

## STAYING current

### Annual Report Wins APPA Award

MEAG Power's 2019 annual report won an Award of Merit in the APPA's annual Excellence in Public Power Communications Awards. "Awards were given to those that showed ingenuity and creativity in telling their stories through outstanding copy, design, financial data presentation and graphics....," according to the APPA. MEAG Power's annual report was recognized in the Print/Digital category among peers with gross revenues of \$400 million or more.

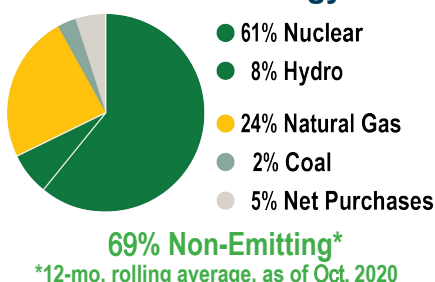
### Vogtle Update

The main control room of Vogtle Unit 4 is now ready to support testing, marking another significant milestone. From the main control room, operators will monitor and control the technology and equipment essential for testing the unit's systems and safely starting the plant. Another milestone was reached in December with the completion of the pre-operational condenser vacuum test of the Vogtle Unit 3 turbine system. The test was conducted with the main turbine on turning gear and by operating supporting systems to establish the condenser vacuum, which is necessary to demonstrate that the steam supply and water-cooling systems operate together and are ready to support hot functional testing and initial fuel load in the reactor.

### Georgia No. 1 in Business Climate

The State of Georgia again earned the No. 1 spot in the 2020 Business Climate Rankings by Site Selection Magazine. Georgia has now earned the coveted title an unprecedented 8 years in a row. Workforce skills were the most important criteria to site selectors for the fifth consecutive year, with workforce development programs, transportation infrastructure, ease of permitting and regulatory procedures, and state and local taxes following in importance.

### MEAG Power Delivered Energy



## Featuring 11 Staff and Guest Presentations

# MEAG POWER HOLDS VIRTUAL MAYORS SUMMIT

On Nov. 18, 2020, MEAG Power held its first Virtual Mayors Summit, a fully online version of its annual event to promote the advocacy of issues important to MEAG Power and the Participant communities.

MEAG Power relies on the Mayors' voices in Washington, D.C., and at the State Capitol to ensure the future success of municipal electric systems in Georgia, and the Mayors Summit offers an annual opportunity for mayors, other Participant community government and utility officials to gather together with MEAG Power staff and industry guests.

In response to the input we received at last year's event, the 2020 MEAG Power Mayors Summit included a number of updates on MEAG Power business initiatives and energy issues in Georgia. Presentations included an overview of this year's Integrated Resource Plan – a roadmap to meet the future capacity and energy needs of our 49 Participant communities – the status of MEAG Power's solar initiative and an update on Plant Wansley. The program also included updates on several other MEAG Power business areas, including legal, finance, transmission engineering and construction, and a preview of MEAG Power's new corporate website.

The program began with a morning session that featured the MEAG Power 101 presentation – an introduction for new public officials and others with limited knowledge of MEAG Power that features a comprehensive overview of our history, structure, operations and activities.

The afternoon's General Session featured a MEAG Power Business Review by Jim Fuller, President & CEO, the MEAG Power business initiative updates by various staff members, and concluded with two guest speakers: Joy Ditto, President & CEO of the American Public Power Association; and a post-election keynote presentation by Ron Brownstein, Senior Editor, The Atlantic, and Senior Political Analyst for CNN, analyzing the possible effects of the election on public power policy. (See an excerpt below.)

The MEAG Power presentations, some of which were pre-recorded to keep the program on schedule, were interspersed with live question-and-answer sessions, which allowed program participants to query the presenters for additional information.

The MEAG Power Board room was transformed into a de facto socially distanced broadcast studio, with an AV crew working together with MEAG Power staff to produce the event. (See photo, above.)

**Adel** Houston-based Renewable Biomass Group will construct a \$95 million wood pellet facility in Adel, initially creating 60 new jobs.

**Albany** Outdoor Network (ODN), a dealer for marine and power sports equipment for Honda, Mercury, Evinrude, OXE Marine Diesel Outboards and other globally recognized companies, will invest nearly \$22 million and add 92 jobs.

**Cartersville** Anheuser-Busch will invest \$85 million to expand an existing building, which will allow the brewery to boost its brewing capacity and operations, adding 12 new jobs.

**College Park** ATL Data Centers, LLC (formerly Virtual Citadel), served by College Park Power, is investing \$2.8 million to expand its high-availability data center by December 2021.

**Covington** Eastside High School, currently under construction, is set to open in December 2021. Its electric load will be served by the City.

**Covington** Global food company General Mills is expanding its Cinnamon Toast Crunch production operations at its Covington plant. The plant, which opened in 1989, produces several varieties of cereal and snack products. It currently employs about 400 people, and the expansion project will create an additional 40 jobs.

**East Point** The City of East Point Electric Department worked with Walmart and Electrify America to provide power to eight charging stations installed at a Walmart in the city, the city's second charging station project.

**Griffin** Mitsui Kinzoku Die-Casting Technology America Inc. (MKDA), a Japanese-based automotive parts manufacturer, will build a new manufacturing facility in Griffin, creating over 30 new jobs and investing \$20 million in the project, a customer-choice win for the City.

**Newnan** HelloFresh, the largest meal kit provider in the U.S., will establish its first distribution center in Newnan in a 208,930-square-foot facility. The move could bring more than 750 jobs. The German company will offer jobs working with meal distribution, assembly lines, and associate, lead, supervisor, and management opportunities.

**Palmetto** Microsoft is expected to build a 250,000 square-foot data center about two miles northeast of Palmetto. The project is expected to create 300 to 1,000 temporary construction jobs and 20 permanent jobs.



## 2021 MAKE A NOTE



**MEAG Power Board Meetings**  
January 21, February 18, March 18

**MEAG Power Annual Meeting**  
July 12-14 (Tentative)  
Information forthcoming

## Nuclear, Solar and Wind Show Continued Strength

Nuclear power, solar and wind generation all demonstrated their respective strength in 2019 and the first half of 2020.

As reported in Power Engineering, a recent federal Energy Information Administration (EIA) report showed that nine of the 10 highest-generating power plants in the U.S. in 2019 were nuclear. The top 10 power plants generated a combined 230 million MWh in 2019, according to the EIA, which was nearly 6% of all U.S. electricity generation.

Overall, nuclear is holding steady at between 19-21% of generation capacity nationwide, and nuclear plants have the highest capacity factor of any energy source in the United States, at 94% fleet-wide in 2019. Nuclear also accounts for more than half of the nation's carbon-free electricity.

Meanwhile, Solar Power World cited a recent EIA report revealing that solar and wind both showed continued, strong growth during the first half of 2020, expanding faster than all other energy sources.

For the period January-July 2020, solar-generated electricity expanded by 22.2% (compared to the same period in 2019) and provided nearly 3.4% of the nation's total electricity generation.

During the same period, wind grew by 13.0% and accounted for almost 8.5% of total generation.

Combined, net electrical generation by wind and solar was 15.5% greater than the year-earlier period.

Together, wind, solar, hydropower, biomass and geothermal provided 21.2% of total electrical output during the first half of 2020 — up from 19.2% a year earlier.

### NEW MEAG POWER CORPORATE WEBSITE

MEAG Power has launched its new corporate website, a complete refresh featuring a modern design – with much more photography and graphical elements – as well as being mobile-friendly on all devices. Visit [www.meagpower.org](http://www.meagpower.org) to view the new site.

# Mayors Summit Keynote Excerpt –

*Ron Brownstein on the possible effects of the election on public power policy:*

"....Trump won 20 of the 21 states that emit the most carbon per dollar of GDP. Biden won 19 of the 21 states with the least carbon emissions per dollar of economic output. Biden made significant gains in the middle tier of eight states clustered around the national average of emissions per dollar of GDP, carrying five of them....

"What we see is this same pattern very powerfully reflected in the Senate.... Republicans now hold 37 of the 42 seats in the 21 states with the highest emissions per dollar of GDP. Democrats hold at least 36 of the 42 Senate seats in the states with the least carbon-intensive economies. The eight states clustered around the average carbon emissions per dollar of GDP are split narrowly, with Republicans holding nine of those Senate seats, and Democrats seven.

"This means that Biden has a very narrow funnel for legislation.... Legislatively, Biden is much more likely to get carrots than sticks.

"Which is where most of his legislative agenda points: money to promote the development of renewable fuels and energy efficiency, in general, like funding 500,000 electric vehicle charging stations. It may be easier for him to get some Republican buy-in for the notion of subsidizing the further development of these fuels than any kind of stick.

"If there are going to be sticks, they're going to come on the regulatory side. He is certain to revive the fuel economy standards for automakers, maybe to the point of requiring the sale of only zero-emission vehicles at some point in the distant future, like 2035 or 2040 – which would mean more demand for electricity. What he does on electricity generation is a little less certain. As we know, he wants a zero-emissions requirement for utilities by 2035 – one that would include nuclear power. But, given the Senate breakdown, it does not seem plausible that he's going to pass a clean-power standard for 2035. And it's very unclear how far he can get toward it through regulation."