For those of you that plan to have office meetings next week please do not leave any documents behind relating to legislation or other legislative priorities. Leaving other materials at legislative offices such as information about your co-op or invitations to the ACRE cookout is acceptable.

Below is a recommended statement to use if asked about renewable energy and the bills we are actively supporting. If you are asked anything that you are not comfortable discussing, or about something that is not in our report, please tell them that statewide will get back with them on that, and let me or Bill know what the question is and which office, and we will follow up to give them an answer. We highly recommend that you avoid discussing HB 7005, which would eliminate several economic programs including Enterprise Florida. This is a very volatile issue and this fight is well above our pay grade, pitting the Governor against the Speaker.

If you are asked about solar or other renewable energy sources, we recommend the following statement:

**General Statement on Renewables**

*Florida’s not-for-profit electric co-ops support renewable energy sources that are affordable and safely integrated into the grid.*

**Bills Co-ops Support**

Electricity Theft- HB 879 by Rep. Burgess and SB 776 by Sen. Baxley

When not-for-profit electric co-ops cannot recover their losses from the criminals, the honest consumer-owners have to pick up the tab.

* The bill would help electric co-ops recover losses for electricity stolen in association with illegal marijuana grow-houses.
* The bill would establish procedures for the Courts to follow to estimate the amount of electricity that was stolen.

Linear Facilities- HB 1055 by Rep. Ingram and SB 1048 by Sen. Lee

This bill would rectify the ruling by the 3rd District Court of Appeals that unraveled the process followed to site electric power transmission lines and pipelines.

* The bill would exclude work by electric utilities on rights-of-way from the definition of “development”.
* The bill would restore the process for siting linear facilities that has been successful used for decades.