

Electric & Gas Utility | 2602 Jackson Bluff Road | Tallahassee | FL | 32304 | 850-891-4968

May 5, 2022

Clerk's Office State of Florida Public Service Commission

Dear Sir/Madam:

The following pages are the City of Tallahassee Electric & Gas Utilities' (TAL) responses to the "DN 20220000-OT (Undocketed filings for 2022) Ten-Year Site Plan Review - Staff's Data Request #2" pursuant to the request received from Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) Staff member Ms. Patti Zellner. Please note that copies of all narrative and non-narrative responses have been separately provided to Mr. Donald Phillips in the FPSC's Division of Engineering via e-mail per Ms. Zellner's request.

If you should have any questions regarding this report, please feel free to contact me at (850) 891-3130 or paul.clark@talgov.com. Thank you.

Sincerely,

and Carl

Paul D. Clark, II Principal Engineer

Attachments

1. Please refer to NERC's Level 2 Alert, issued August 18, 2021, titled Cold Weather Preparations for Extreme Weather Events. Please indicate what changes, if any, the Utility has implemented or intends to implement to address the recommendations contained within the alert.

The City of Tallahassee Electric & Gas Utility (TAL) has evaluated extreme weather response internally as well as via region-wide coordination regarding multiple aspects of operations.

2. Please refer to FERC Order Approving Cold Weather Reliability Standards, issued August 24, 2021. Please indicate what changes, if any, the Utility has implemented or intends to implement to address the revisions to the NERC Reliability Standards that become effective April 2023.

TAL conducts seasonal preparedness in accordance with its operating procedures and Preventative Maintenance schedules, which are currently under review for any updates needed to comply with the revised standards.

3. Please refer to NERC's Project 2021-07: Extreme Cold Weather Grid Operations, Preparedness, and Coordination. Is the Utility a participant in this project? If so, please explain what way.

TAL submitted comments in Project 2021-07 to NERC with a broad recommendation of support for the recommended standard revision in response to the event.

- 4. Please refer to the FERC, NERC, and Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (2021 Cold Weather Report), issued November 2021. Please indicate what changes, if any, the Utility has implemented or intends to implement to address the recommended revisions listed below to the NERC Reliability Standards identified in the 2021 Cold Weather Report.
  - a. Identify and protect cold-weather critical components.

*TAL is currently reviewing its seasonal preparation procedures for any improvements to be made based on this report.* 

b. Build all new and retrofit existing units to operate during extreme weather conditions, which include the impact of wind and precipitation.

*TAL is currently reviewing its seasonal preparation procedures for any improvements to be made based on this report.* 

c. Perform annual training on winterization plans. If already incorporated, please provide the most recent winterization plan.

TAL is currently reviewing its annual winterization plans for any improvements to be made based on this report. Once reviewed and incorporated, the revised plan would be available at FPSC request.

d. Develop Corrective Action Plans for any affected generating units.

*TAL is currently reviewing its annual winterization plans for any improvements to be made based on this report.* 

e. Provide the balancing authority the percentage of generating capacity that can be relied upon during forecasted cold weather.

TAL is registered as a Balancing Authority (BA) and Generator Operator (GOP), and as such, has made no changes to the coordination of its generating capacity.

f. Account for wind and precipitation when providing temperature data to the balancing authority.

TAL is registered as a Balancing Authority (BA) and Generator Operator (GOP), and as such, has made no changes to the coordination of changing wind and precipitation data.

5. Will the Utility's current capacity shortage plan require updating following the revisions to the NERC Reliability Standards that will go into effect April 2023 or the recommended revisions from the 2021 Cold Weather Report? If so, please identify the changes.

TAL does not anticipate changes to its Capacity Shortage Plan following the revisions to the NERC standards subject to April 2023 enforcement nor the recommendations in the 2021 Cold Weather Report.

- 6. For your generating units, please and provide the following information:
  - a. Identify any generating unit that has been winterized and describe the winterization activities that have been completed for each.

The generating units at both TAL's Hopkins and Purdom Generating Stations have annual preventative maintenance (PM) programs that are performed to prepare for winter operations. The PM program measures are implemented based on the time of the year and the expected severity of the weather. Insulation and heat trace systems at both stations are inspected and maintained as needed.

b. Identify any generating unit that still requires winterization and describe the winterization activities to be completed for each.

None.

c. Identify any generating units the Utility does not intend to winterize and explain why.

7. Please list and describe all winterization activities the Utility has completed or intends to complete for its natural gas infrastructure. If none, please explain why.

The gas infrastructure at both TAL's Hopkins and Purdom power plants up to the unitspecific pressure reducing stations is operated and maintained by Florida Gas Transmission (FGT). The pressure reducing stations at both plants are designed for reliable performance during cold weather events, monitored closely by TAL's distributed control systems (DCS) and maintained in accordance with TAL's detailed PM program. TAL believes that preparedness of the power plants' natural gas infrastructure for extreme winter weather conditions is sufficiently assured by the monitoring, operation and maintenance practices already performed by FGT and TAL personnel. Therefore, TAL has not completed nor does it currently intend to complete any new winterization activities associated with the natural gas infrastructure at the Hopkins or Purdom power plants.

8. Please identify any generating units that have experienced forced outages or derates due to cold weather conditions within the last ten-year period.

No TAL generating units have experienced forced outages or capacity derates due to cold weather conditions within the last ten-year period.

a. Please explain if these generating units have had corrective action plans developed for the identified equipment. If so, what has been done to evaluate whether the corrective action plan applies to similar equipment for other generating units in the Utility's generating fleet.

9. Please identify each of the Utility's generating units that have dual fuel capabilities. As part of this response, please provide the following for each applicable generating unit.

# See table below.

- a. Generating unit name and location.
- b. Net capacity by seasonal peak (Summer/Winter).
- c. Whether fuel switching derates/uprates the unit (and if so, by what amount).
- d. Primary and secondary fuel type and sources.
- e. Number of days the generating unit could operate at full load using the secondary fuel source.
- f. Amount of time required to switch to secondary fuel.

Plant	Unit No.	Location	<u>Net Capab</u> Summer (MW)	<u>ility (MW)</u> Winter (MW)	Alt Fuel Uprate/ (Derate) (MW)	<u>Fue</u> Primarv	<u>l Type</u> Alternate	<u>Fuel T</u> Primary	r <u>ansport</u> Alternate	Alt. Fuel Days Use	Fuel Swith Time Required (Hours)
S. O. Purdom	8	Wakulla	222.0	258.0	0	NG	FO2	PL	тк	Note 1	8
A. B. Hopkins	2 GT-3 GT-4	Leon	300.0 46.0 46.0	330.0 48.0 48.0	0 0 0	NG NG NG	F02 F02 F02	PL PL PL	ТК ТК ТК	Note 1 Note 1 Note 1	8 8 8

<sup>1</sup> Assuming TAL's current inventory of ~2.5 million gallons of diesel fuel oil (DFO or FO2), the four units listed above could be operated at full load during an extreme winter weather event for ~63 hours or just over 2.5 days. However, it should be taken into consideration that (1) to serve TAL's native load and energy requirements, even during an extreme winter weather event, these units would not likely be run at full load for the duration of the event, and (2) TAL's total diesel fuel oil storage capacity is 7 million gallons which, if fully stocked, would significantly extend the number of days the units could be run at full load on its alternate fuel.

10. Please identify how many alerts and advisories, due to cold weather, have been issued within the last ten-year period, and describe each event that led to the issuance of each alert/advisory.

*TAL has issued no alerts or advisories due to cold weather conditions within the last tenyear period.* 

a. As part of this response, please indicate whether interruptible/curtailable customers were interrupted during each event, and if so, the duration of the interruption.

11. Please identify the number of times the Utility has had to perform rolling blackouts within the last ten-year period. As part of this response, please provide the reason for each rolling blackout, how many megawatts were impacted, and the duration of each rolling blackout.

TAL has not had to perform any rolling blackouts within the last ten-year period.

12. Please identify the total number of megawatts that can be controlled during rolling blackouts. As part of this response, please describe how this amount was determined, the priorities for interrupting firm load, and provide the anticipated duration between rolling blackouts.

TAL has an estimated 145 MW that can be controlled during rolling blackouts. This number was determined by subtracting load with Under Frequency Load Shedding (UFLS) tripping and Circuits with critical loads (Level 1 or 2) from a peak summer load of 617 MW.

Priority of interruption is first given to circuits that do not have any Level 3 Critical Customers. If additional rotation is needed, TAL would utilize Level 3 Critical circuits. Under more extreme conditions, TAL would incorporate Level 2 Critical circuits which would provide an additional 91 MW of load that could be rotated while still avoiding circuits relied upon for UFLS.

The duration of any rolling blackouts would be targeted for a maximum of 30 minutes off to minimize cold load pickup.

13. Please explain how the Utility coordinates with cogenerators, qualifying facilities, and other non-utility generators during cold weather events to maximize generating capacity. As part of this response, please explain how the Utility determines as-available energy prices if all available Utility assets are already dispatched.

TAL has no cogenerators or qualifying facilities interconnected with its electric system. The owner/operator of the non-utility solar photovoltaic (PV) generation facilities with whom TAL has associated purchase power agreements (PPA) have complete operational control of their sites. The prices are fixed prices for the duration of the PPA. Although TAL has direct contact phone numbers to the Solar Operator, there are no predetermined communications established or needed for cold weather as the sites are always generating maximum MW up to the maximum capacity of these facilities per the PPA. 14. Please list each form of communication (such as phone calls, text, utility website, social media, etc.) the Utility uses to inform customers of anticipated cold weather events. As part of this response, please provide a sample of such communications.

TAL's communications regarding cold weather events are managed by the City of Tallahassee's (City) Public Information Office (PIO). The City PIO typically sends a news release (examples of which are attached to the end of this document) prior to the first hard freeze issued for the season in the area. The timing depends on when the cold weather arrives each year, but the content remains roughly the same. All news releases are posted on the City's website, "Talgov.com". For severe weather threats, a graphic is typically also posted on the home page to draw attention to the release. The news release is also sent via email to all TAL customers (residential and commercial), all City employees, the local media and anyone signed up to receive City news releases. The information is also posted on social media. For media inquiries, the reporter is put in contact with a subject matter expert regarding the story's focus, such as a water utility engineer for pipe safety or a vet tech for pet questions. As the winter progresses, the PIO recycles this information as needed for subsequent threats.

- 15. Please refer to the Florida cold weather event from January 29-31, 2022, and provide the following for each day during the event.
  - a. Anticipated load forecast.

See table on following page.

b. Anticipated operating reserve (with and without demand response).

See table on following page.

c. Actual load, and if available, actual operating reserve.

See table on following page.

d. Amount of customer outages due to cold weather that occurred, if any.

No customer outages occurred due to cold weather on January 29-31, 2022.

e. Amount of generating capacity derated or forced offline due to cold weather, if any. If forced outages occurred, identify each generating unit derated or forced offline, and the cause of the derating or forced outage, if known.

*No TAL generating capacity was derated or forced offline due to cold weather on January 29-31, 2022.* 

f. Whether demand response and/or interruptible/curtailable assets were activated. If so, please identify which programs, the number of customers interrupted, the amount of capacity interrupted, and the frequency of interruptions.

TAL currently has no demand response program. No electric interruptible/curtailable assets were activated though natural gas deliveries to interruptible customers were curtailed during the Florida cold weather event from January 29-31, 2022.

	TAL Electric System Gross Load (MW) <sup>1</sup>							TAL Electric System Operating Reserves (M					,2
Hour	1/29	/22	1/30	/22	<u>1/31</u>	/22	-	1/29	/22	1/30	/22	<u>1/31</u>	/22
Ending	Forecast	<u>Actual</u>	Forecast	Actual	<u>Forecast</u>	Actual		Forecast	Actual	Forecast	Actual	Forecast	<u>Actual</u>
1	306	341	396	441	299	312		507	472	417	371	514	501
2	308	341	398	447	295	308		505	472	415	366	518	504
3	316	343	410	452	296	310		497	469	403	360	517	503
4	327	351	420	458	303	318		486	462	393	355	510	494
5	343	363	434	470	314	334		470	449	379	343	499	478
6	366	381	454	492	338	362		447	432	359	320	475	451
7	398	407	473	509	377	406		415	405	340	304	436	406
8	429	433	485	534	401	437		384	379	328	279	412	376
9	453	457	494	541	395	430		360	355	319	272	418	383
10	457	465	467	516	370	393		356	348	346	297	443	419
11	443	454	422	452	343	357		370	358	391	360	470	456
12	423	435	381	404	321	330		390	378	432	409	492	482
13	400	412	353	370	306	351		413	401	460	443	507	462
14	379	389	330	342	296	336		434	424	483	470	517	476
15	360	370	312	323	288	330		453	443	501	490	525	482
16	351	357	302	339	283	323		462	455	511	474	530	489
17	354	362	302	338	284	326		459	451	511	474	529	486
18	374	383	315	348	293	330		439	430	498	465	520	482
19	405	416	342	345	320	324		408	397	471	468	493	489
20	419	437	352	366	325	331		394	376	461	447	488	482
21	424	441	346	357	318	330		389	371	467	456	495	482
22	420	447	336	348	304	319		393	366	477	465	509	493
23	413	444	322	334	287	302		400	369	491	479	526	511
24	409	440	309	320	270	288		404	373	504	493	543	524

<sup>1</sup> Peak hour demand and operating reserves for each day highlighted by **BOLD** text.

<sup>2</sup> Based on a total gross winter capacity of 813 MW. TAL's current obligation to the Florida Reserve Sharing Group (FRSG) is 50 MW.

16. Please refer to the Florida cold weather event from January 29-31, 2022. Please explain if any winterization plans were enacted during this time. If so, please describe what activities were involved.

FGT issued an Alert Day notice during the January 29-31, 2022 cold weather event signaling to natural gas shippers that using in excess of scheduled quantities would be harmful to pipeline operations and, therefore, subject to financial penalties. In an effort to adhere carefully to its scheduled quantities, TAL operated Hopkins CTs 3 and 4 on their alternate fuel (FO2) during the event. On its local distribution system, TAL also curtailed natural gas deliveries to interruptible customers during the event. No other actions were needed or taken.

17. Please refer to the NERC 2021-2022 Winter Reliability Assessment, issued November 2021, for the following questions. Please provide load forecast and generation availability data provided to your regional entity for use in NERC's winter reliability assessment. As part of your response, explain how the data was derived and what assumptions were used.

The December 2021 – February 2022 forecasts of monthly "Total Internal Demand" and "Net Energy for Load" submitted to the SERC Reliability Corporation (SERC) for inclusion in the NERC 2021-2022 Winter Reliability Assessment are the same data as submitted in the Spring of 2021 for SERC's Long-Term Reliability Assessment (LTRA) and the "Peak Demand" and "NEL" values reported on 4 in TAL's 2021 TYSP. The forecast assumptions and methodology used were described in Section 2.1.1 of TAL's 2021 TYSP. A copy of TAL's monthly load forecast data submission to SERC is provided in the tables on the following page.

Generation availability data used in probabilistic reliability assessments (e.g., equivalent availability factor, forced outage rate, etc.) are not collected by SERC for the LTRA or seasonal reliability assessments (SRA). The deterministic data values for generating unit capabilities "Available On Peak" submitted to SERC (which SERC then provided to NERC for the 2021-2022 Winter Reliability Assessment) are the same as those values reported on Schedule 1 in TAL's 2021 TYSP. The data submitted for TAL's solar PV purchased power agreements (PPA) are as discussed in Section 1.2 of TAL's 2021 TYSP. TAL's winter generation capabilities are based on actual peak output for each resource observed under winter weather conditions over recent historical years. A copy of TAL's submission to SERC is provided in the table at the top of page 11 of this document.

# Page 10 of 28

#### Demand & Energy - Monthly Forecast(Reporting Year:2021)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Unrestricted Non-Coincident Peak Demand**	555	488	445	440	527	564	579	610	558	485	454	472
Energy Efficiency	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Conservation	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
Standby Demand Under Contract	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Internal Demand*	553	487	444	439	526	563	578	609	557	484	452	471
Controllable And Dispatchable Demand Response - Total *	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Controllable And Dispatchable Demand Response - Available	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Installed Non-Utility Photovoltaic*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Utility Photovoltaic On-Peak*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Internal Demand**	553	487	444	439	526	563	578	609	557	484	452	471

\* Data entered in these lines will not be used to adjust net internal demand. \*\* Shaded rows indicate calculated values. Net Energy for Load, Monthly (GWHr)

1	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Net Energy For Load (GWHr)*	230	195	203	208	244	261	280	292	260	225	203	216

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Unrestricted Non-Coincident Peak Demand**	564	498	456	453	540	577	592	623	569	494	461	478
Energy Efficiency	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Conservation	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Standby Demand Under Contract	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Internal Demand*	562	496	454	451	538	575	590	621	567	492	459	476
Controllable And Dispatchable Demand Response - Total *	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Controllable And Dispatchable Demand Response - Available	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Installed Non-Utility Photovoltaic*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Utility Photovoltaic On-Peak*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Internal Demand**	562	496	454	451	538	575	590	621	567	492	459	476
(							Acce	-11-5		-		1
Data entered in these lines will not be used to adjust ne * Shaded rows indicate calculated values.	et internal	demand.										
et Energy for Load, Monthly (GWHr)												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
										1		

Existing Capacity		Si	ummer	v	Vinter	Operating Status		
Unit	Unit Type	Rating	Available On Peak	Rating	Available On Peak	Status	Return To Service	
FL SOLAR 1 - 1	Solar	20.00	4.00	20.00	0.00	Operating		
FL SOLAR 4 - 1	Solar	42.00	8.00	42.00	0.00	Operating		
HOPKINS - 2	CC-Gas	141.00	141.00	145.00	145.00	Operating		
HOPKINS - 2A	CT-Gas	159.00	159.00	185.00	185.00	Operating		
HOPKINS - GT3	CT-Gas	46.00	46.00	48.00	48.00	Operating		
HOPKINS - GT4	CT-Gas	46.00	46.00	48.00	48.00	Operating		
HOPKINS - IC 1	Other	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	Operating		
HOPKINS - IC 2	Other	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	Operating		
HOPKINS - IC 3	Other	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	Operating		
HOPKINS - IC 4	Other	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	Operating		
HOPKINS - IC 5	Other	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	Operating		
PURDOM - 8CT	CT-Gas	150.00	150.00	182.00	182.00	Operating		
PURDOM - 8ST	CC-Gas	72.00	72.00	76.00	76.00	Operating		
SUBSTATION 12 - IC 1	Other	9.20	9.20	9.20	9.20	Operating		
SUBSTATION 12 - IC 2	Other	9.20	9.20	9.20	9.20	Operating		

18. **[TECO & FPL Only]** Please identify and describe any actions undertaken to encourage adoption of natural gas heating over electric resistance (strip) heating. If no actions have been taken, please explain why.

# Cold Weather Public Information Examples Winter 2022

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# **Social Media Posts**

# **Twitter**

#### January 3, 2022



The January issue of Insight provides tips for avoiding frozen water pipes, how good shade can help save energy and much more. Read it today at bit.ly/32CuQt7 and look for it with your City utility bill. If you receive your bill electronically, look for a link to the PDF



1:25 PM · Jan 3, 2022 · Sprout Social



January is, on average, Tallahassee's coldest month of the year. When temperatures dip extremely low, residents should take action to prevent frozen water pipes from bursting. Read more about when to take precautions in the January issue of Insight: bit.ly/32CuQt7



4:29 PM · Jan 7, 2022 · Sprout Social

#### January 28, 2022

City of Tallahassee @CityofTLH

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The winter chill is taking hold, and more arctic air is forecast to arrive this weekend. The City of Tallahassee urges citizens to take precautions ahead of this impending cold snap. Get tips at bit.ly/3AFRMUB



1:38 PM · Jan 28, 2022 · Sprout Social

#### January 28, 2022



City of Tallahassee 🤣 @CityofTLH

How can you stay engaged with the City of Tallahassee? Here are this week's ideas about upcoming events and opportunities, including options for at-risk youth, water quality protection, caring careers and cold weather tips.



3:31 PM · Jan 28, 2022 · Sprout Social

#### January 28, 2022



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Check on neighbors and family members who may be more susceptible to cold weather conditions, such as the elderly or disabled. If you are unable to reach them, @TallyPD can conduct a welfare check. Call the Consolidated Dispatch Agency at 850-606-5800 to request the service.



5:14 PM · Jan 28, 2022 · Sprout Social

# January 28, 2022



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To avoid water pipes breaking due to frigid air, utility customers are advised to run at least one faucet in their home or business at a thin stream. This lowers the risk of broken water lines during freezing conditions. Get more tips at bit.ly/3AFRMUB



6:20 PM · Jan 28, 2022 · Sprout Social

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## January 29, 2022



Arctic air is arriving. Take precautions, such as:

Insulating exposed pipes

Exercising caution when using supplemental heating units

- 🖮 Bringing pets indoors
- Checking on neighbors
- 🎨 Bringing potted plants inside

#### Get more tips at bit.ly/3AFRMUB



7:30 AM · Jan 29, 2022 · Sprout Social

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#### January 29, 2022



Colder weather could lead to broken pipes. When pipes break between the water meter & home or within the home, the customer is responsible for repairs. The City repairs damage to pipes between the water main under the street & the meter or in the main. bit.ly/3AFRMUB



9:01 AM · Jan 29, 2022 · Sprout Social

#### January 29, 2022



Practice fire safety during colder weather.

Exercise caution when using supplemental heating units

Keep combustible materials, such as drapes or chairs, are at least three feet away from any heating unit

Uncertain the series of the se



2:10 PM · Jan 29, 2022 · Sprout Social

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# January 29, 2022

City of Tallahassee 🤣 @CityofTLH

Disconnect outside water hoses from spigots, as water trapped inside can freeze and crack the hose. bit.ly/35xyNjM



5:05 PM · Jan 29, 2022 · Sprout Social

#### February 8, 2022



While it might not be arctic air arriving, our area is in for

a few cold nights ahead. If you haven't already, take time today to insulate pipes located outside or in the attic with cloth or a similar material to help prevent freezing. bit.ly/3KStknO



2:17 PM · Feb 8, 2022 · Sprout Social

# <u>Facebook</u>

January 5, 2022



# January 7, 2022



# 



# January 23, 2022



#### January 28, 2022

#### City of Tallahassee, FL - Government Published by Sprout Social @ - January 28 · @

The winter chill is taking hold, and more arctic air is forecast to arrive this weekend. The City of Tallahassee urges citizens to take precautions ahead of this impending cold snap. Get tips below or at https://bitl.y/JAFRMLB.

To avoid water pipes breaking due to frigid air, utility customers are advised to run at least one faucet in their home or business at a thin stream. This allows water to flow through the pipes and lowers the risk of broken water lines during freezing conditions. Unlike other liquids, water expands when it freezes. When water pipes freeze, the expanding water can break the pipe, and customers can be left with a thoroughly soaked house when the pipes thaw.

When freezing temperatures loom, citizens might see water trickling out of spigots in area parks reaction of the second se second sec

During period pipe instruction watches, City Utilities, as well as local plumbing contractors, typically receive calls from customers reporting broken water pipes. When pipes break between the wat meter and the hame or within the home, the customer is responsible for repairs. City Utilities repairs any damage to pipes between the water main under the street and the meter or in the main itself, which rarely happens since water runs continuously in the mains.

The City offers these additional tips when temperatures dip extremely low: Insulate pipes located outside or in the attic with cloth or a similar material to help prevent

freezing.

Make sure the cover to your water meter fits tightly. If your pipes do freeze, you can use the

wake sure the cover to your water meter insigning, in your pipes oo meeze, you can use valve inside the meter box to shut off all the water to the house, helping to prevent indoor flooding when pipes thaw.
Insulate your backflow assembly properly by wrapping or covering the pipe. Do not cover the pipe. Do not cover the pipe. er the bottom relief opening on the underside at the middle of the apparatus to avoid creating other

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hose. Practice fire safety. —Sarcise caution when using supplemental heating units. —Make sure all combustible materials, such as drapes or chairs, are at least three feet away from

--Make sure all combustble materials, such as drapes or chains, are at least three treet away from any heating unit, and the subscription of the

their owners.  $\sqrt{}$  Check on neighbors and family members who may be more susceptible to cold weather conditions, such as the elderly or disabled. If you are unable to reach them, TPD will conduct a weffare check for you. Simply call the Consolidated Dispatch Agency at 850-606-5800 to reques them of them of the second second

the service.  $\sqrt{}$  Bring potted plants inside and cover garden beds by placing stakes around your plants and using fabric (such as blankets, bed sheets, towells or drop cloths) to create a tent-like structure.

The City of Tallahassee wants to ensure all residents know what to do when the forecast calls for a hard freeze or other indement weather conditions. Customers can call 850-891-4968 for utility service needs or report service issues via the City's free DigiTally app.

Stay weather aware with information from the US National Weather Service Tallahassee Florida



# January 28, 2022



City of Tallahassee, FL - Government Published by Sprout Social @ January 28 @ How can you stay engaged with the City of Tallahassee? Here are this week's ideas about upcoming events and opportunities "The City's Tallahassee Engaged in Meaningful Productivity for Opportunity - TEMPO – program has been named an anchor partner with Goodwill Industries to enhance opportunities for at-risk youth. @ Beautify your yard and help protect water quality communitywide by installing a rain garden IThe City's Think About Personal Pollution (TAPP) program is once again providing grants up to \$175 to help property owners build a rain garden of their own.

Up to and to help properly own. Want to improve the welfare of animals in our community and grow in your career? Tallahassee Animal Services is now hiring vet techs! New and experienced vet techs receive individualized onboarding support, mentorship and continuing education -See less

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#### Information Posted on Talgov.com

# January 2022 news release: <u>https://www.talgov.com/Main/News/5221.aspx</u> Arctic Chill Arriving Soon

#### January 28, 2022

The winter chill is taking hold, and more arctic air is forecast to arrive this weekend. The City of Tallahassee urges citizens to take precautions ahead of this impending cold snap.

To avoid water pipes breaking due to frigid air, utility customers are advised to run at least one faucet in their home or business at a thin stream. This allows water to flow through the pipes and lowers the risk of broken water lines during freezing conditions. Unlike other liquids, water expands when it freezes. When water pipes freeze, the expanding water can break the pipe, and customers can be left with a thoroughly soaked house when the pipes thaw.

When freezing temperatures loom, citizens might see water trickling out of spigots in area parks and public spaces. This is part of the City's cold-weather plan to prevent or minimize issues caused by the cold. Signs should be posted nearby when this occurs, but if you see water running lightly from a pipe when arctic air threatens, please do not turn it off. This is intentional.

During periods of colder weather, City Utilities, as well as local plumbing contractors, typically receive calls from customers reporting broken water pipes. When pipes break between the water meter and the home or within the home, the customer is responsible for repairs. City Utilities repairs any damage to pipes between the water main under the street and the meter or in the main itself, which rarely happens since water runs continuously in the mains.

The City offers these additional tips when temperatures dip extremely low:

- Insulate pipes located outside or in the attic with cloth or a similar material to help prevent freezing.
- Make sure the cover to your water meter fits tightly. If your pipes do freeze, you can use the valve inside the meter box to shut off all the water to the house, helping to prevent indoor flooding when pipes thaw.
- Insulate your backflow assembly properly by wrapping or covering the pipe. Do not cover the bottom
  relief opening on the underside at the middle of the apparatus to avoid creating other flooding problems.
- Wrap commercial fire lines in buildings.
- · Disconnect outside water hoses from spigots, as water trapped inside can freeze and crack the hose.
- · Practice fire safety.
  - · Exercise caution when using supplemental heating units.
  - Make sure all combustible materials, such as drapes or chairs, are at least three feet away from any heating unit.
  - Avoid using flammable liquids to start fireplaces and do not leave a fireplace unattended. Once the fire is out, let the ashes cool in the fireplace for several days.
  - · Check your smoke alarm to make sure it is working properly.
- · Bring outside pets indoors during cold snaps, especially at night when temperatures dip to their lowest.
- Check on neighbors and family members who may be more susceptible to cold weather conditions, such as the elderly or disabled. If you are unable to reach them, TPD will conduct a welfare check for you. Simply call the Consolidated Dispatch Agency at 850-606-5800 to request the service.
- Bring potted plants inside and cover garden beds by placing stakes around your plants and using fabric (such as blankets, bed sheets, towels or drop cloths) to create a tent-like structure.

The City of Tallahassee wants to ensure all residents know what to do when the forecast calls for a hard freeze or other inclement weather conditions. Customers can call 850-891-4968 for utility service needs or report service issues via the City's free DigiTally app.

Stay weather aware with information from the National Weather Service at <u>Weather.gov/tae</u> or <u>Twitter.com/NWSTallahassee</u>.

Sign Up to Receive City News

# Email version of news release, which was sent to all City employees, all City Utilities customers (residential and commercial), everyone signed up to receive City news releases and the local media



# Examples of news coverage

WTXL: <u>https://www.wtxl.com/news/protecting-plants-pipes-pets-during-cold-weather-</u> snap/article 4cb7a6c6-f356-11e8-bd99-1712130931c1.html



**TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (WTXL)** - The temperature is dropping and as our area gets ready for a cold snap Wednesday night, we have some tips.

Pets, pipes, and plants are three of the most important things to remember when the temperatures get cold enough to freeze.

First rule of thumb, if it's too cold for you to sleep outside it's too cold for your pet.



"It's really important to remember that if it's cold for us it is cold for them too fur coat and all so they need to be brought in side especially on nights like tonight it is just too chilly for them," said Grayson Walters, a volunteer with Tallahassee Animal Services.

Walters says be careful with space heaters around your pets. They can be dangerous so just cover them with a blanket.

Experts said during a freeze anything exposed to the elements is at risk such as piping, backflow preventers, and water meters.





"Outdoor piping and backflow preventers can be protected simply by wrapping them in a towel or cloth. A water meter should have an outdoor cover. Hot water heating or piping in attic should be protected as well," said Jennifer Porter, Manager of Underground Utilities.

Michael Cureton owner of Cureton Plumbing recommends letting the outside faucets run just a trickle on the back or sides of the house.

"What that does is allows water flow to stay in motion and keeps the water pipes from freezing," said Cureton. "We don't suggest people run their inside pipes only because if they have a slow drain we would hate to have them have a flood that might not be draining correctly."

As for plants Mickey Clickner of Tallahassee Nurseries says if you have plants in pots it is best to bring them in and if you can't do that put a frost cloth or breathable blanket over them.

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WCTV: https://www.wctv.tv/2022/01/29/preparing-cold-weekend-ahead/





# Preparing for the cold weekend ahead



idians prepare for the coldest weekend ahead

By Madison Glaser Published: Jan. 28, 2022 at 7:06 PM EST 0 × y 0 5

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (WCTV) - As we prepare for the cooler temperatures, city officials are reminding everyone to keep an eye on your pipes

Jarrod Whitaker, the City's Underground Utilities Engineer, said t's important to do the following.

- Allow faucet water to drip.
- · Protect exposed pipes, those outside and in the attic
- Cover backflow reader assembles, either with insulation or a blanket.

Whitaker says that these are just some simple steps to avoid any unplanned costs.



"Water has a tendency to expand when it freezes so it's important that we pay close attention to the pipes in the homes, businesses in preparation to the cold weather," said Utility Engineer Jarrod Whitaker.

If you run into trouble between the water meter and the house, the city recommends calling a plumber.

If there are any issues from the water meter out into the street, the city then recommends you get in contact with them.

However, three-year-old Pierce Milligan is not letting the colder weather put a damper on his weekend plans.



"My mommy is going to get my bike out for later," said 3-year-old Pierce Milligan.

His mom, Sarah Milligan, expressed the importance of getting kids out of the house.

"We don't let the colder weather bother us, we just bundle up and go outside, I think the fresh air is best for the kids," said Sarah Milligan.

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