







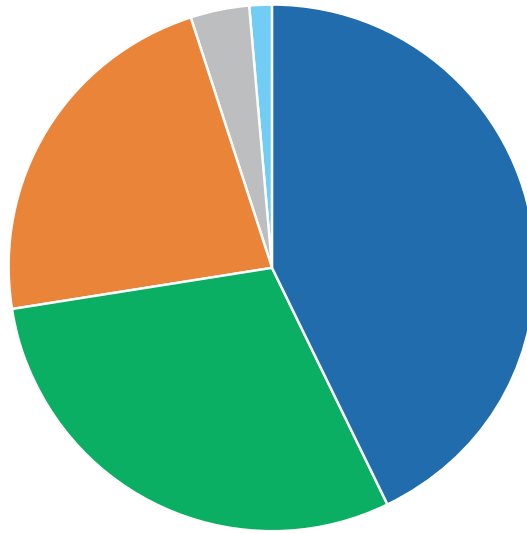


Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) is a municipal utility for the city of Gainesville and serves approximately 93,000 retail and wholesale customers. GRU received a grade of C-. Over the next ten years, despite a city-wide clean energy commitment, it plans to increase its reliance on gas, invest in more coal, eliminate renewables like landfill gas, and decrease its use of biomass. The company appears to have too much generation with very high reserve margins. On the positive side, GRU increases investments in solar, and is considering developing an electric vehicle off peak rate or incentive in the future.

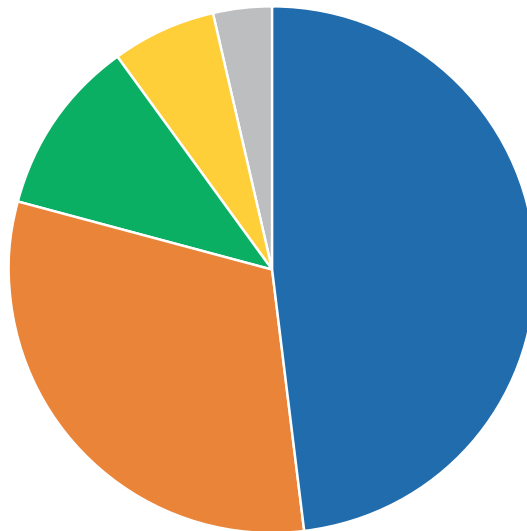
- 
**Renewable Energy and GHG Reductions:** Despite having a city-wide 100% clean energy goal by 2045, GRU has no solar farms on its system until 2023, and then only to meet 6.5 percent of its energy needs, with no additional solar investments through 2029. Overall, GRU’s renewable energy will drop from 30.9% to 17% over the next decade (largely due to reductions in biomass from nearly 30% in 2019 to less than 8% in 2029, despite predictions that biomass fuel will lower in price). GRU assumes that there will be no costs associated with its carbon emissions over the next decade — which is out of sync with the large Florida utilities.
  
- 
**Gas Over-dependence:** GRU’s reliance on gas stays under 50% over the decade. But GRU notes that it is evaluating the possibility of adding gas generation to the Deerhaven site in 2021 by fuel switching from coal to gas. It’s unclear whether GRU is considering more cost effective alternatives such as efficiency and solar paired with battery storage.
  
- 
**Uneconomic Coal:** Despite conceding that coal carries significant price risks for consumers related to both fuel and transportation, GRU is increasing coal from 22.5% in 2019 to 31.2% in 2029.
  
- 
**Consumer Protection and Affordability:** GRU stopped shut-offs and waived late fees from March 17-July 17th. GRU lowered its customers’ bill by 17% over a six month period through September 2020. GRU will also auto-enroll customers in its “Coronavirus Payment Plan,” which spreads any accumulated debts over six months.
  
- 
**Market Competition:** GRU has no PPAs for fossil energy sources. In 2017, it purchased the biomass plant from the company with which it held a 30 year PPA, and curiously plans to reduce its energy output from 594GWh in 2019 to 159 GWh in 2020, despite expectations of lower fuel costs. GRU also plans to purchase solar from a 50 MW solar system with 12MW battery via a 20 year PPA starting in 2023.
  
- 
**Customer Choice:** GRU offers rooftop solar net metering with a cash credit at the end of the year for any excess generation. It also continues to purchase over 18 MW of customer-owned solar from a legacy 2009 feed in tariff. But GRU does not offer a community solar program for customers who can’t use rooftop solar.
  
- 
**Investment in Resilient Storage:** GRU’s plan doesn’t give much consideration to how storage fits into its system, and GRU has no storage on the grid currently. However, GRU is planning to enter into a PPA in 2023 from a 50 MW solar system with 12MW battery — using storage for ramp rate control.
  
- 
**Electric Vehicle Promotion:** GRU includes forecasts of PEV adoption in its load forecasts, but does not offer any programs or tariffs for EVs. GRU is considering developing an EV off peak rate or incentive in the future.

Gainesville Regional Utilities plans to use less renewable energy in 2029 than it does today: dropping from 31% to 17%.

**GRU Energy Mix, 2019 (Actual)**



**GRU Energy Mix, 2029 (Planned)**



■ Gas ■ Coal ■ Biomass ■ Purchases ■ Solar ■ Landfill Gas ■ Fuel Oil ■ Residual