

House Resolution 1308

By: Representatives Drenner of the 85th, Dudgeon of the 25th, and Teasley of the 37th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Georgia's electric cooperatives and Green Power EMC for its
2 partnership with the Silicon Ranch Corporation to build and operate a 20 megawatt solar
3 power facility; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Green Power EMC (GPEMC), the state's first renewable energy program, and
5 Silicon Ranch Corporation partnered to construct a 20 megawatt (MW) AC solar-generating
6 facility in Jeff Davis County in southeast Georgia near Hazlehurst; and

7 WHEREAS, Silicon Ranch and GPEMC are currently partnering on an adjacent 52 MW AC
8 solar facility in Jeff Davis County, which is expected to go into service in 2016; and

9 WHEREAS, the combined facilities, situated on a 270-acre tract that hosts approximately
10 87,514 solar panels, will be among the largest renewable energy projects in Georgia; and

11 WHEREAS, the 20 MW facility was built over five months and employed 230 skilled
12 workers and tradesmen in rural Georgia; and

13 WHEREAS, the facility is expected to generate more than 43 million kilowatt hours of clean,
14 renewable electricity annually; and

15 WHEREAS, the Hazlehurst facility's offset is equivalent to 30,000 metric tons of greenhouse
16 gas emissions; and

17 WHEREAS, the full output of energy is being sold under a 25-year contract to Green Power
18 EMC, which will distribute the solar power generated to 27 EMCs, including Altamaha,
19 Amicalola, Canoochee, Coastal, Coweta-Fayette, Diverse Power, Grady, GreyStone Power,
20 Habersham, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Jefferson Energy, Little Ocmulgee, Middle Georgia,
21 Mitchell, Okefenoke, Planters, Rayle, Satilla, Sawnee, Slash Pine, Snapping Shoals, Sumter,
22 Three Notch, Tri-County, and Washington EMCs; and

23 WHEREAS, the 27 EMCs receiving solar power from the Hazlehurst facility serve electricity
24 to more than 1.1 million members across rural Georgia; and

25 WHEREAS, GP EMC, incorporated in 2001, is the largest green energy utility in Georgia and
26 was the first of its kind in the state; and

27 WHEREAS, GP EMC utilizes "green" resources such as biomass, solar, wind, and water to
28 generate electricity and has 39 Georgia EMC participants; and

29 WHEREAS, Georgia's electric cooperatives and Green Power EMC have collectively
30 invested in more solar power than the cooperatives in any other state, with a total of 220 MW
31 expected to be online by December, 2016; and

32 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding work of this organization,
33 its numerous contributions to the citizens of this state and the environment, and its fine
34 facility be appropriately recognized.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
36 the members of this body recognize Green Power EMC for its efficient and effective delivery
37 of green energy to Georgia homes and businesses and commend its efforts on this 20
38 megawatt facility along with all future projects.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
40 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Green
41 Power EMC.