



## Georgia Chapter

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### Sierra Club Alerts Southern Co Shareholders to Risky Investments

A dozen Sierra Club leaders from Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi came together last week to attend the Southern Company Shareholder Meeting and to ask hard-hitting questions to Southern CEO Tom Fanning. You can watch the play by play [here](#).

Southern Company owns and operates the three largest emitting coal fired power plants in the country (two in Georgia, one in Alabama) and is betting heavily on nuclear by building new reactors Plant Vogtle and undertaking the first large-scale coal-to-gas plant in Kemper County Mississippi. Both of these projects are hundreds of millions of dollars over budget, months behind schedule, and hot-button political issues in our respective states.



Despite these risky energy investments, Southern Company executives like to say they are committed to providing "clean, safe, reliable, affordable" power. Sierra Club activists spent two hours constructively engaging on whether that is what Southern is actually doing. Read more about it in the [Atlanta Journal Constitution](#), [Atlanta Business Chronicle](#), and [Morris Newspapers](#).

In the week before the meeting, Sierra Club's online team generated over 2,500 petition signatures from customers of Southern Company subsidiaries (Georgia Power, Alabama Power, Mississippi Power, and Gulf Power) each calling on their utility to move beyond Coal and Nuclear and invest in the 21st century energy economy. We delivered these petition signatures, as well as nearly 300 personally authored letters to the Company, directly into the hands of CEO Tom Fanning.

**You can weigh in, too, posting on Georgia Power's Facebook page and tweeting them!**

### Quick Links - Protect Jekyll Island!



If you've been following the news, you've been reading a lot about Jekyll Island recently. A committee of specialists and JIA staff members working on a new Master Plan for Jekyll Island State Park recommended that tidal marsh should not be counted as part of Jekyll's land area when applying the 65/35 law. That recommendation, which is based on the 65/35 law and the legal distinction between tidal marsh and land that's stated in Georgia's

Coastal Marshlands Protection Act (CMPA), was condemned by the JIA in its letter to the AG's office requesting a ruling on the land vs. marsh issue.

**TAKE ACTION: Tell Attorney General Sam Olens to protect Jekyll Island!**

## Sierra Club Meetings

**Smart Energy Team Meeting**, Monday, June 3, 7:00 p.m.

Seth Gunning, [seth.gunning@sierraclub.org](mailto:seth.gunning@sierraclub.org)

**Wildlands Committee Meeting**, Monday, June 17, 7:00 p.m.

Mike Murdock - Chair, [murdock1@mindspring.com](mailto:murdock1@mindspring.com)

**Fundraising Committee**, Wednesday, June x, 7:00 p.m.

Sybil Cypress, [sybil.cypress@sierraclub.org](mailto:sybil.cypress@sierraclub.org)

**RAIL**, Monday, June x, 7:00 p.m.

David Emory - Chair, [david.emory@gmail.com](mailto:david.emory@gmail.com)

## Other Events



**June 6-10 Pastured Poultry Week** - Over 70 restaurants are expected to participate in the second annual Pastured Poultry week in Georgia and New York. These committed restaurant owners will help celebrate the virtues of pastured poultry by featuring it on menus between June 10-16. Why pastured poultry? Because it's better for the environment, your health, and your taste buds! Because we believe chickens belong on pasture. Click [here](#) to learn more and find out what restaurants are participating.

**June 12 - Coastal Energy Town Hall** - Coastal Georgians will get their chance to weigh in on Georgia Power's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) on Wednesday, June 12th from 6-8p at the Coastal Georgia Center at a Town Hall hosted by Public Service Commission Tim Echols. Have an opinion about Plant McIntosh being converted from Eastern coal to Western coal? Think the PSC should be doing more to get offshore wind going in Georgia? Let your voice be heard!



**June 3 - 21 - PSC Commissioner Tim Echols EV Roadshow** - Coming to a Georgia city near you, this

roadshow will showcase options for fleet managers and municipalities to save money and lower maintenance costs when powering their vehicles with biofuels, propane, natural gas and electricity. The all-electric Nissan LEAF, bi-fuel Ford Fusion, Freightliner Class A-Liquified Natural Gas(LNG) 18-wheeler, propane-police vehicle, CNG school bus, and the

Chevy Volt, are just a few of the vehicles that will be on display in each city. Click [here](#) for tour dates and more information.

**Save the Date! Semi-Annual Chapter Retreat Oct. 4-6** - Every other year, the Georgia Chapter hosts a retreat with workshops, outings, wine tasting and all things Sierra Club! This year we'll be at Camp Wahsegah near Dahlonega. Look for more details and registration information soon!



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