

GLPC AGENDA ITEM # 4 November 24, 2025

Rezoning Request by Atlanta Gas Light (AGL) File #: VA-2025-13

Atlanta Gas Light (AGL) is requesting to rezone a total of 45.64 acres from Single-Family Residential (R-15) and Residential Professional (R-P), to Highway Commercial (C-H). The subject property is a portion of a proposed new rectangular-shaped parcel located near the NW corner of the intersection of East Hill Avenue and Inner Perimeter Road. The applicant is proposing to purchase about 120 acres (the proposed parcel) at this intersection corner. The property is currently split-zoned R-15, C-H and R-P. The applicant is proposing to approximately double the area of C-H zoning within the site, to accommodate the construction of a utility substation in the form of a satellite Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility for recharging the area's natural gas pipeline distribution system. Under the City's zoning regulations, this proposed usage of the property is classified as a Utility Substation, which is a permitted use in C-H zoning.

The subject property is located within a **Community Activity Center (CAC)** Character Area on the Future Development Map of the Comprehensive Plan, which allows the possibility of C-H zoning.

The actual proposed Utility Substation will be situated on a relatively small (12-acres cleared area) interior section of the parcel, which is centrally located within the property. All of the surrounding 100+ acres will be retained by the applicant as a forested "buffer" to the LNG facility. Much of this buffer area is required for both safety and security purposes, and it will help mitigate any visual/negative impacts of the facility, while preserving the natural landscape and green space around the development. This area of the City is now emerging as a "new development area" with industrial uses to the south, as well as lots of planned residential and commercial uses to the north and east. The proposed facility will play a vital role with some of this new development, and it will be an overall asset to have for the entire community.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: Find consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and the Standards for the Exercise of Zoning Power (SFEZP) and recommend **approval** to the City Council.

Planning Analysis & Property Information

Applicant:	Atlanta Gas Light (AGL)					
Owner:	J.N. Bray Company					
Request:	Rezone 45.64 acres of land from R-15 & R-P to C-H					
Property General Information						
Size & Location:	Within a 120-acre "proposed parcel" of land located at the NW corner of the intersection of East Hill Avenue and Inner Perimeter Road. This parcel is currently split-zoned, and the total portions of each area to be rezoned = 45.64 acres REZONING acreage summary (to be rezoned to C-H): NE area current zoning R-P 3.07 acres NW interior area current zoning R-15 39.31 acres Southern aera current zoning R-P 3.26 acres					
Street Address:	** 3.07 acres + 39.31 acres + 3.26 acres = 45.64 acres to be rezoned. NW corner of the intersection of East Hill Avenue and Inner Perimeter Road					
Tax Parcel ID:						
Zoning & Land Use Patterns						
	Zoning Land Use					
Subject Property:	Existing:	R-15, R-P, C-H	Vacant			
	Proposed:	C-H	Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Facility			
Adjacent Property:	North:	R-15, R-P	Vacant			
		R-1, M-2	Walmart Diary Plant; two residential homes (Across East Hill Avenue)			
East: C-H, R-P		C-H, R-P	Vacant			
	West:	R-P, M-1	Radio Station, Commercial Tire Center			
Zoning & Land Use History	The property is natural forested land (recently harvested), and has always been undeveloped.					
	I	Neighborho	od Characteristics			
Historic Resources:	There are no designated historic resources in the area					
Natural Resources: Vegetation:			Natural forest			
	Wetlands:		There are NWI wetlands within the subject property			
	Flood Hazards		The property is located within the current FEMA designated 100-year floodplain			
	Groundwater Recharge: No significant recharge areas in the vicinity					

	Endangered Species:	No known endangered species on or near the property; however, with the presence of wetlands there is a possibility of such.			
Public Facilities					
Water & Sewer:	Existing Valdosta water and sewer services are in the process of being extended to this area near the subject property.				
Transportation:	Inner Perimeter Road and East Hill Avenue (both Principal Arterials/Major Highways)				
Fire Protection:	Fire Station # 1 (South Oak Street) = approximately 3.2 miles to the west. The nearest fire hydrants are located along East Hill Avenue and Inner Perimeter Road.				

Comprehensive Plan Issues

Character Area: Community Activity Center

<u>Description</u>: A focal point for several neighborhoods that has a concentration of activities such as general retail, service commercial, office professional, higher-density housing, and appropriate public and open space uses easily accessible by pedestrians.

<u>Development Strategy</u>: Each Community Activity Center should include a relatively high-density mix of retail, office, services, and employment to serve a regional market area. Residential development should reinforce the town center through locating higher density housing options adjacent to the town center, targeted to a broad range of income levels, including multi-family town homes, apartments and condominiums. Design for each Community Activity Center should be very pedestrian-oriented, with strong, walkable connections between different uses. Road edges should be clearly defined by locating buildings at roadside with parking in the rear. Direct connections to greenspace and trail networks should be provided. The pedestrian-friendly environment should be enhanced by adding sidewalks and other pedestrian-friendly trails/bike routes linked to other neighborhood amenities such as libraries, neighborhood centers, health facilities, parks, and schools.

Goals and Policies:

<u>GOAL 6: COMMUNITY FACILITIES</u> – To ensure the provision of infrastructure, community facilities, and public services that support efficient growth and development patterns.

POLICY 6.1 – Wise policy decisions shall maximize the efficient use of existing infrastructure as well as future investments in capital improvements, long term operation, and maintenance.

POLICY 6.3 – The effects of new development shall be anticipated so as to maintain or improve appropriate levels of service.

<u>GOAL 7: LAND USE</u> – To ensure the community's anticipated growth occurs in a well-integrated yet organized fashion, which protects our community resources, promotes efficient use of infrastructure and transportation facilities, and supports quality economic development.

POLICY 7.5 – Available land shall be utilized in the most efficient manner while focusing on redevelopment of land where feasible.

<u>GOAL 8: INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION</u> – To encourage coordination of planning efforts with other local service providers and authorities, neighboring communities and state and regional planning agencies.

Standards for the Exercise of Zoning Power (Review Criteria)

In reviewing and making a decision on a rezoning request, the City staff, Planning Commission and City Council shall consider the following standards. The proposed responses to these standards by the applicant and staff are listed below.

	er a proposed rezoning will permit a range of uses that are suitable, in view of the use and nearby property.			
Applicant:	N/a			
Staff:	Yes			
(2) Whethe property.	er a proposed rezoning will adversely affect the existing use or usability of adjacent or nearby			
Applicant:	N/a			
Staff:	No			
(3) Whether	er the property to be affected by a proposed rezoning has a reasonable economic use as currently			
Applicant:	N/a			
Staff:	Yes, the property could be used in its current zoning designations; however, depending on the use, a rezoning request submission would still be likely.			
	er the proposed rezoning will result in a use that will or could cause an excessive or burdensome ing streets, transportation facilities, utilities or schools.			
Applicant:	N/a			
Staff:	No, this use will not cause any issues with the existing adjacent facilities or uses.			
(5) Whethe	er the proposed rezoning is in conformity with the policy and intent of the Comprehensive Plan.			
Applicant:	N/a			
Staff:	Yes			
(6) Whether there are other existing or changing conditions affecting the use and development of the property that give supporting grounds for either approval or disapproval of the proposed rezoning.				
Applicant:	N/a			
Staff:	No			
(7) Whether, and the extent to which, the proposed rezoning would result in significant adverse impacts on the natural environment.				
Applicant:	N/a			
Staff:	The proposed rezoning will not result in significant adverse impacts on the natural environment.			
	er the proposed change will constitute a grant of special privilege to the individual owner as with adjacent or nearby property owners or the general public.			
Applicant:	N/a			
Staff:	No			

Supplemental Regulations in the LDR Applicable to the Proposal

The applicable supplemental standards for this rezoning request are found in Section 218-13 (Z): *Standards of Use and Development for Electric, Petroleum or Gas Substation.*

- (1) Structures shall be placed not less than 50 feet from any property line.
- (2) Structures are to be enclosed by a fence at least 8 feet high.
- (3) The lot shall be suitably landscaped, including a buffer strip at least 10 feet wide along the front, side and rear property lines; planted with evergreen trees and shrubs that grow at least 8 feet tall and provide an effective visual screen.

Development Review Comments

The following comments are provided by the reviewing departments and are only intended to provide the developer with useful information for planning purposes. This list should not be considered all-inclusive as additional items may appear during the plan review process.

Building Plan Review: No Comments Engineering: No Comment

Fire: No Comment

Landscape: <No Comments received> **Police**: <No Comments received>

Public Works: No Comment Utilities: <No Comments received>

Attachments:

Zoning Location Map Character Area Map Aerial Location Map Letter of Authorization Boundary survey Site Plan Facility schematics

LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION

To:	City of Valdosta, Georgia					
	N. Lee Street					
	Valdosta, GA 31603-1125					
	1000					
Re:	Unassigned Address, Hwy 84, Parcel #0154-001					
	Property Street Address and Tax Map/Parcel Nu	mber				
To Who	om it may concern:					
Atlan	accept this letter as the owner of the above reference ta Gas Light Company (Company's Name) to located at Hwy 84 & Inner Perimeter Rd (Property	Submit for rezoning or a proper				
facility	located at riwy of a time it crimines. He					
If you b	nave questions or wish to discuss this authorizati	on, you may reach me at:				
Owner:						
Name	The J.N. Bray Company					
Addres	S 1173 1st Street SE					
City	Moultrie, GA 31768	Moultrie, GA 31768				
Phone	(540) 871-6867					
IN WIT	TNESS WHEREOF, this Security Instrument ha and year first above written.	s been executed by Borror under seal as of				
Signed	, sealed, and delivered in the presence of:	OWNER:				
A	Jula Bridge	The J.N. Bray Company				
Notary	Public	By: Sallulah LIMEGETH				
	mmission expires: April 30, 2029	Name: Tallulah Gregory				
(NOTA	ARY SEAL)	Title: President				

PAULA BRIDGE
NOTARY PUBLIC
REG. #7739142
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES APRIL 30, 2029

VA-2025-13 Zoning Location Map

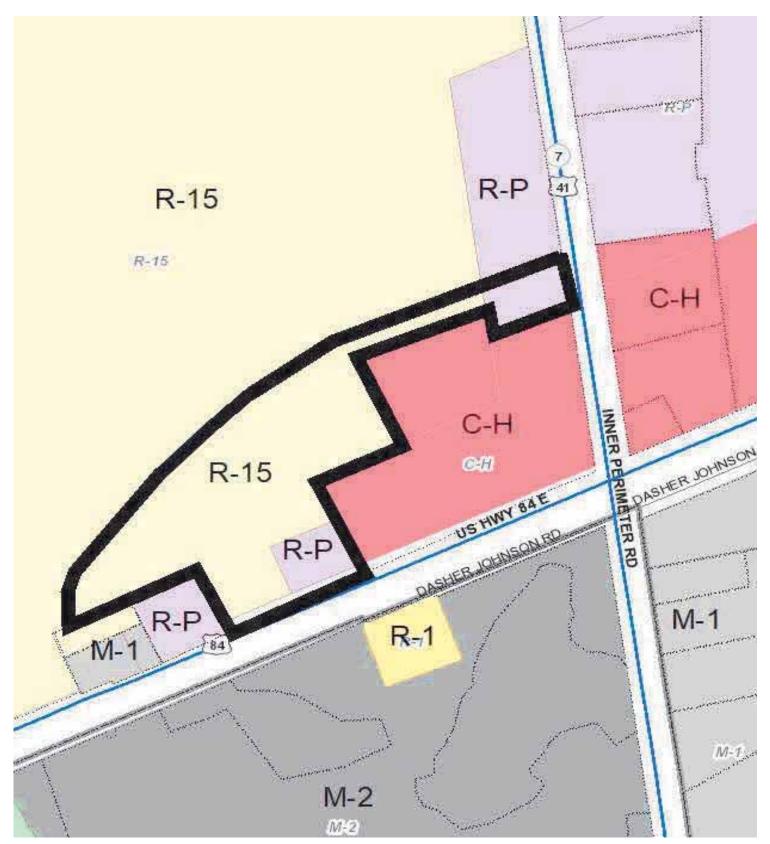


Atlanta Gas Light **Rezoning Request** NW of IPR & E Hill Avenue (US 84)

Current Zoning = R-15 & R-P

Tax Parcel: # 0154 - 001

** Map NOT to scale Map Data Source: VALOR GIS November 2025



VA-2025-13 Future Development Map

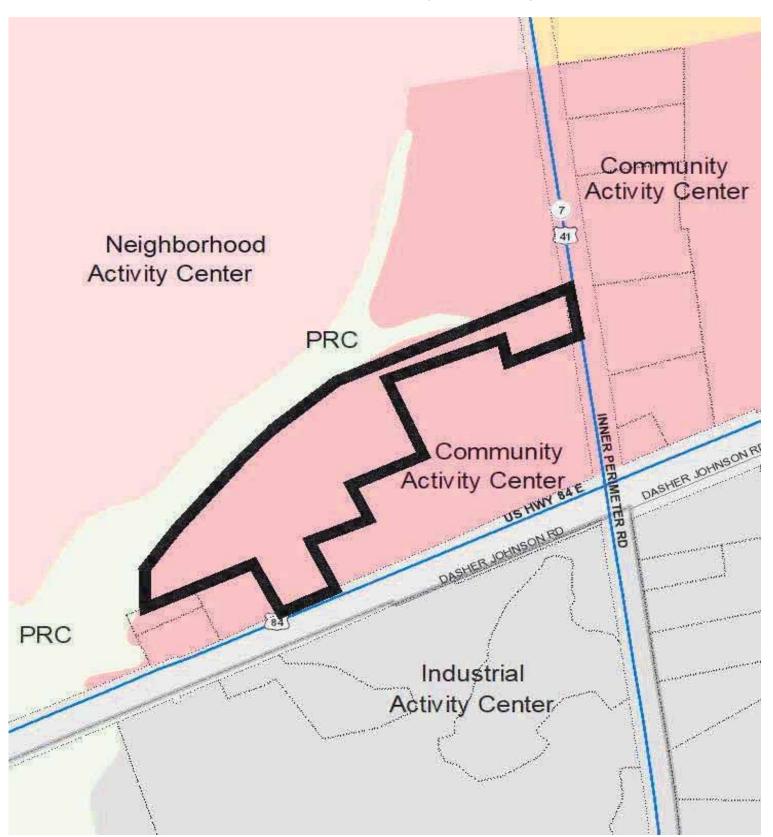


Atlanta Gas Light Rezoning Request NW of IPR & E Hill Avenue (US 84)

Character Area = Community AC

Tax Parcel: # 0154 - 001

Map NOT to scale Map Data Source: VALOR GIS November 2025



VA-2025-13 Aerial Location Map



Atlanta Gas Light Rezoning Request NW of IPR & E Hill Avenue (US 84) Tax Parcel: # 0154 - 001 ~ 2023 Aerial Imagery

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Homestead LNG Rendering

VA-2025-13



Image 1 – Bullet Tanks for LNG Storage

