

Green Team 201: Reaching Beyond

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Georgia Interfaith Power and Light (GIPL)

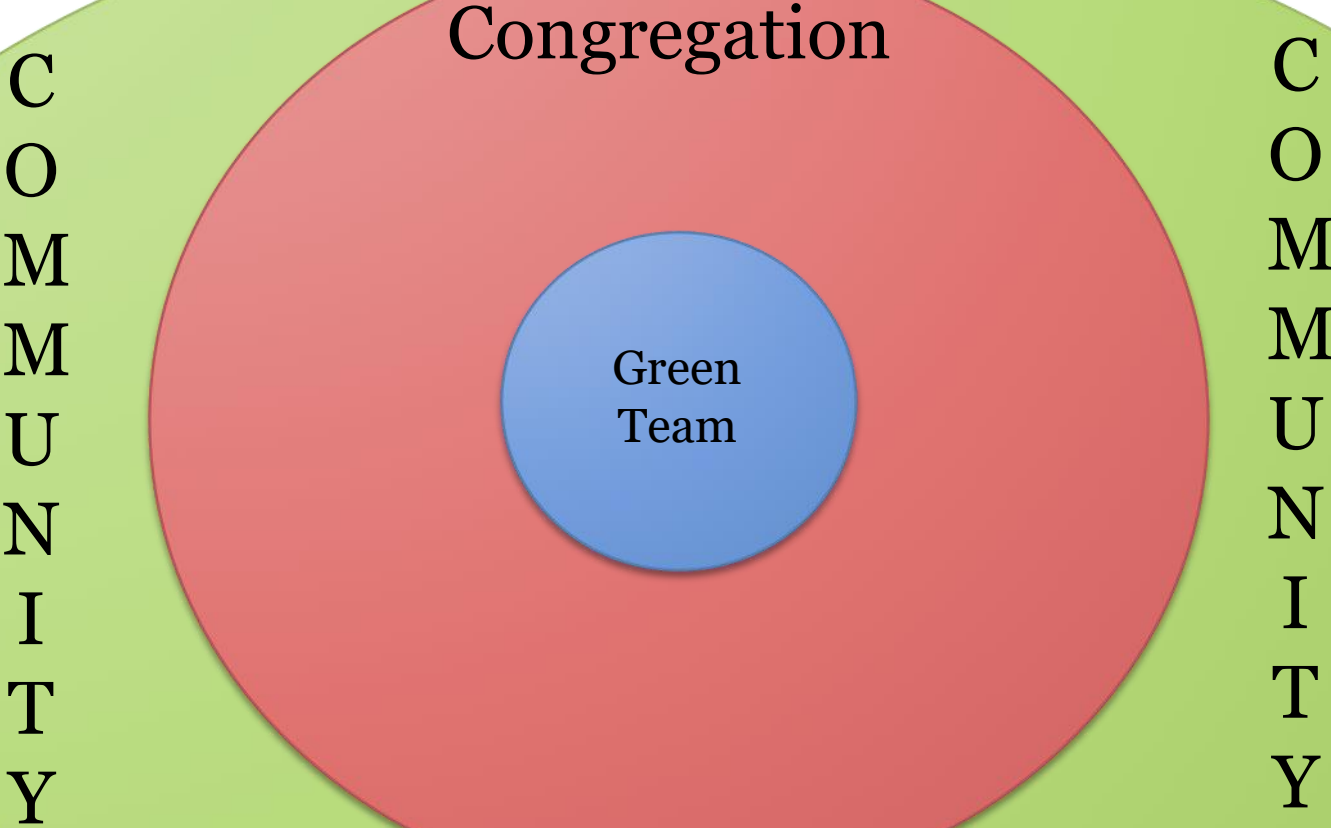




GIPL Offerings and Programs

- Green Team Coaching/Green Team Registry
- Educational Classes/Workshops
- Power Wise – Energy Efficiency Audits and Matching Grants
- Solar Wise – Free Solar Assessment, Multiple Acquisition Options
- Policy and Advocacy Opportunities

Theories of Reach: Green Teams





Moving Forward, Into the Community

- We must begin to dismantle the systems which perpetuate systems of environmental justice, environmental degradation, and climate change.
- We must do this as people of faith because we are all culpable as individuals, but also as we are connected with congregations/denominations
- There is no way to love God and love neighbor without dismantling these systems, and without getting engaged in transforming local and state policies.





Solutions and Actions

- In the Congregation
 - Connect with other GTs in your area and host an event/meeting
 - Develop a Sustainability Policy
 - Solar for Congregation/School and EV Implementation
- Personal, Congregational, and Denominational Divestment
- Policy Engagement
 - Congregational Level
 - Community Level
 - State Level
 - National Level



In the Congregation

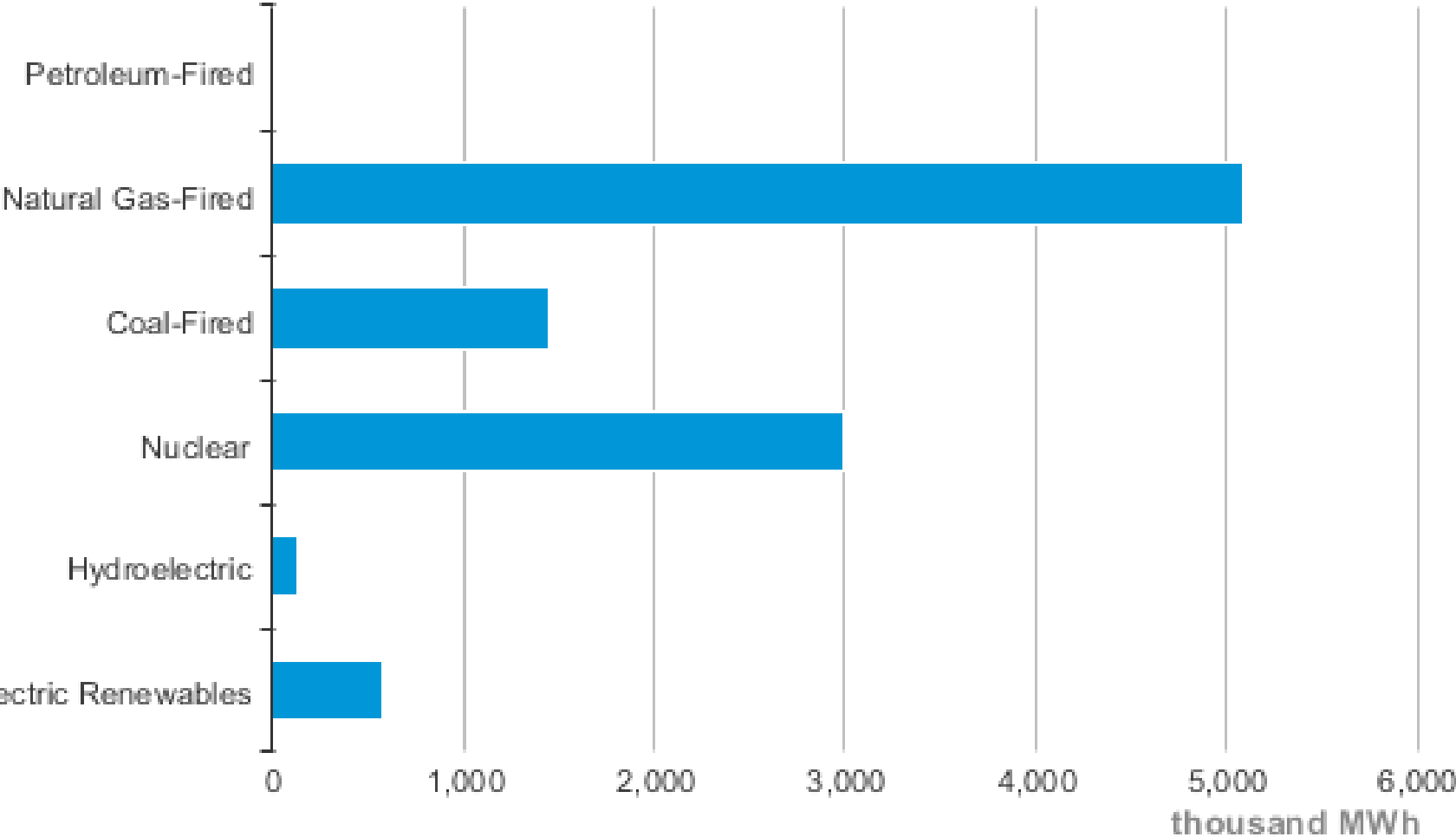
- Connect with other GTs in your area
 - Who has done this? Why or why not?
 - What do you think it could produce?
 - Building Power from the Grassroots
- Sustainability Policy
 - Who has a sustainability policy implemented?
 - Why or why not?
 - Cleaning chemicals, catering, events, purchasing, recycling/compost contracts, etc.



The Need for Solar: Georgia's Energy Systems

- Well over the majority of our energy production comes from Natural Gas and Coal.
- The harvesting, shipping, and burning of these materials for energy is killing us and our neighbors faster.
- We cannot afford to simply wait for them to change.
- We can shift some of this on our own buildings, while also increasing our disaster resilience. It is worth the effort and the risk.

Georgia Net Electricity Generation (2019)



Source: EIA/ Energy Information Administration, State Energy Data System

Solar Wise

- The solar process can be difficult, we are here to help!
- We provide FREE solar assessments!
- We act as liaisons between solar providers, the utility, and other parties.
- We have a zero interest solar loan fund, we have access to additional financing options, as well as other grants through our partners.
- Solar will decrease your energy bills, and make your congregation more resilient.



Divestment

- Often times we are fighting against ourselves, because of where our money is.
- Divestment is tangible, and perhaps the most impactful thing we can do to create change.
- \$700,000,000,000 invested in fossil fuel companies from investment banks since the Paris Climate Agreement.
- We need to move our money. We need to move our congregation's money. We need to move our denomination's money.



J.P.Morgan

Bank of America®





Why and How to Divest?

- Divestment sends a clear message to fossil fuel companies and investment banks that we are serious about changing our carbon footprints and they should be as well.
- Divestment helps to break up the status quo maintained by fossil fuel companies and politicians.
- Divestment is a non-violent, creative solution that actually produces practical and systemic change.

Policy and Advocacy Opportunities

- Policy change is our moral and religious duty.
- Policy Pillars:
 - Solar/Energy Policy
 - 100% Clean Energy Plans
 - Coal Ash
 - Superfund sites
- We have advocacy workshops and will set up lobby meeting with your congress people!
- Your voice and your congregation's voice is incredibly powerful.
- Capitol Conservation Day on February 26th!







The impact of coal ash ponds on water resources

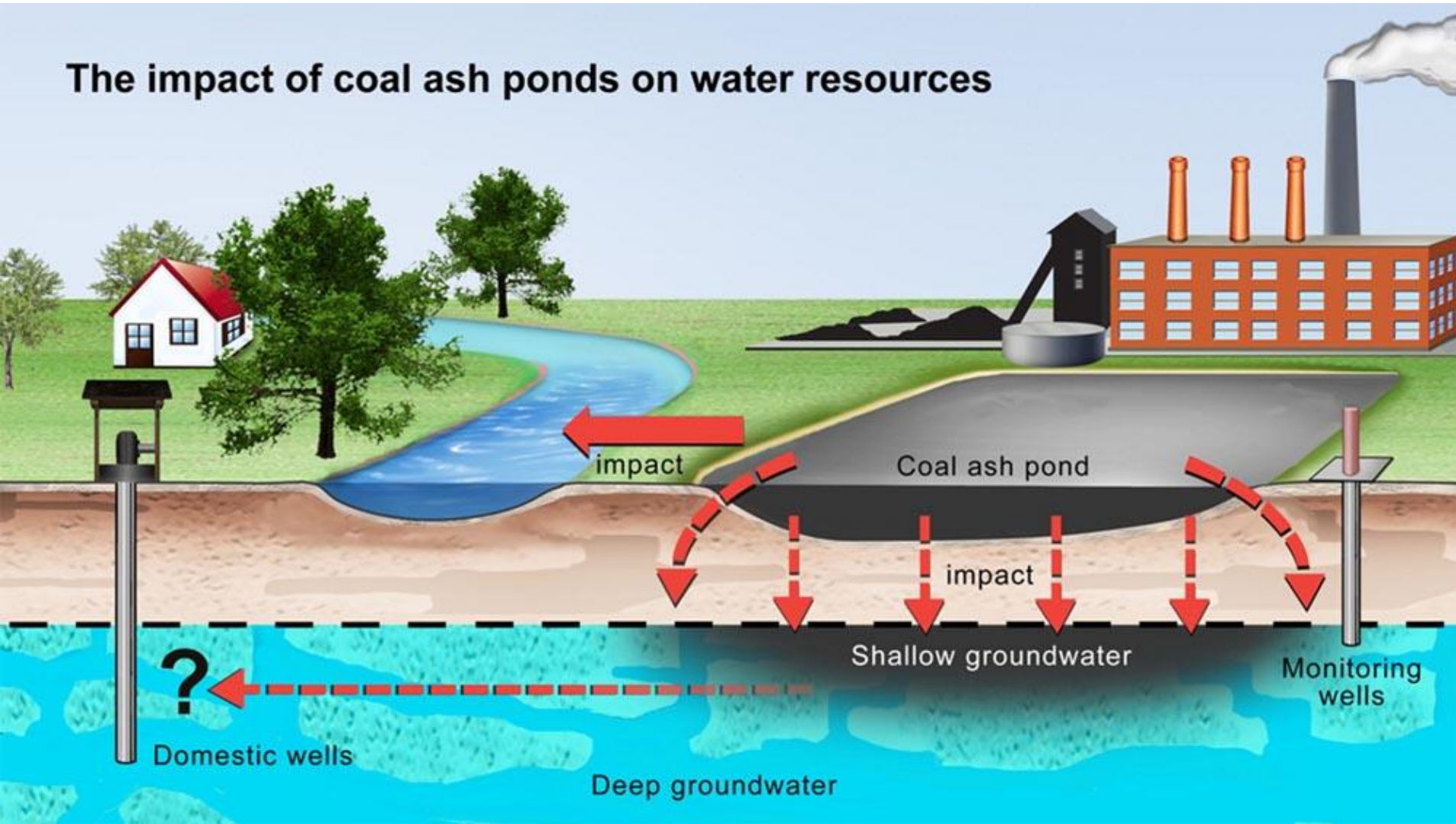
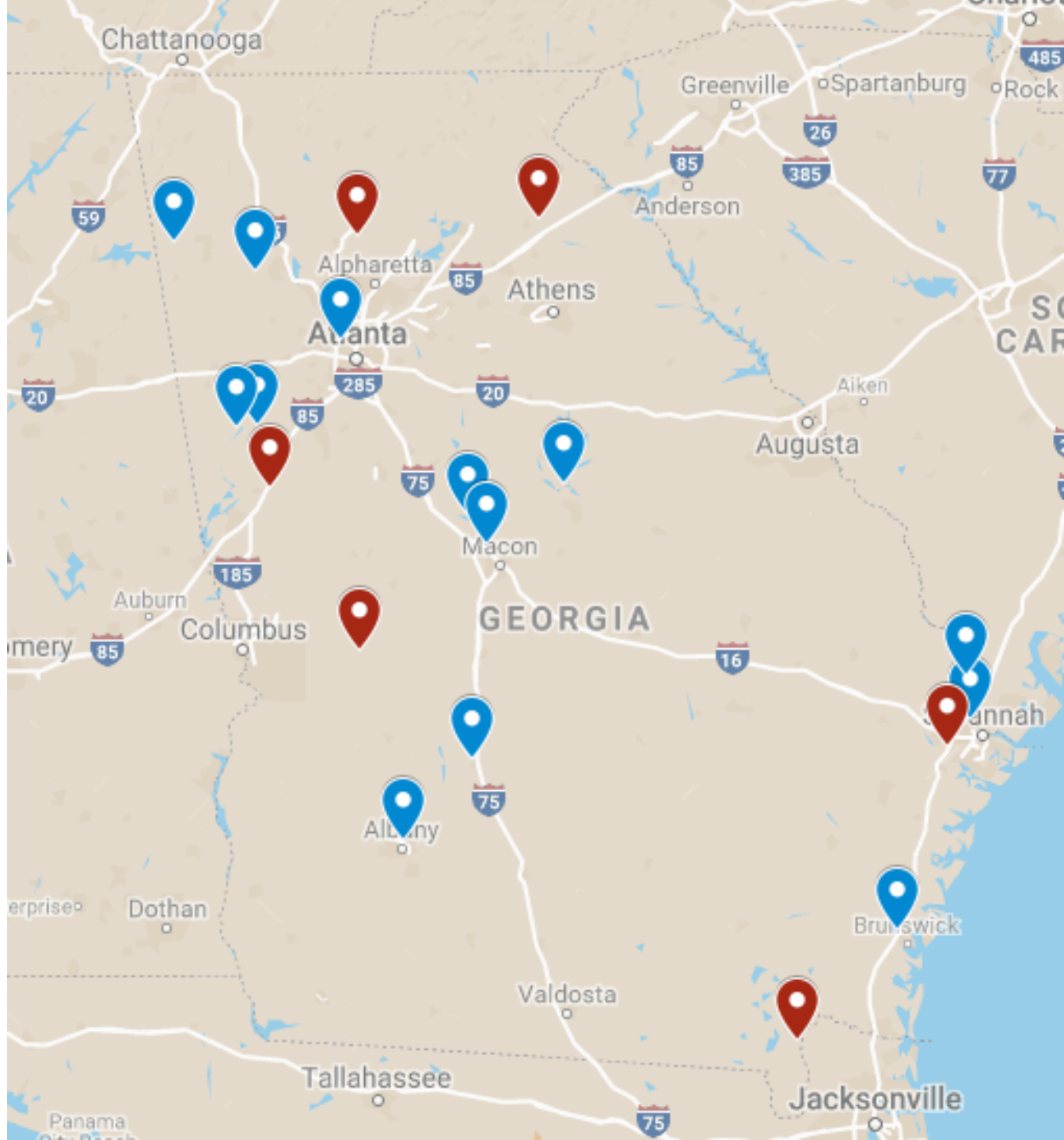


Image: Duke University Journal of Envntl. Science & Technology





Not far from Waste Management’s R&B Landfill in Banks County, the company parks a fleet of special side-dumping trailers and trucks in Franklin County. The big rigs—loaded with toxic coal ash—create a steady I-85 convoy out of the Carolinas.



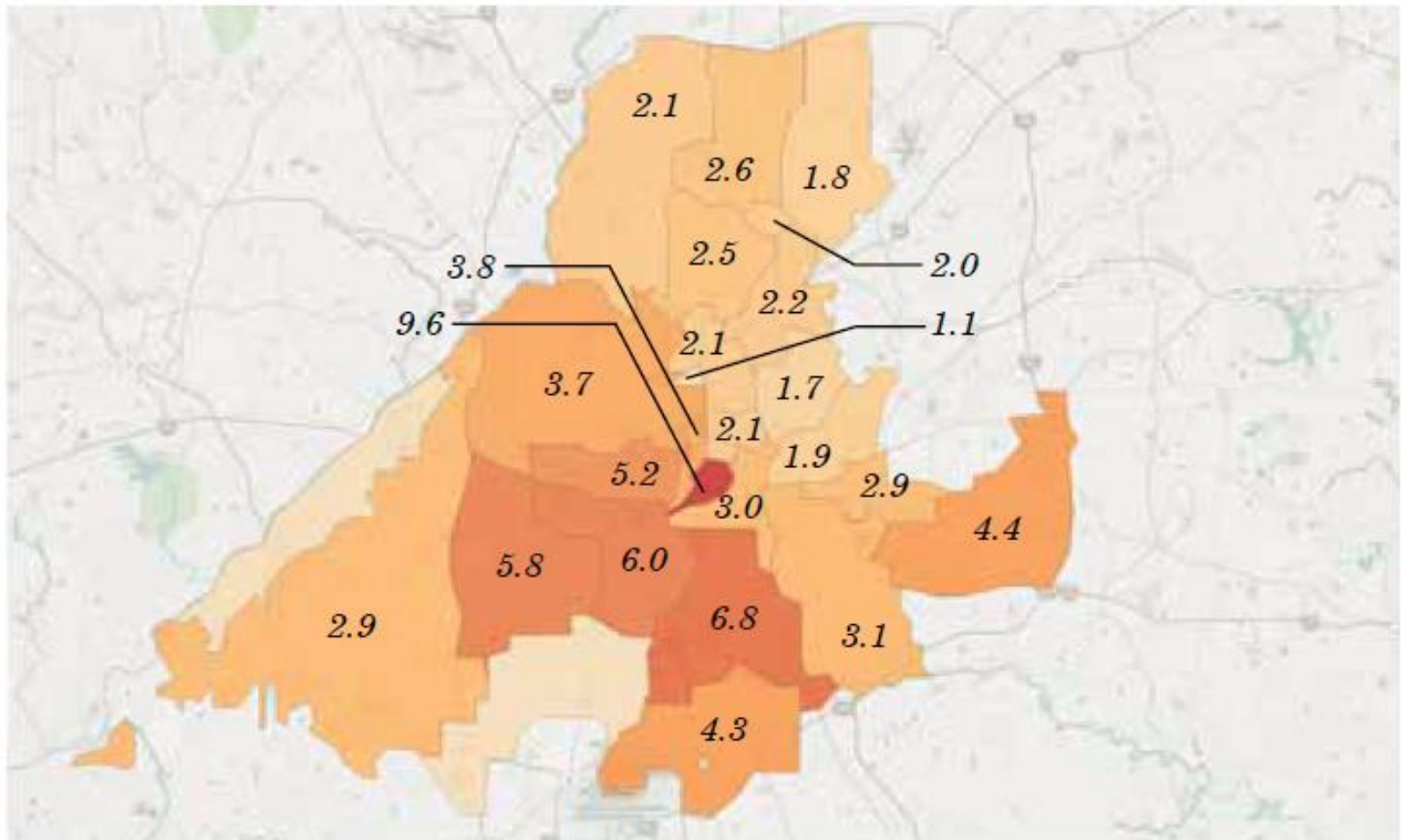
Policy Opportunities on Coal Ash

- Register at **Protectgeorgia.org** for advocacy and policy updates.
- SB 123 – calls for the increase in tipping fees to be equal with household garbage.
- HB 756 – Calls for the removal of all coal ash and requires it all to be stored in dry, lined landfills.



100% Clean and Equitable Energy Policies

- We will likely never get a 100% clean energy at the state level, or a renewable portfolio standard.
- We can achieve virtually the same goal by implementing 100% clean energy plans at the local and city levels across this state.
- Currently Atlanta, Athens, and Clarkston have Clean Energy goals.
- We are hoping to push the same in Decatur, Savannah, Columbus, Macon, and more, this year.
- This can be local, city, and state level.



**Atlanta Residential
Electricity Burden By ZIP
Code**





GEORGIA
WATER
COALITION

Capitol Conservation Day is February 26th!
Register at gawater.org.



Connecting faith,
community and planet