Thanks for reading Bright Ideas, Georgia Power’s Outdoor Lighting newsletter. Your feedback to our first issue this spring was very positive, and we look forward to continuing to provide information about outdoor lighting benefits, industry changes and regulations, and much more. If you have any questions about the newsletter or ideas for upcoming issues, please let us know.

**Georgia Power / Savannah Electric merger brings new resources to area**

Last December, Southern Company announced the merger of two of its subsidiaries, Georgia Power and Savannah Electric. The merger went into effect July 1, and customers of both companies are now Georgia Power customers.

The merger is expected to reduce the impact of future rate increases for Savannah Electric customers. They should benefit from Georgia Power’s more diverse and cost-efficient generating fleet, which includes coal-fueled, nuclear and hydro electric generating units, in addition to natural gas-fueled units.

Another benefit to customers in the Savannah area is that the companies’ Lighting Services businesses are merging, so the outdoor lighting expertise of both groups will be available to customers in the area. This means you can benefit from our years of outdoor lighting experience in designing, installing and maintaining lighting systems for shopping centers, office buildings, subdivisions, hospitals and many other areas and facilities.

If you are in the Savannah area and want to learn more about outdoor lighting options and resources, please call 1-888-768-8458 or visit http://outdoorlighting.georgiapower.com. We offer quality lighting products, flexible payment options, maintenance services and free lighting analyses.
ODL leasing options light up new Georgia automotive plant

The situation: Auto manufacturer Honda recently constructed a new plant in Tallapoosa, Ga., to produce five-speed transmissions for its minivans and SUVs. The facility needed all-around outdoor lighting, but budgeting was an issue because of the funds needed to get the plant itself built and running.

The Georgia Power Outdoor Lighting solution: The Tallapoosa facility was a customer choice project, so Georgia Power will be serving the plant’s electric load. “A relationship was already established with Honda, which got us in the door,” said ODL Account Executive Fred Green. “But then we worked closely with the company to determine the best outdoor lighting options to meet their needs.”

To stay within budget, one option that worked well for Honda was to lease the lighting fixtures and contract with Georgia Power to maintain them. Because of this, the company was able to have 50 Galleria fixtures installed throughout the parking lots and areas around the plant. To help keep the docks and truck bays well lit, 22, 1,000-watt wall packs also were installed. “The outdoor lighting system has worked out very well for us,” said Mark Nelson, facility manager for Honda. “It was a real benefit that we could lease the system, and there’s no need for us to worry about maintenance issues.”

Georgia Power had approximately 10 of the light poles designed especially for the Honda facility. The poles are a specific height so Honda’s security system and cameras can be mounted to them.

“We’ve already been back to the Honda facility to install flood lighting around their flagpoles. They didn’t want to have to purchase and maintain any lights,” said Green. “So we’re glad our lighting and leasing options worked for them. I think it has been a matter of having the right options at the right time.”

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— Mark Nelson, facility manager for Honda
Over the past few years, several communities in Georgia, including Fulton and Gwinnett counties, have begun instituting ordinances with provisions for “night sky” or “dark skies” regulations. These ordinances incorporate standards for lighting that regulate how much light can be directed or reflected into the sky at night. Groups such as the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA) and the International Dark-Sky Association are working to develop model ordinances that can be adopted by communities, so the number of areas with dark sky regulations may increase.

At Georgia Power, we understand that these initiatives are designed for our communities, and our Outdoor Lighting Group follows all ordinances and regulations while providing the best lighting solutions for you. We have worked with several communities and groups to discuss the various needs for outdoor lighting, including security and economic growth. “We are definitely sensitive to the dark skies issue,” said Georgia Power Team Leader Mike Stevens. “We always work with the cities and counties when we can, and we try to find common ground. That way, we can meet all standards and give our clients quality lighting systems, too.”

In areas where ordinances require it, or when a customer requests it, our Outdoor Lighting team utilizes a variety of cut-off fixtures to meet dark skies standards, reducing things like glare and light reflecting toward the sky. Many of the fixtures you may have used for past projects, including Galleria and post top lights, are available in cut-off versions, so you can choose the lights you want and need without worrying about meeting area standards.

We are ready to implement the best lighting system for your needs and can help your business work within the regulations in your area. For more information about Georgia Power Outdoor Lighting, call 1-888-768-8458.

Providing lights for “Dark Skies”

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