

City of Tallahassee, Electric Utility

# Protocols for Conducting Electric Power Experimental Projects

July 2024



**City of Tallahassee**  
Your Own Utilities<sup>SM</sup>

Version	Date	Synopsis	Division	SME
Original	07/08/24	Original Approval	Power Delivery	Randall Serles

## 1.0 Introduction.

Protecting the operation of the City of Tallahassee’s electrical grid is of utmost importance. And there is significant value to the City in supporting the advancement of research in electric power production including examining the viability of emerging clean energy options such as wind, green hydrogen, small modular nuclear reactors, renewable natural gas, microgrids, and long-duration energy storage technologies to supplement solar energy expansion. The City of Tallahassee, Electric Utility (“TAL”) as both a transmission and generator owner has prepared this *Protocols for Conducting Electric Power Experimental Projects* (the “Protocols”) document in order to maintain the TAL’s objective of protecting its electric grid while also supporting electric power production research by Tallahassee research universities (“Universities”). These Protocols are not intended to be a detailed manual but a general overview of procedural and technical requirements. These requirements are written to establish a basis for maintaining reliability, power quality, and a safe environment for the general public, power consumers, maintenance personnel and electric equipment.

## **2.0 Revisions.**

These Protocols will be revised from time to time to reflect changes or clarifications in planning, operations, regulations, or policies. TAL will provide interested Universities the opportunity to review and submit considerations to these Protocols. The Protocols will be made available to Universities conducting electric power experimental research and in the event of a request by Universities to conduct an electric power experimental project.

## **3.0 Governing Protocols for Electric Power Experimental Projects Less Than 660kW at the Florida State University Center for Advanced Power Systems.**

Electric power experimental projects conducted at the Florida State University Center for Advanced Power Systems (“FSU CAPS”), located at 2000 Levy Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32310, with an electrical output less than 660 kW that may temporarily serve a building on the research institution’s premises do not require TAL system impact studies. For the purposes of these Protocols, temporary shall not be longer than one year without written approval from TAL.

At least four weeks prior to initiation of such electric power experimental project, FSU CAPS will be required to email the general testing schedule to: [Troy.Sparkman@Talgov.com](mailto:Troy.Sparkman@Talgov.com), [Chad.French@Talgov.com](mailto:Chad.French@Talgov.com), and [ACSO@Talgov.com](mailto:ACSO@Talgov.com).

FSU CAPS will also be required to notify the Assistant Chief System Operator (ACSO) at least 30 minutes prior to testing each day that testing is planned by calling 850-891-3061 in case there are any complicating factors such as major thunderstorms, which may delay the test.

## **4.0 Governing Protocols for All Other Electric Power Experimental Projects.**

For all other electric power experimental projects, including those at FSU CAPS not governed under Section 3.0, where the output might temporarily serve a University premise, TAL requires a written request from the University to the TAL. The request must be provided with enough advance notice to enable utility system impact studies as TAL may determine necessary. The initial request will be directed to [Randall.Serles@Talgov.com](mailto:Randall.Serles@Talgov.com). The request will provide preliminary details about the project, including the following:

- the maximum kW of the proposed electric power generator,
- desired run times (day of week; time of day),

- the amount of (kW) output,
- timing of the output, including time of day and duration,
- location of electric power generation and location and identification of the output, whether a premises or the TAL grid, and
- timeframe (months) of the research project.

TAL will acknowledge receipt of the request and then confer with utility colleagues to determine the next appropriate steps. TAL may request more information or invite representatives from the university to meet in person (or virtually) to discuss the proposed project, including but not limited to potential concerns, regulatory hurdles if any, and possible alternatives.

If the project requires additional electric grid studies, TAL will determine what studies are necessary, when the studies will be initiated, and which party will cover the costs. TAL will provide the requester an estimate of the duration to complete these studies.

If there's consensus to continue with the project, TAL will conduct the necessary studies, share the findings with the University, and then both parties will collaborate to develop the specific terms and conditions under which the project can proceed. Once finalized, TAL will provide written consent for the University to proceed within the terms stipulated for the project. This consent will be granted at the TAL General Manager (GM) level or delegate. It is understood that TAL and the university will work in good faith towards a successful development and implementation of these experimental projects to the greatest extent practicable.

For the avoidance of doubt, Universities may, without the consent of TAL, conduct electric power experimental projects that do not provide electric power to University premises and that do not provide electric power to other properties, facilities, structures, or premises within TAL's electric service area.