



**Office of the City Commission**

Duke Energy Officials,

The Lake Alfred City Commission at our regular meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 had a discussion and public input regarding the proposed Polk County Reliability project. The City reviewed the proposed route Duke has provided that generally runs along Lake Alfred road and U.S. 17 along the rail bed before eventually connecting to the substation in Haines City. The City has several concerns regarding the Lake Alfred route including:

- Existence of transmission lines from TECO along the proposed route on Lake Alfred road.
- Proposed development that will occur within the next several years along Lake Alfred Road including:
  - 800+ unit 55 year old retirement community at the corner of Lynchburg and Lake Alfred Road
  - 244 luxury homes in Water Ridge subdivision.
  - High end wedding venue at Adam's Estate with a future residential at the corner of Adams Barn Road and Lake Alfred Road.
- Disruption, devaluation of property, aesthetic impact, and loss of tree canopy to residents in the neighborhood located along the Pierce Street sub route.
  - The impact of this proposed route is even greater when considering that TECO transmission lines are already on Pierce Street.



The City has also identified an area of concern on the Lake Alfred route at U.S. 17 and Dakota near the Mizkan Distillery. The proposed route makes a northern detour around the distillery property and then runs along Oak Street and Tangerine Avenue before realigning with the rail bed further east. There is a significant woodland buffer along Oak Street that entirely blocks the view of the industrial site from the residences in that neighborhood. Not only would these residences have to contend with the devaluation and disruption of the transmission lines (especially if they cross Oak Street), they would be doubly impacted by any loss of the woodland buffer from construction and continued maintenance of the area under and around the transmission lines.



For the above stated reasons, **the City of Lake Alfred does not support the transmission line route option that runs through Lake Alfred and is requesting that Duke Energy remove it from consideration.** The City understands the need for investment in critical infrastructure and the challenge Duke Energy is facing in connecting the Osprey Plant to their substations. Therefore, if the Lake Alfred route is still selected despite our objections we are requesting that every effort be made to mitigate the above stated impacts, including:

- Location of poles in tandem with TECO poles on the same side of the road to mitigate visual impact on Lake Alfred Road.
- Removal of the Pierce sub route option by staying along the rail bed.
- Keep the transmission line aligned with the rail bed at Dakota (as highlighted in blue above)
  - If this is not possible, at the very least, stay interior of the potential line location and preserve the woodland buffer on Oak and minimize the impact on Tangerine Avenue.

**All citizens that have a concern over the proposed project should contact Duke by June 15, 2018 by:**

- **Email:** [PolkReliabilityEnhancements@duke-energy.com](mailto:PolkReliabilityEnhancements@duke-energy.com)
- **Call:** 1-800-774-2852
- **Online:** Google "Duke transmission line projects" (Polk County Reliability Enhancement Project)