

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 10, 2023

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Clewiston Utilities Receives FMEA Restoring Communities Award

Clewiston, Fla. – Clewiston Utilities was one of 25 Florida public power utilities recently recognized by the Florida Municipal Electric Association (FMEA) with a Restoring Communities Award. The award recognizes public power utilities that have either provided or received mutual aid following significant weather events to fellow public power communities in need, or provided exemplary service to their own community following significant emergency events.

Florida public power utilities were honored for their efforts to restore power quickly and safely when called on. This not only included providing mutual aid assistance following Hurricanes Ian and Nicole, but for other weather and non-weather-related emergencies and outages both in and out of state. Last September, two crews dispatched from out of state assisted Clewiston with our restoration efforts post Hurricane Ian. We have also provided mutual aid, most recently to City of Tallahassee Electric & Gas Utility in the aftermath of Hurricane Michael. We were grateful that this aid was available to help quickly restore power to our customers affected by the storm.

“Whether the need stems from a huge event – such as the volume of mutual aid coordinated for one of Florida’s most destructive hurricanes ever – to a smaller event that requires an extra truck or an extra set of hands, Florida public power utilities are always there for their fellow public power communities,” said Amy Zubaly, FMEA Executive Director. “While our investments in grid hardening are paying off in big ways with fewer outages and faster restoration times, knowing there will be someone to lean on when needed is one of the best parts of this nationwide system of mutual aid support. Congratulations to all the Florida public power utilities recognized for being part of that system.”

“We are proud to answer the call to serve our fellow public power companies when needed and are extremely grateful to those who have come to our aid in the past. Being part of this national network of support is one of the unique benefits of public power. It is all about community – our community here locally and the other communities across the country who are all part of the public power system,” said Danny Williams, Operations Director.

Mutual aid agreements enable electric utilities to call on each other for skilled emergency workers and supplies. Public power utilities across the country benefit from the strong network of mutual assistance partners through the American Public Power Association. These connections have created a reliable system where member utilities both request and offer assistance when there’s a need. FMEA is proud to serve as the mutual aid coordinator for Florida’s 33 public power utilities.

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