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Mike Campbell retires and Denny George accepts duties as new CFEC general manager

Story and Photos

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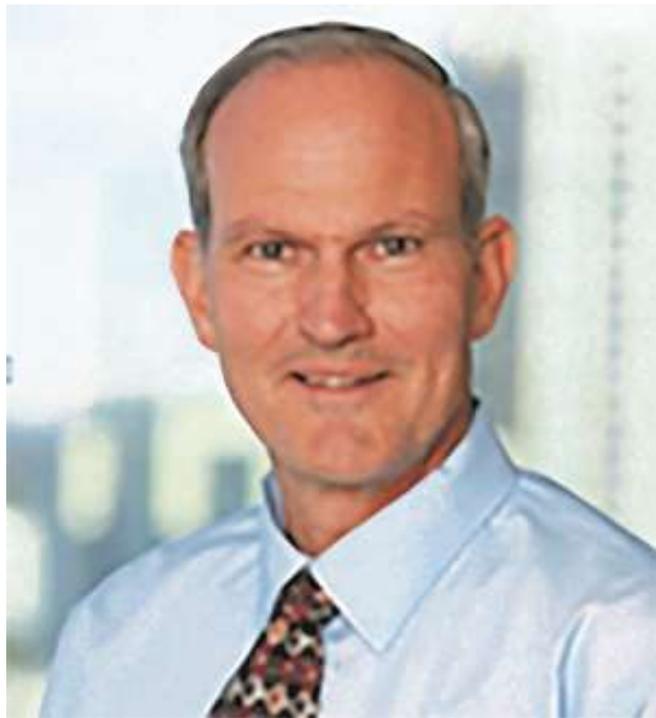
Central Florida Electric Cooperative

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CHIEFLAND -- Mike Campbell is retiring this June after more than 42 years of service to the electric cooperative program.



Mike Campbell



Denny George

Campbell was selected as executive vice president and general manager of Central Florida Electric Cooperative in 2005.

Prior to this appointment, he was vice president of engineering and operations at Coastal Electric Membership Corp. in Midway, Ga.

During his tenure, Campbell oversaw changes too numerous to list. However, for a cooperative that was once trailing other cooperatives in so many significant areas, it is now leading in many ways.

From changes to improve efficiency and customer service - such as the new building - to changes critical to today's needs, such as cyber security, CFEC has undergone a complete transformation while maintaining their connection to the members they serve.

These changes would not have been possible without the guidance of Campbell and a good team of management and employees. Although CFEC will miss the leadership of Campbell, the cooperative is well-poised and looking to the future with the recent selection of the new executive vice president and general manager of CFEC - Joel "Denny" George.

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After a thorough selection process, the CFEC Board of Trustees chose George based on his extensive experience in the energy business, his strong technical understanding and his interpersonal skills and customer service acumen.

"We look forward to working with Mr. George to provide our members with the power they need," CFEC President Barbara Townsend said. "His knowledge of the energy business in this general service area is invaluable. This knowledge and leadership will serve us well into the future."

Previously, George worked for Florida Power and Light, now NextEra Energy, for 21 years in a variety of positions including distribution engineering, field supervision, quality improvement, account management, corporate communications and power plant development.

At FP&L, George worked with some of their largest and most complex customers, including NASA/Kennedy Space Center and Cape Canaveral Air Station. Later, he helped develop large scale, natural gas combined cycle power plants in Texas, and then he transferred to the wind teams and developed mega-watt class wind farms in the Pacific Northwest.

In 2005, George left FP&L to work for Progress Energy, which was formerly Florida Power Corp. and is now known as Duke Energy.

A Progress Energy and Duke, George held the position of account manager from the Trenton office for 12 years. In this position, he worked with complex industrial customers, such as Buckeye (now GP), PCS Phosphate, Cemex and Publix, and yet he understood that each and every energy user was important.

At CFEC, George says he is looking forward to building and continuing close relationships with those that live and work in the CFEC service area. As the rural communities served by CFEC continue to grow, the members can rest assured that George's experience will be valuable in ensuring power remains reliable and affordable.

"Using my leadership abilities, business development experience and with a strong focus on safety, I feel this opportunity will allow me to use my full complement of skills that I have developed over the past 33 years," George says.