

TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Council Members AGENDA ITEM 9

From: Staff

Date: September 19, 2008 Council Meeting

Subject: Taking Charge of Our Energy Future – Presentation by Dr. James M. Fenton,
Director, Florida Solar Energy Center

Introduction

Dr. James M. Fenton of the Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC) will present background information on Florida's current energy situation in terms of electricity and automobile transportation. He will discuss energy efficiency in homes, where 51 percent of Florida's electricity is consumed. This will be followed by a discussion of solar energy generation as solar thermal hot water and rooftop photovoltaic electricity. He will also discuss transportation efficiency, followed by education information for solar installers and contractors, building code officials, emergency management personnel, energy raters, students and teachers, and consumers.

Dr. Fenton has been Director of the University of Central Florida's FSEC since January 2005, where he leads a staff of 140 persons. The FSEC is a leader in the research and development of energy technologies that enhance the economy and environment of Florida and the nation. The FSEC also excels in educating the public, students and practitioners on the results of their research on energy technologies. Dr. Fenton also serves as a Professor in the University of Central Florida's Mechanical, Materials and Aerospace Engineering Department. Governor Charlie Crist appointed him as a member of the Governor's Action Team on Energy and Climate Change.

Recommendation

For information only.