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Local & State

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Power plant divides residents

Leon County residents remain highly divided on whether the city of Tallahassee should partner with other utilities to build a coal-fired power plant in Taylor County.

Environmental and economic concerns, whether the plant will be built regardless of Tallahassee's participation and a 1992 referendum on whether to build a similar plant here all seem to influence public opinion.

In a *Tallahassee Voices* survey conducted earlier this month, residents were nearly evenly divided when asked simply whether they were in favor of or opposed to the plant. Support dropped once respondents were given additional information about the plant and the different aspects of the proposal.

Interestingly, opposition to the proposed plant increased even when people were asked,

ONLINE EXTRA

■ For complete survey results, or to join the survey panel, go to www.tallahassee.com.

"If you knew that building the coal plant would decrease your personal utility costs by at least 10 percent a year, would you support or oppose it?"

However, support for participation grew when people were told that the plant would be built anyway — leaving residents almost evenly divided.

Tallahassee Voices is an Internet survey project of the *Tallahassee Democrat* and Kerr & Downs Research. The panel contains more than 2,500 local residents, and 785 responded to this survey.

The survey was not scientific.

■ Democrat news sources