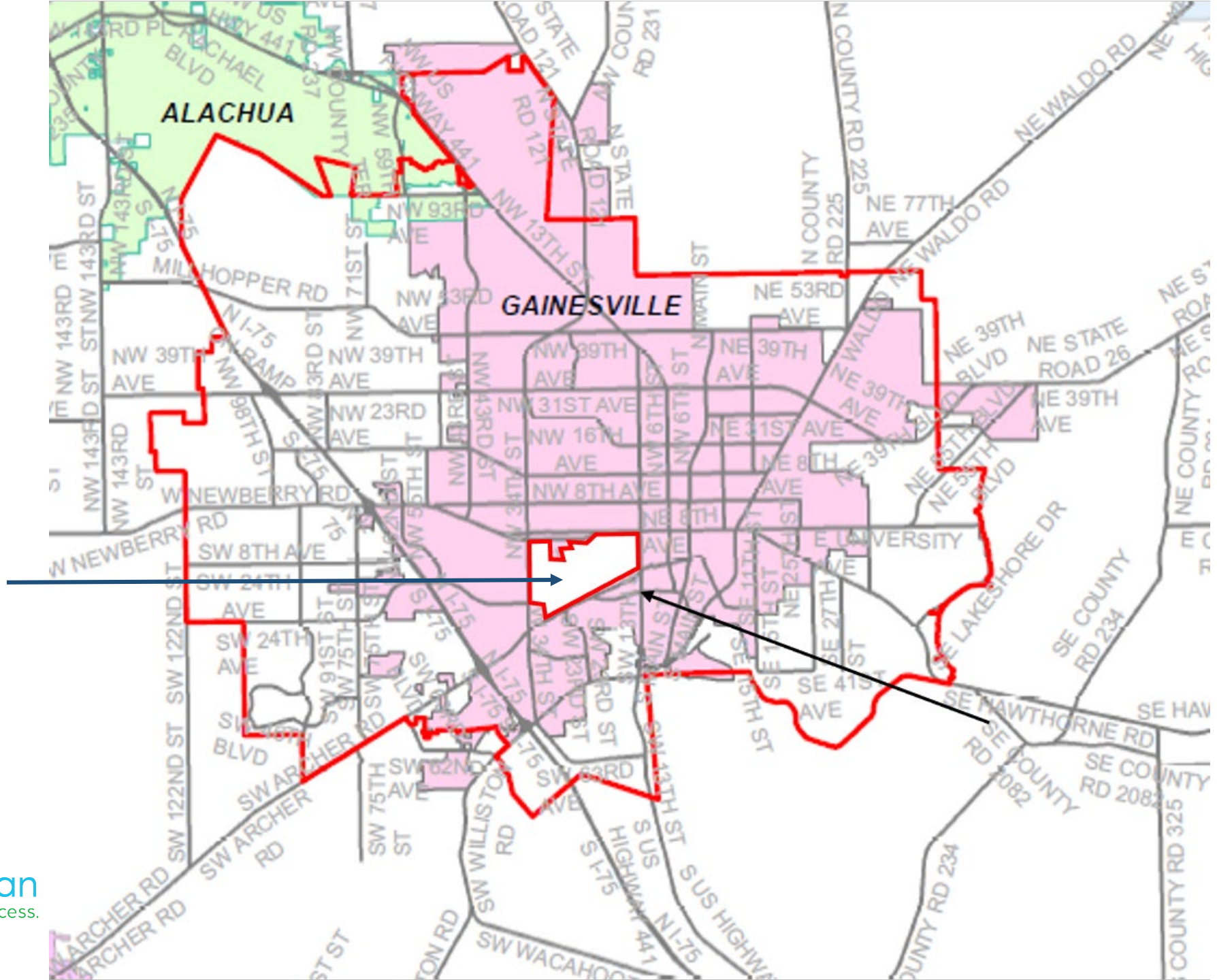
**Project Engineer and IRP Technical Lead, GRU**



## GRU's Service Territory

**UF Main Campus  
(not served by GRU)**

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# How GRU's Electrical System Works

## Transmission

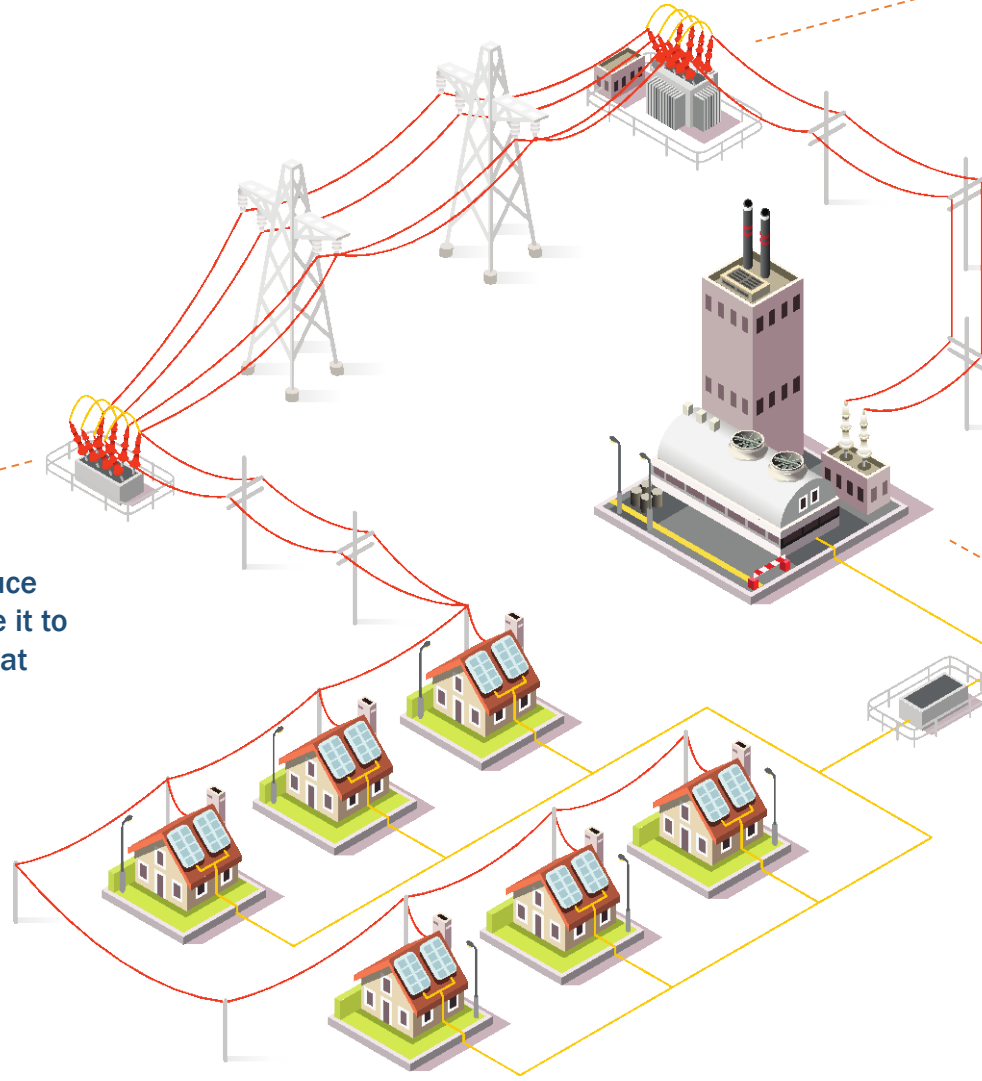
Electric current then moves to an interconnected group of power lines and other equipment. These lines move electricity from its source, often transmitting high voltage electric current across great distances.

## Distribution

Devices called transformers then reduce the voltage of the electricity and move it to another set of lines and equipment that connect directly to the homes and businesses in our community.

## Generation

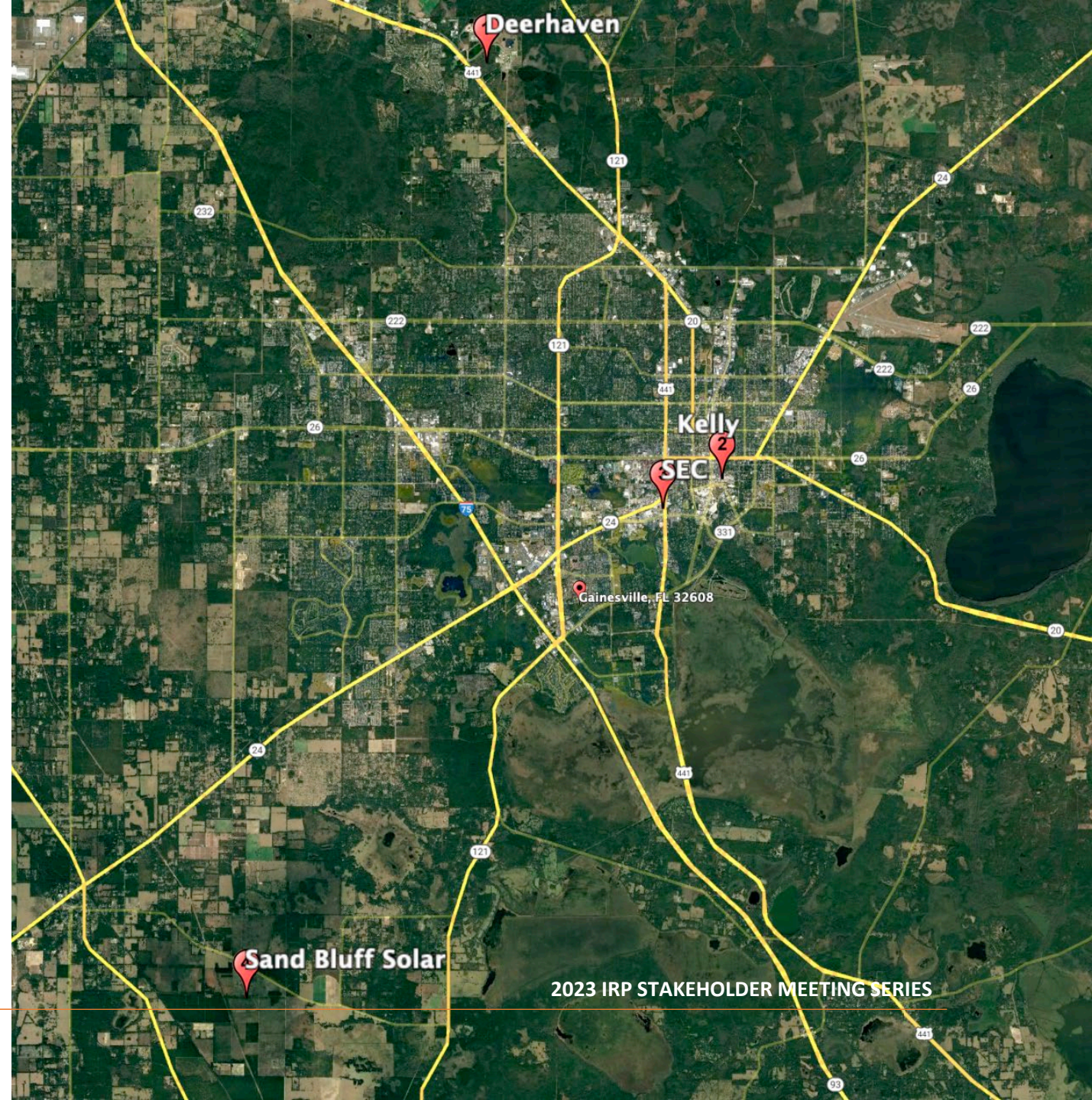
Electricity is generated when certain forces interact with energy resources—sunlight, wind, water, natural gas, coal, oil, nuclear. Various processes convert the potential energy from these resources to electric current, which is the movement of charged particles.





# Electric Generation Assets

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# Electric Transmission & Distribution Assets

## TRANSMISSION

**GRU's bulk electric power transmission network (System)**

- **The System is planned, operated, and maintained to be in compliance with all FERC, NERC, and FRCC requirements to assure the integrity and reliability of Florida's Bulk Electric System (BES).**

**The System consists of a 230 kV radial and a 138 kV loop connecting the following:**

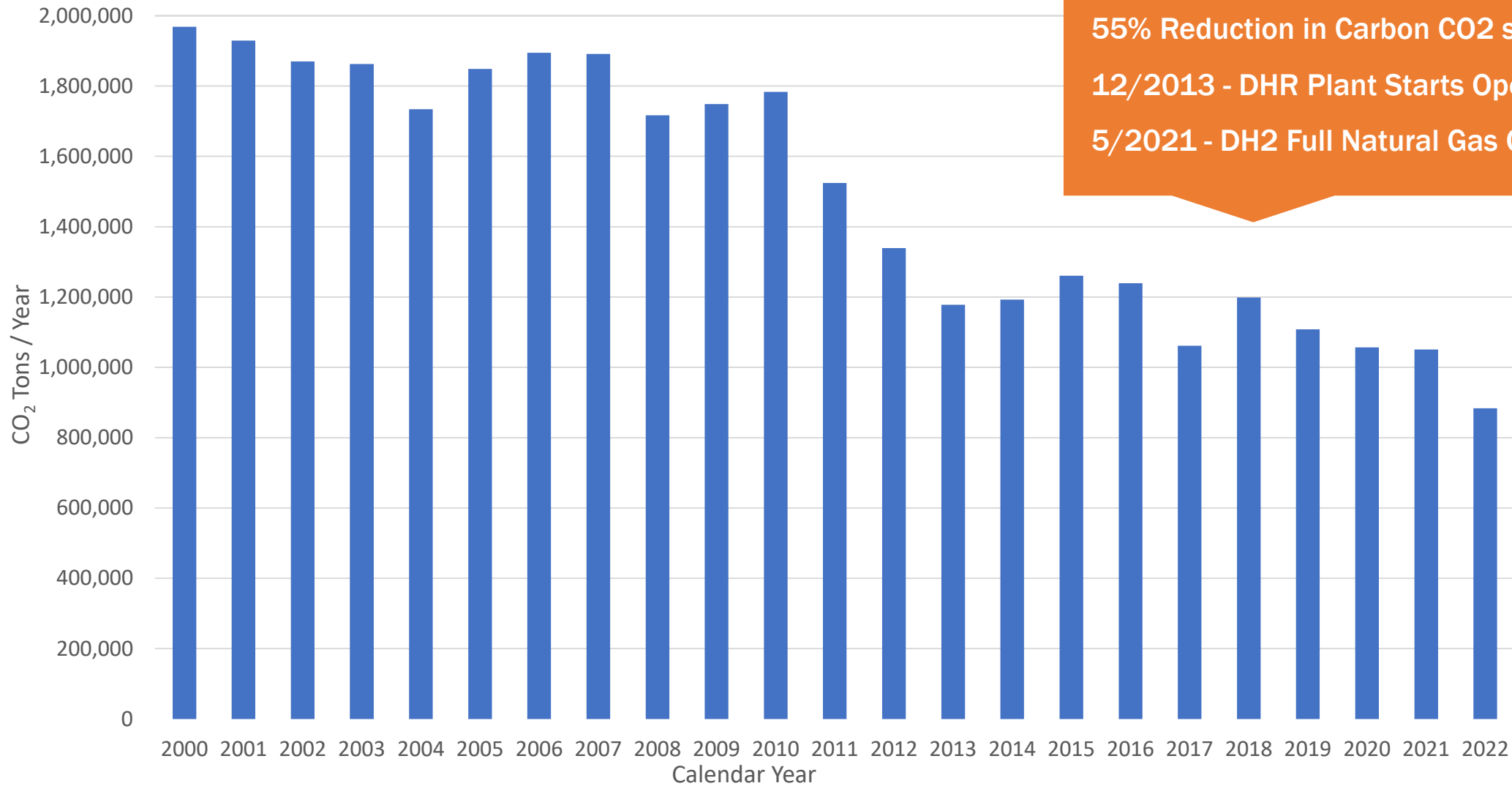
- **GRU's three primary generating stations**
- **GRU's eleven distribution substations**
- **One 230 kV and one 69 kV intertie with Duke Energy Florida (DEF)**
- **A 138 kV intertie with Florida Power and Light Company (FPL)**
- **An interconnection with Clay at Farnsworth Substation**
- **An interconnection with the City of Alachua at Alachua No. 1 Substation**

## DISTRIBUTION

**72 distribution circuits feeding 1,458 miles of 12KV distribution circuits with 62.1% underground.**



# GRU Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) Emissions



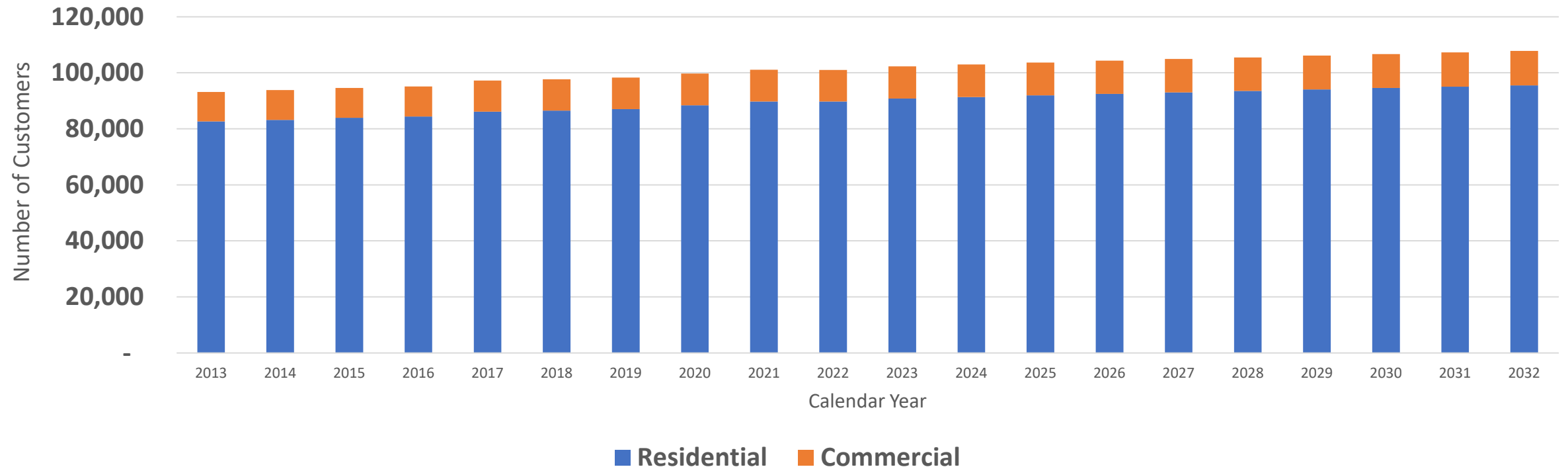
55% Reduction in Carbon CO<sub>2</sub> since 2000

12/2013 - DHR Plant Starts Operation

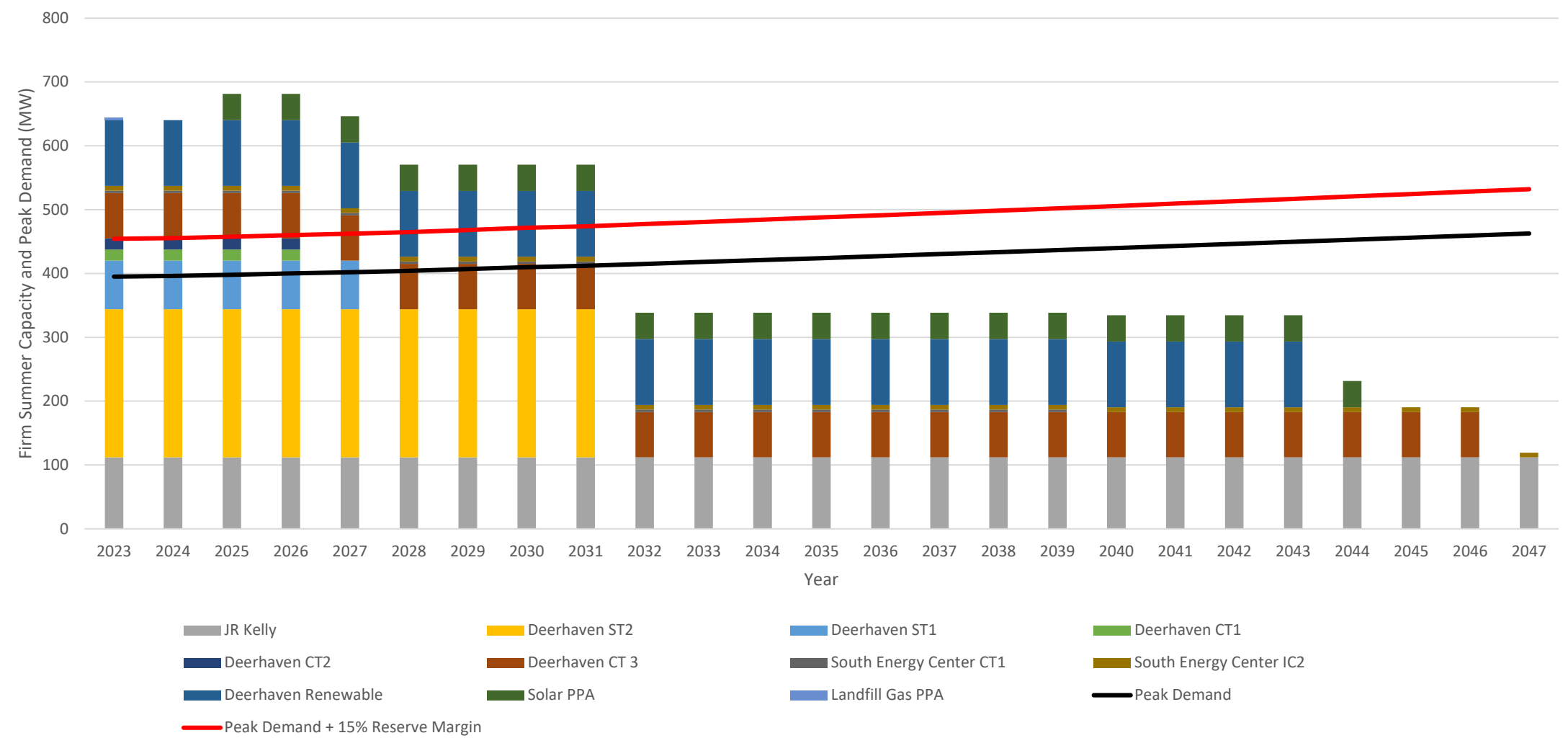
5/2021 - DH2 Full Natural Gas Capability



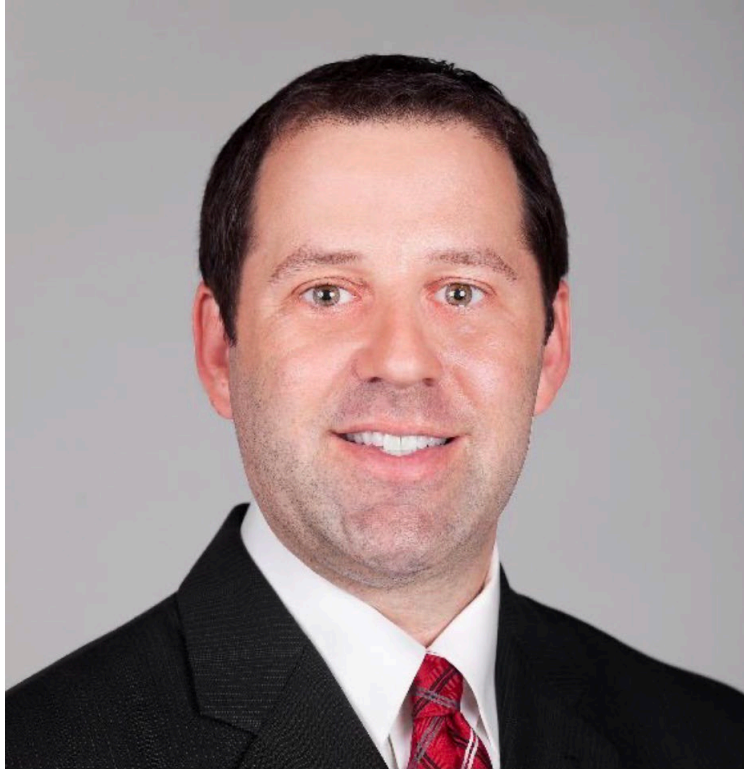
# Customer Growth



# Summer Peak Demand and Firm Capacity Resources



# What is an IRP



**Brad Kushner**  
**Acuity Design Group**





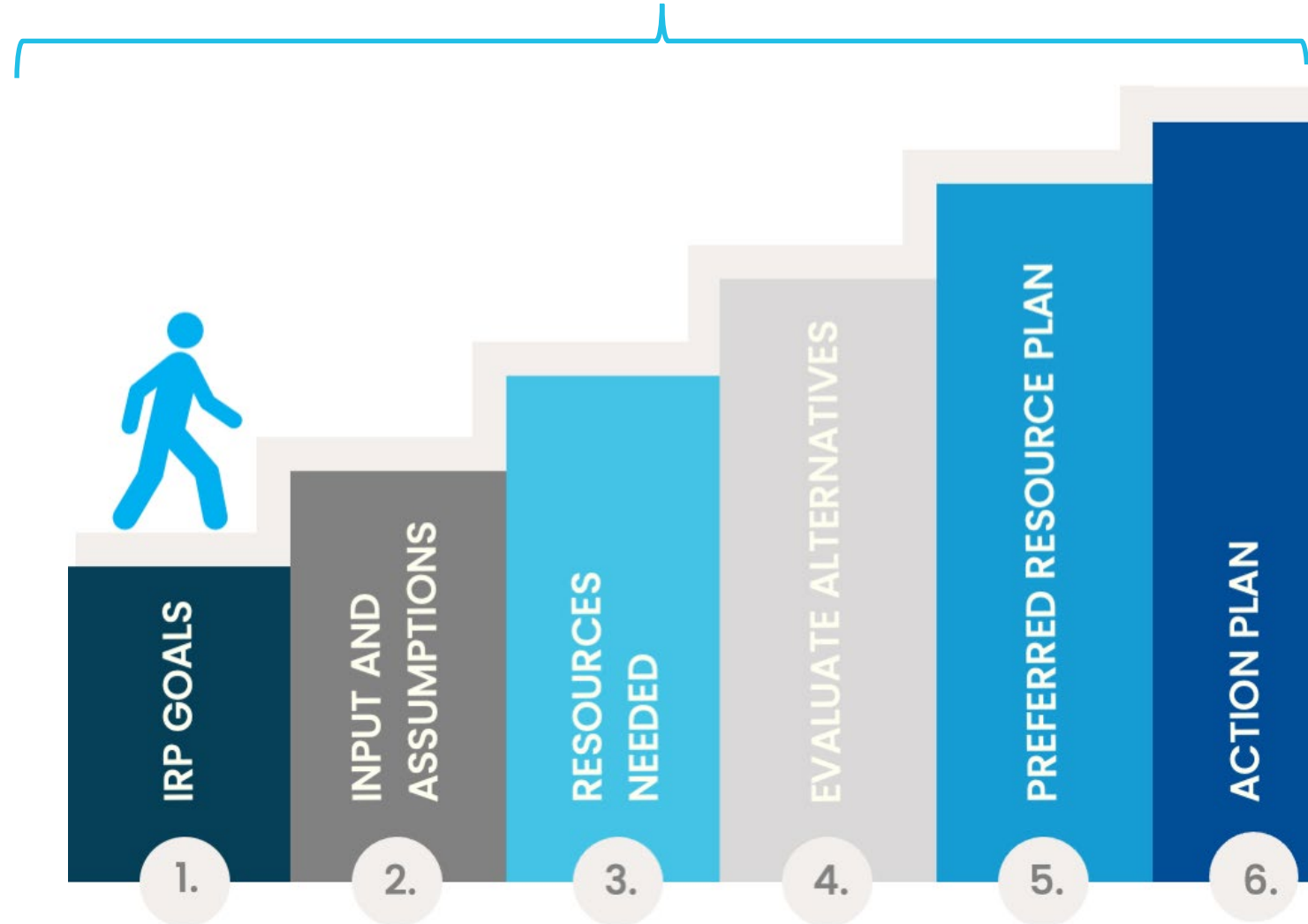
# What is an Integrated Resource Plan?

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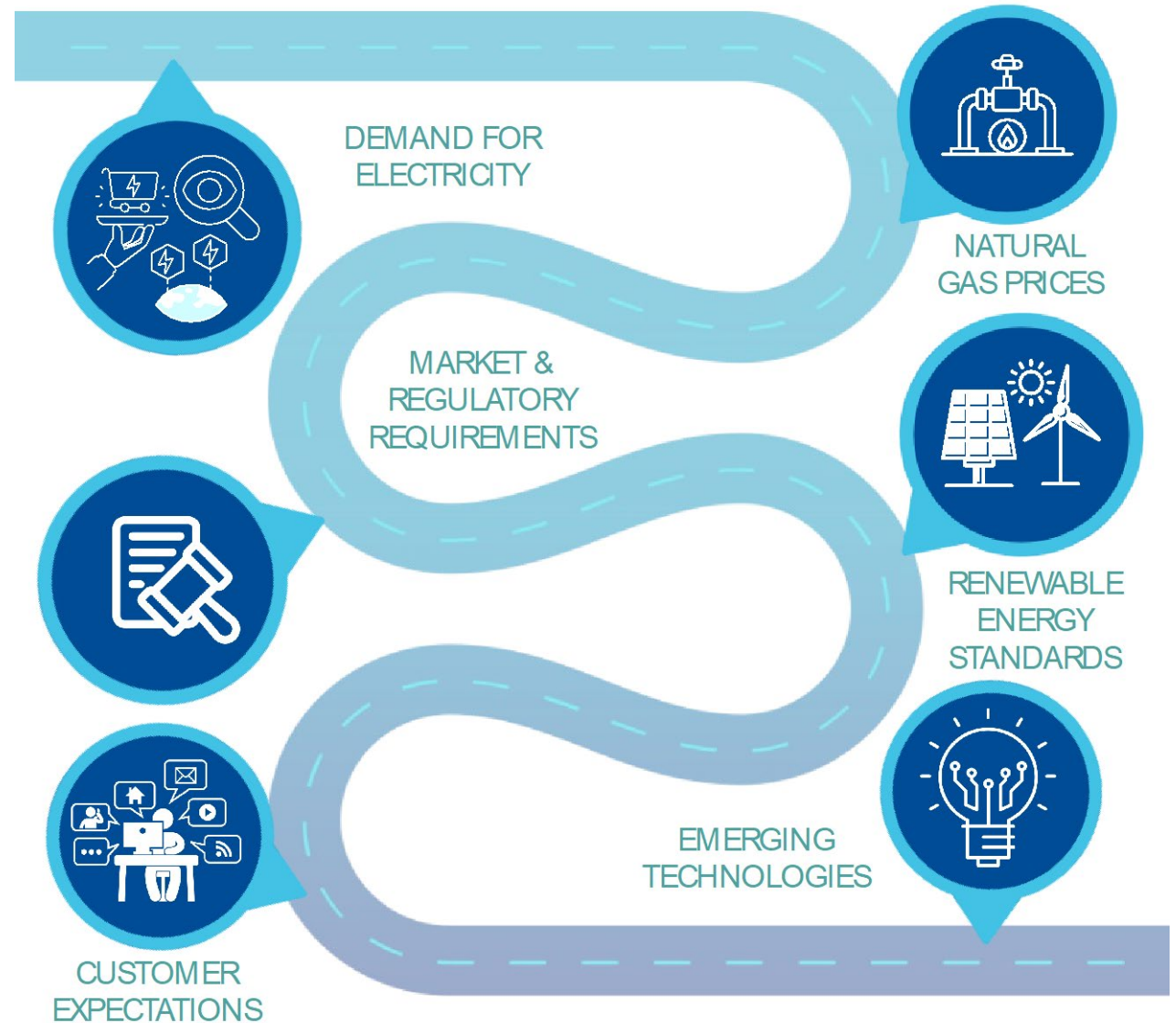
- Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) is standard practice within the electric utility industry
- Specific to GRU, the IRP will provide a roadmap to meet the future power requirements of the Gainesville community
- IRP is used as a resource for strategic planning to inform GRU's decisions related to:
  - Economics
  - Reliability
  - Environmentally Responsible

# The IRP Process

Stakeholder Engagement throughout the IRP Process



# The IRP Process

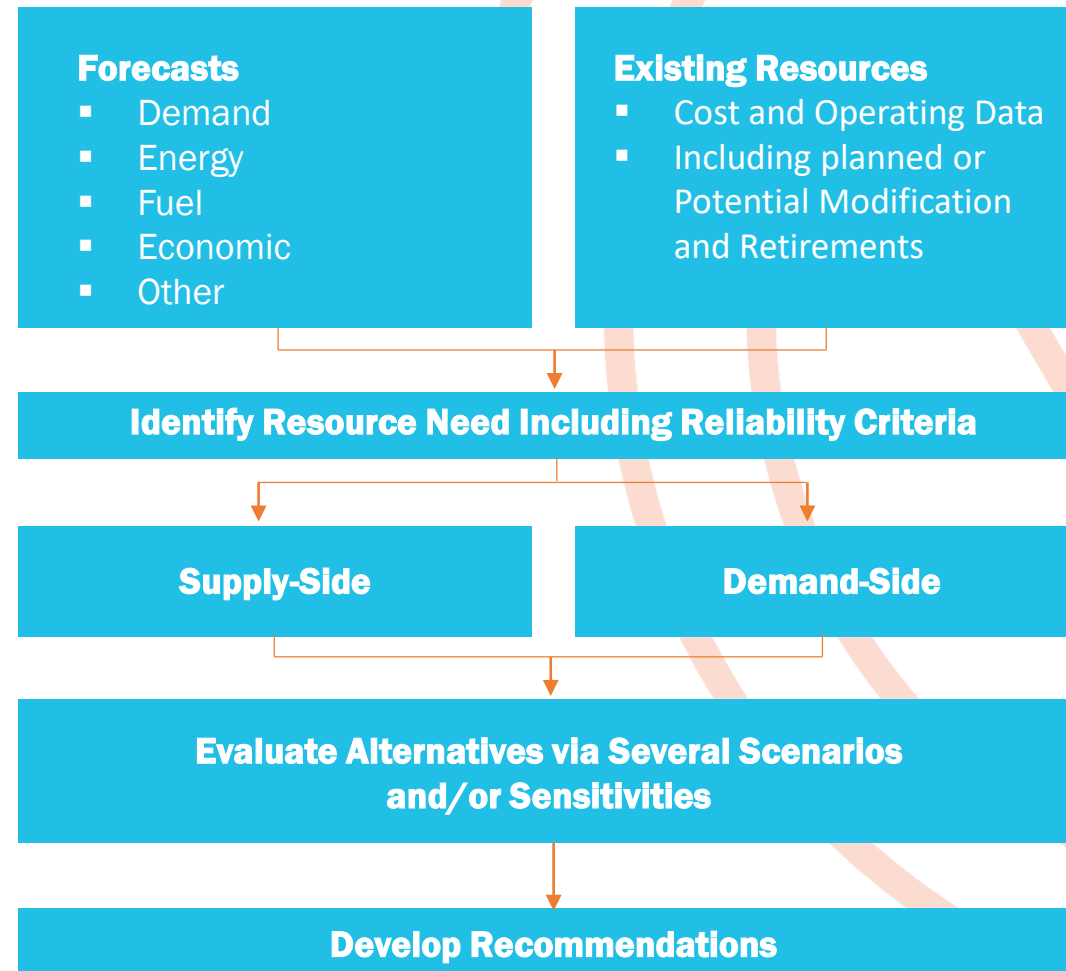




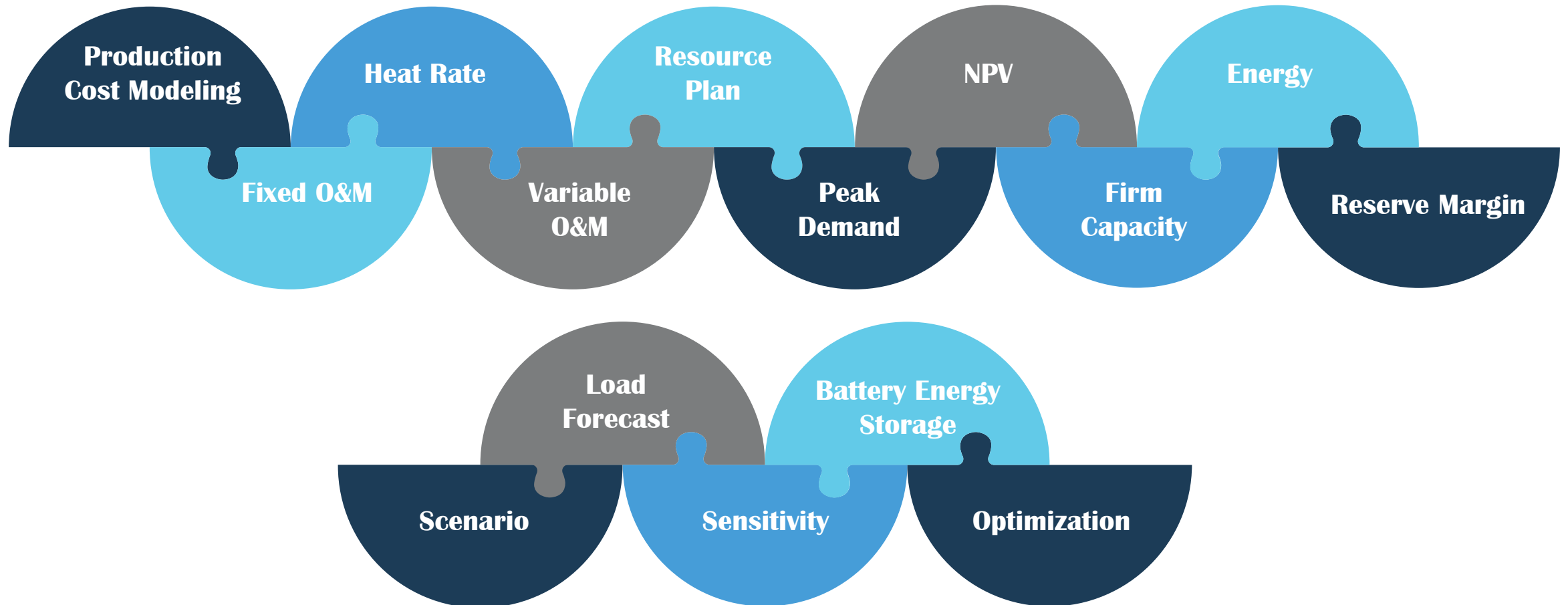
# IRP Considerations

- Existing generating resources
- Demand and energy forecasts
  - Customer growth
  - Electrification
  - Electric vehicles
  - Customer-sited renewables
  - Demand-side management/energy efficiency/conservation
- Natural gas, coal, and biomass fuel price projections
- New generating resources
  - Renewables
  - Conventional
- Emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)

# IRP Approach and Methodology



# Integrated Resource Plan Terms



# GRU's Mission



**Eric Walters**  
Interim Chief Sustainability Officer

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# GRU's Mission

## ■ About GRU:

- Multi-service utility owned by the City of Gainesville
- 5th largest municipal electric utility in Florida
- We serve approximately 100,000 electric customers in Gainesville and surrounding areas, offering:
  - Electric
  - Natural gas
  - Water
  - Wastewater
  - Telecommunications services

## Mission:

To provide safe, reliable, competitively priced utility services in an environmentally responsible manner to enhance the quality of life in our community

# GRU's Sustainability

## What is Sustainability?

- The ability to maintain or support a process continuously over time:
  - Meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs
  - In one word: Stewardship
- Three pillars of Sustainability:
  - People
  - Economic
  - Environmental



# GRU's Sustainability

## Balancing Act

- People
  - Customers
  - Employees
  - Community
- Economic
  - Fiscal Responsibility
  - Find Efficiencies
  - Recognize the long-range path to financial responsibility
- Environmental
  - Protection
    - GRU has a culture of “more than meeting” regulations
  - Intentional Planning



# GRU's Net Zero Goals

- **October 18, 2018: Commission adopted Net Zero 2045 resolution**
- **GRU current renewable generation (~139 MW total):**
  - ~18.5 MW of solar feed-in tariff
  - ~14 MW of net-metered solar
  - 103 MW biomass
  - 3.8 MW landfill gas
  - Highest percentage of renewable energy in the state
- **Renewable utility-scale options available in Florida: solar and biomass**
- **Solar must play a significant role in reaching 2045 resolution**





# Why is GRU doing an IRP now?

- An IRP is a strategic look at future generation needs and how to meet them
- Performed periodically
- Last IRP was completed in 2019
  - 15 unique scenarios were modeled
  - Common recommendations were completed
  - No long-term path was selected
- Significant changes in pricing and available technology
- Energy landscape has shifted dramatically
- The IRP will inform GRU's decision related to resource planning





# What Does the IRP Mean for the Community?

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- We are glad that you are here
- Touch point for community
- Input to how the community meets its energy needs
- Economic and environmental input

# Open Discussion and Next Steps



**Cantrece Jones**  
**Acuity Design Group**



# Open Discussion and Next Steps

- **IRP Stakeholder Engagement Meetings**
  - **Meeting 2 – IRP Variables 6/6/23**
  - **Meeting 3 – Potential IRP Sensitivities and Scenarios 7/26/23**
  - **Meeting 4 – Preliminary Modeling Results 10/19/23**
  - **Meeting 5 – Refined Modeling Results and GRU's Path Forward 1/10/24**
- **We value your feedback**