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## FLORIDA ENERGY RESILIENCY REPORT

The Report was prepared by Florida's eleven Regional Planning Councils.

Fort Myers, Florida, July 14, 2014 – The Florida Energy Resiliency Report was prepared by Florida's eleven Regional Planning Councils (RPCs) in their capacity as Economic Development Districts (EDDs). The effort was a result of the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill that led to the discharge of an estimated 206 million gallons of oil into the Gulf of Mexico. The scope of the Energy Resiliency Report allowed the RPCs to thoroughly analyze Florida's robust energy needs and concerns. Over 3000 survey results and nine statewide workshops were held to create discussion and future scenarios. Twenty-one Case Studies were analyzed to identify early adopters and programs for new energy resiliency solutions. These results combined with confabs and discussions between the RPCs developed 27 strategies to help Florida become more energy resilient.

*The statewide Energy Resiliency Study is about creating a more diverse energy supply and the actions that we take in advance or before an energy event to reduce or minimize the impact of an interruption to Florida's energy supply. (Teresa Heitmann)*

Becoming more energy resilient will allow the state to recover from an energy supply disruption or shortage. Shortages and disruptions are most common during disasters. The location and geography of Florida contributes to a significant risk for natural disasters such as hurricanes, heavy rain events, tornadoes, major wild fires and droughts. Solving energy related issues before they happen results in tremendous tax receipt, rate payer, and business continuity savings. The diversification of energy sources through the increased use of domestically available renewable energy is a critical element in enhancing energy resiliency in Florida. Florida needs to be innovative when planning for energy. Diversity in Florida's future energy supply could come from a variety of technologies that would not only create thousands of jobs locally, but would also allow for greater resiliency should current sources of oil, coal, natural gas, and nuclear power become reduced in supply or too expensive to remain viable.

There is no shortage of foreseeable risks that could cause disruptions to the energy sector. Given America's ongoing dependency on foreign sources of crude oil, external events such as instability in the Middle East, South America, and West Africa can cause price volatility.

Potential energy producing scenarios were modeled and analyzed using the leading econometric forecasting model to show the pros and cons of policy decisions before they are made. Additionally, a number of case studies on early "green" adopters were compiled to help convey the costs, savings, and experiences of individual projects.

*To view the report in its entirety visit [www.florida-energy.org](http://www.florida-energy.org).*

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