

Official Transcript of Proceedings

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Title: Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
License Renewal Application
Public Hearing - Afternoon Session

Docket Number: (50-395)

Location: Jenkinsville, South Carolina

Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2002

Work Order No.: NRC-691

Pages 1-85

NEAL R. GROSS AND CO., INC.
Court Reporters and Transcribers
1323 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 234-4433

1 U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

2 + + + + +

3 VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION

4 LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

5 ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING PROCESS

6 + + + + +

7 WEDNESDAY,

8 DECEMBER 11, 2002

9 + + + + +

10 JENKINSVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

11 + + + + +

12
13 The meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. at the
14 White Hall Fellowship at 8594 State Highway 215 South,
15 Jenkinsville, South Carolina, Chip Cameron, Facilitator
16 presiding.

17
18 PRESENT:

19 CHIP CAMERON, FACILITATOR

20 JOHN TAPPERT

21 RAJ AULUCK

22 GREGORY SUBER

23
24
25
NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

A-G-E-N-D-A

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

Page

Welcome - Facilitator Cameron.	3
John Tappert.	8
Overview of Safety Evaluation for the License Renewal Process	
Raj Auluck.	10
Overview of Environmental Review Process	
Gregory Suber.	21
Formal Comments	
CAROLYN ROBINSON.	45
KAMU MARCHARIA.	48
ROSE WILDER.	50
COUNCILMAN MURPHY.	53
LUNELLE HARMON.	54
STEPHEN BYRNE.	58
STEPHEN SUMMER.	63
ROBIN WHITE.	67
BRETT BURSEY.	70
KIM BOWERS.	77
TERRIE VICKERS.	78

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

1
2 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Good afternoon,
3 everyone. My name is Chip Cameron. I'm the special
4 counsel for the public liaison at the Nuclear Regulatory
5 Commission. I would just like to welcome all of you to
6 the NRC's meeting today.

7 The topic of today's public meeting is the
8 scope of the NRC's environmental review on the
9 application that South Carolina Electric and Gas
10 submitted to the NRC to renew the operating license at
11 the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station.

12 It's my pleasure to serve as your facilitator
13 for today's meeting; and in that role, I will try to
14 help all of you to have a productive meeting this
15 afternoon.

16 I just wanted to go over a couple of things
17 about the format for the meeting this afternoon and the
18 agenda before we get started with the substance of
19 today's meeting.

20 In terms of the format, there is basically two
21 parts to the meeting, and they match up with our
22 objectives for the meeting today.

23 The first objective is to give all of you some
24 information on the NRC's license renewal evaluation
25 process, and to answer any questions that you might have

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 about that process. So we're going to start with a few
2 brief NRC presentations that are going to give you some
3 information, and then we will go out to you for any
4 questions that you might have about that.

5 The second objective, and the most important
6 one, is to hear from all of you on any comments that you
7 might have on the license renewal application for the
8 Summer Nuclear Station, specifically comments on the
9 scope of the NRC's environmental review.

10 So the second part of the meeting, we're going
11 to ask those of you who want to make a formal statement
12 to us to come up and talk to us, either to come up here
13 to the podium, which may be the most comfortable, or I
14 can bring you this talking stick.

15 We are taking written comments on the scope of
16 the environmental review issue, and the NRC staff will
17 be telling you a little bit more about that in a moment.
18 We did want to talk to you in person, and we're here
19 today to listen to you. Any comments that you make at
20 this meeting will carry the same weight as a written
21 comment, any written comments that we receive.

22 In terms of ground rules for the meeting,
23 they're fairly simple. If you have a question, just
24 give me a signal, and I will bring you this talking
25 stick, and if you could give us your name and

1 affiliation, if appropriate.

2 We are taking a transcript. Lisa is our
3 stenographer. She's in the back of the room. We will
4 have a complete record of everything that's said today,
5 and that will be available for people who want to see
6 it.

7 I would also ask that only one person at a
8 time talk, not only so that we can get a clean
9 transcript, but most importantly so that we can give our
10 full attention to whomever has the floor at the moment.

11 When we get to the formal public comment part
12 of the meeting, if you could just follow a guideline of
13 approximately five minutes and try to contain your
14 comments to five minutes. That way, we will make sure
15 that we can give everyone who wants to talk an
16 opportunity to speak today.

17 In terms of agenda, I want to also introduce
18 the NRC staff who will be talking to you. I'm first
19 going to ask John Tappert right here from the NRC to
20 give you a brief welcome and a little bit of an
21 overview.

22 John is the Chief of the environmental section
23 within the license renewal and environmental impact
24 program at the NRC. And that program is located in our
25 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

1 John and his staff, those are the people who
2 do all sort of environmental reviews on anything that
3 involves reactors, whether it's license renewal, a new
4 plant, license amendments, whatever. So he will be
5 talking to you first.

6 Then, so that you have a complete picture on
7 license renewal, we're going to have Raj Auluck, who is
8 right here, talk to you about the license renewal
9 process overall, and there are several components to
10 that.

11 Raj is the project manager on the safety
12 evaluation that's being done on the license renewal
13 application for the Summer Station. He will explain
14 what that is all about and how that relates to the
15 environmental review that's being done on that
16 application.

17 Then we're going to go to Gregory Suber, who
18 is right here. I think many of you already know Greg.
19 Greg is the project manager on the environmental review
20 for the license renewal application.

21 In terms of background on our speakers,
22 John Tappert has been with the agency for approximately
23 11 years. He's served as a resident -- one of our
24 resident inspectors. These are the NRC employees who
25 are actually resident at a nuclear power plant and are

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 the NRC's eyes and ears, so to speak, at the plant.

2 That's part of John's background.

3 In terms of education, he has a bachelor's
4 degree in aerospace and oceanographic engineering from
5 Virginia Tech and a master's in environmental
6 engineering from Johns Hopkins University.

7 Raj Auluck has been with the agency for over
8 20 years. He's not only been involved in licensing of a
9 nuclear power plant, but also involved in rule-making
10 efforts on various nuclear safety issues, and he has a
11 master's and a doctorate in mechanical engineering from
12 the University of Maryland.

13 And Gregory, who is the environmental project
14 manager, has been with the agency for two years now.
15 Before that, he was with Bechtel Power Corporation, and
16 he has a master's from Duke University in environmental
17 sciences, and a bachelor's in mechanical engineering
18 from Howard University.

19 We also have some experts who are assisting us
20 in this review and other NRC staff here, including staff
21 from our Office of General Counsel. And after the
22 meeting, I would just encourage you to talk to our staff
23 and our experts about any questions that you have.
24 They're here to try to help answer the questions today.

25 I would just thank you for all coming out this

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 afternoon and thank the church for the use of the
2 cheerful meeting hall that we have today. With that, I
3 will ask John to start us off.

4 MR. TAPPERT: Thank you, Chip. Welcome. As
5 Chip said, my name is John Tappert, Chief of the
6 environmental section in the Office of Nuclear Reactor
7 Regulation. On behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory
8 Commission, I would like to thank you for coming out
9 today and participating in this process.

10 There are some things we would like to cover
11 today. I would like to briefly discuss the purposes of
12 today's meeting.

13 I first want to provide you with a brief
14 overview of the entire license renewal process. This
15 includes both the safety review, as well as an
16 environmental review, which is the principal focus of
17 today's meeting.

18 In the environmental review, we're going to
19 assess the impacts associated with extending the
20 operating licensing for the V.C. Summer Nuclear Power
21 Plant for an additional 20 years. We're going to give
22 you information about the process we're going to follow,
23 the issues we're going to look at, our schedule, and
24 also the opportunities that you have to participate in
25 that process.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 At the conclusion of the staff's presentation,
2 we will be happy to receive any questions or comments
3 that you may have today. But first let me provide some
4 general context for the License Renewal Program.

5 The Atomic Energy Act gives the NRC the
6 authority to issue an operating license to commercial
7 nuclear power plants for a period of 40 years. For the
8 V.C. Summer Plant, that operating license will expire in
9 2022.

10 Our regulations also make provisions for
11 extending that operating license for an additional
12 20 years. As that's part of the license renewal
13 program, SCE&G has requested license renewal for the
14 Summer plant.

15 As part of the NCR's review of that
16 application, we're going to develop an environmental
17 impact statement to look at the effects of extending
18 that operating license.

19 We're in the early phase of that review now,
20 something called the scoping process, and seeking your
21 input on the issues that will require our greatest focus
22 on our review. That is really the principal purpose of
23 this meeting, to receive your input on that scoping
24 process.

25 With that, I would like to ask Raj Auluck to

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 give us an overview of the safety portion of our review.

2 MR. AULUCK: Thank you, John. Good afternoon.

3 As John mentioned, I'm Raj Auluck. I'm the
4 project manager for the safety review of the application
5 for license renewal for the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station.

6 The NRC's requirements for the renewal of
7 operating license are provided in Title 10 of the Code
8 of Federal Register, Part 54. The license renewal
9 process essentially runs in two parallel paths and is
10 very similar to the original licensing process in that
11 it involves a safety review, an environmental impact
12 evaluation, and plant inspections.

13 The safety review is focused on the review and
14 inspection of aging management programs for passive
15 long-lived system, structures and components. The
16 reason that the commission felt that these programs
17 should be the focus of the license renewal regulations
18 is because ongoing regulator processes already ensure
19 that the current licensing basis is maintained, and that
20 things like emergency planning and security plans are
21 acceptably implemented.

22 There are components and systems that need to
23 be constantly attended to. However, those maintenance
24 processes do not explicitly look at the plant's design
25 capability to cope with longterm degradation of

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 equipment due to aging effects.

2 So the license renewal application focuses on
3 those inspection programs and maintenance practices that
4 are used to maintain the margins of safety in the plant
5 safety equipment.

6 The second review path involves the
7 environmental review, which Gregory Suber will discuss
8 shortly.

9 I also want to mention that there is an
10 independent review by the Advisory Committee on Reactor
11 Safeguards, or ACRS. The ACRS is a group of scientists
12 and nuclear industry experts who serve as a consulting
13 body to the NRC Commissioners. The ACRS reviews the
14 renewal application, and the Staff's safety evaluation,
15 and reports its findings and recommendations directly to
16 the Commission.

17 This figure illustrates the entire license
18 renewal process. The upper path describes the safety
19 review, and the lower path shows the environmental
20 review.

21 The safety review involves the staff's review
22 of the technical information in the application to
23 verify, with reasonable assurance, that the plant can
24 continue to operate safely during the extended period of
25 operation. The staff's review is documented in a safety

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 evaluation report.

2 As I mentioned earlier, the ACRS reviews this
3 report, as well as the application, in order to develop
4 its independent findings. The ACRS holds public
5 meetings, which are transcribed. Oral and written
6 statements can be provided during the ACRS meetings in
7 accordance with the instructions described in the notice
8 of their meetings in the Federal Register.

9 In parallel with the safety review, the staff
10 performs its review of the environmental impacts of
11 continued operation. As Gregory Suber will discuss
12 later, the staff will issue an environmental impact
13 statement on the facility after it completes its review.

14 The NRC's licensing process also includes a
15 formal process for public involvement through hearings
16 conducted by a panel of administrative law judges who
17 are called Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, or ASLB.
18 That process requires a petition to be submitted to hold
19 hearings on particular issues, which would be litigated
20 by the board. However, there were no petitions filed to
21 intervene on the Summer proceedings.

22 At the end of the process, the final safety
23 evaluation report, the final environmental impact
24 statement, the ACRS recommendation and staff inspections
25 will be used by the agency in making the final license

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 renewal decision.

2 Throughout this process, interested members of
3 the public who are concerned about nuclear safety issues
4 can raise those issues during the various public
5 meetings that the NRC will hold to discuss the
6 V.C. Summer application.

7 Meetings on particular technical issues are
8 usually held at the NRC headquarters in Rockville,
9 Maryland. However, some technical meetings and meetings
10 to summarize the results of the NRC's inspection
11 findings will be held near the plant site in a place
12 that is accessible to the public.

13 In addition, the staff holds four public
14 meetings on the environmental aspects of the review, two
15 on the scope of the review, and two on the results of
16 the review during which the public can provide comments.

17 This is a brief overview of the license
18 renewal process. I will now take questions regarding
19 the renewal process before we proceed to the
20 environmental review process presentation.

21 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you, Raj. Are
22 there questions about the review process or about the
23 Nuclear Regulatory Commission generally for those of you
24 who aren't perhaps familiar with what we do? Yes, sir.
25 Can you give us your name?

1 MR. BURSEY: Yes. I'm Brett Bursey, and I
2 have a couple of questions about the process.

3 I understand that November 10th was the cutoff
4 for filing for interventions. If no one has filed for
5 interventions, does that preclude the citizens being
6 able to have a hearing on the final supplement?

7 MR. AULUCK: On November 4th, there was a
8 30-day comment period of notice, which was published on
9 the --

10 MR. BURSEY: I failed to read my Federal
11 Register that month.

12 MR. AULUCK: The regulations recognized late
13 filing petitions in CFR 2.1 -- 2.817.

14 MR. BURSEY: Well, I know about late filing
15 specifically. Absent an intervener, will there be full
16 public hearings? No? I see people shaking their head
17 no.

18 MR. AULUCK: No.

19 MR. BURSEY: So today, you can tell us that
20 you do not anticipate there will be public hearings on
21 the final --

22 MR. AULUCK: Right.

23 FACILITATOR CAMERON: And Brett, if you need
24 to know more about the filing process -- I know you know
25 a lot about it already. Pam Hodgkins is over here from

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 our Office of General Counsel, who can give you more
2 information or answer any questions on that.

3 But I think just to emphasize what your
4 question brought up is that, Raj went through the
5 process, the meetings that are going to happen on the
6 license renewal evaluation for Summer. And there will
7 be another public meeting on the draft environmental
8 impact statement here in the community.

9 There also are meetings between the NRC staff
10 and the licensee on technical issues, aging issues, some
11 of which are down here and open to the public, some of
12 which are in Washington and open to the public.

13 Raj, can you tell people if they want to find
14 out if we're going to hold a meeting down here, how do
15 they find out about that?

16 MR. AULUCK: I would like to emphasize that,
17 all of our meetings are public meetings and noticed at
18 least ten days in advance. But if you have a specific
19 interest, we will be happy to put you on the
20 distribution and let you know of the upcoming meetings.

21 FACILITATOR CAMERON: So you can get on a
22 distribution list. And also, do we announce these
23 meetings on our website?

24 MR. AULUCK: Yes, we do. As I mentioned, that
25 we will be happy to put somebody on the distribution.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 FACILITATOR CAMERON: I think that's important
2 for people to know that.

3 Are there other questions about the process at
4 all at this point? Okay. Let's just get you on the
5 transcript here. Tell us who you are.

6 MS. PEARSON: I'm Ms. Pearson. I'm just
7 wondering, because I just found out about it the day
8 before yesterday, why was it -- I'm disappointed at the
9 crowd, because I'm sure they don't know more than I did.
10 That's the reason they're not here. Evidently, there
11 was something wrong with the way you published this
12 meeting. To me it is. I don't know. But I know I
13 didn't know, and I've been here 76 years. Thank you.

14 FACILITATOR CAMERON: We can always -- I think
15 that we put some notices in local papers. But we can
16 always improve on our notice. If there are maybe some
17 suggestions about community groups that we can contact,
18 if anybody has suggestions like that, then we will talk
19 to you after the meeting. We will do everything that we
20 can to get the word out there to people. Thank you for
21 that comment.

22 Does anybody else have a question or a
23 comment? And if you want to come back to this subject
24 later on in the meeting and ask questions, you can do
25 that, too. For now, I guess we'll go on to Greg, who is

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 going to talk about the environmental review part of the
2 process.

3 One more question.

4 MR. MARCHARIA: Good afternoon. I'm Council
5 Member Kamau Marcharia for this particular district. I
6 want to welcome you to Fairfield County and all of those
7 who are participating in this particular matter.

8 I'm going to be brief. I have the flu and I
9 got up this morning to come. I have been asked to come.
10 Just commenting on what Ms. Pearson said. I guess I
11 would ask the question, how many folks are here from
12 Jenkinsville. Three? Four?

13 MR. BURSEY: How many citizens?

14 MR. MARCHARIA: How many citizens?

15 MR. BURSEY: You ask it. You have the
16 microphone.

17 MR. MARCHARIA: How many citizens are here
18 that work for the department?

19 MR. BURSEY: How many people are here that
20 don't work for the power company -- (inaudible).

21 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Let's get you on the
22 record after --

23 MR. BURSEY: Well, you can ask the question
24 and put it on the record.

25 MR. MARCHARIA: As a citizen, if you want to

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 ask that, that's okay.

2 My only concern is that we are in a county
3 that we have a 47-percent illiteracy rate, and I think
4 getting this information out to the public, as
5 Ms. Pearson has just indicated, is crucial. We're
6 living in crucial times, with a plant here and a threat
7 of terrorism and all of that.

8 I think just to share with some of you who
9 might not be aware. I'm speaking for the concerns that
10 I have heard from my constituency, not necessarily where
11 I'm at. But recently within the latter few weeks,
12 there's been a proposed bill of a coal power plant in
13 this community. When that announcement came, it just
14 sent -- there was never any conversation about the
15 nuclear power plant. But that really spurred a lot of
16 conversation in this particular district, which might
17 not impact other districts.

18 I've been asked a million questions that I
19 don't have answers for. When you're elected and folks
20 ask you a question, you can't be saying I don't know,
21 hunching your shoulders. So I'm trying to gather as
22 much information as I possibly can.

23 I would suggest on a Wednesday, most folks are
24 probably working. If it was on a Saturday, more at a
25 public facility, you might have more participation. So

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 I would encourage that. There needs to be some more
2 input from the citizens in this community, in this
3 serious, serious decision that you are making. I wanted
4 to make that clear.

5 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you very much.
6 Any other questions before we go on?

7 MR. COLEMAN: I'm Creighton Coleman.

8 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Representative Coleman?

9 MR. COLEMAN: Yes, sir.

10 FACILITATOR CAMERON: If I could get you to
11 come to the microphone.

12 MR. COLEMAN: At some point in time, the plant
13 will be closed down, I realize, whether or not it's 2002
14 or whenever it is. Who will monitor the plant
15 environmentally, safely after it's closed down? Will
16 you all continue to monitor the plant?

17 MR. AULUCK: Yes, there are obligations that
18 we have to follow, and we have someone in the audience
19 to speak to that.

20 Michael Masnik : There is a rather
21 detailed procedure once the plant permanently shuts
22 down, and it is a requirement of the regulations that
23 the plant be cleaned up. We provide oversight during
24 that clean-up period. It's a lengthy process. The
25 number of reactors in this country has undergone that

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C 20005-3701

1 process or is undergoing that process. So yes, we would
2 provide oversight during the actual decommissioning of
3 the facility.

4 MR. COLEMAN: But after it's decommissioned,
5 is anybody riding herd over it during that time period
6 to ensure the public that it's safe?

7 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Representative, we need
8 to get you on the transcript. I hated to bother you
9 with this microphone. If you could talk into it.

10 MR. COLEMAN: I mean, after it's
11 decommissioned, are there people that come periodically
12 to ensure the safety? I'm sure it will be, but to
13 assure the public that everything is okay at the
14 facility? I understand y'all will decommission it and
15 that's it, but is someone continuing to monitor the
16 plant?

17 Michael Masnik: The process of
18 decommissioning will remove the radiological hazard of
19 the facility. When the license is terminated for that
20 facility, it would be terminated under the conditions
21 that it would be safe for unrestricted use. In other
22 words, if you wanted to build another power facility
23 there or a school or whatever, the levels of residual
24 radiation would be low enough so that it would pose no
25 hazard to the public.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 So once the license is terminated, it also
2 terminates our oversight of the facility, but we
3 wouldn't allow that until the plant was cleaned up to a
4 point where it would not present any residual hazard to
5 the public.

6 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you, Mike.
7 Mr. Bursey is going to ask his question he was going to
8 ask during his comments at the later part of the
9 meeting.

10 Anybody else before we go to the environmental
11 review part of the process?

12 Okay. Thank you, Raj.

13 MR. SUBER: Thank you, Chip. First of all, I
14 would like to thank everyone for coming out. Public
15 participation is important to the NRC, and I'm glad to
16 see that some of you took time out of your busy
17 schedules to come here and tell us how you feel about
18 this process, and also to help us develop and evolve the
19 process.

20 My name is Gregory Suber. I am the
21 environmental project manager for the V.C. Summer
22 licensing renewal. Right now I'm going to take a few
23 minutes to discuss the environmental review process and
24 how you, the public, can participate in that process.

25 The National Environmental Policy Act, also

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 known as NEPA, was enacted in 1969 and signed into law
2 in January of 1970. NEPA requires all federal agencies
3 to use a systematic approach to consider environmental
4 impacts during certain decisionmaking proceedings. It
5 is what we call a disclosure tool that involves the
6 public. That means that we at the NRC use this process
7 to, number one, let the public know what information we
8 are using in our regulatory decisions.

9 We disclose and demonstrate to the public what
10 issues we are considering in our review, and then we
11 invite the public to come to us and evaluate the process
12 and the information. That's why we're here today, to
13 initiate this process.

14 The product of the NEPA process for license
15 renewal is an environmental impact statement, also known
16 as an EIS. An EIS describes the results of the detailed
17 review that we conduct to evaluate the environmental
18 impacts of a proposed action that may significantly
19 affect the quality of the human environment.

20 As a part of our review, we also consider the
21 environmental impacts of alternatives to the proposed
22 action. These alternatives include replacement power
23 sources, whether it be windmills or hydroelectric power,
24 conservation measures, and the no-action alternative,
25 which means simply not approving the license renewal for

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 V.C. Summer.

2 In the generic environmental impact statement
3 for license renewal of nuclear plants, also known as
4 NUREG-1437 or, as we commonly call it, the GEIS, the NRC
5 considered the environmental impacts of renewing nuclear
6 power plant operating licenses for up to 20 years.

7 In the GEIS, the NRC staff identified and
8 assessed 92 environmental issues related to license
9 renewal. The staff reached generic conclusions on 69 of
10 these issues referred to in the GEIS as Category 1
11 issues. By generic, we mean that the conclusions of
12 these environmental impacts are common for all operating
13 plants.

14 The remaining 23 issues require plant-specific
15 review, in addition to any Category 1 issue for which
16 new and significant information is identified. New and
17 significant information can be identified by a variety
18 of sources. Number one is the applicant, SCE&G, the
19 NRC, other agencies, or through public comments, as in
20 the forum that we have today. These plant-specific
21 reviews are included in the supplement to the GEIS.

22 At this point in our process, we are gathering
23 information that we need to prepare the supplement to
24 the GEIS. Specifically, we are performing what we call
25 scoping. We are having this meeting today as part of

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D C. 20005-3701

1 our scoping process for the purpose of providing you,
2 the public, and other government agencies the
3 opportunity to provide us with information that you
4 believe may have some bearing on our environmental
5 evaluation.

6 In particular, we are looking for information
7 that may not be readily available or concerns that you,
8 especially people here in Jenkinsville, may have that
9 are not addressed in the licensing application.

10 As stated in the slide, the objective of our
11 environmental review is to determine whether the
12 adverse impacts of license renewal for V.C. Summer are
13 so great, that preserving the option of license renewal
14 for energy planning decisionmakers would be
15 unreasonable.

16 That's the way it's written in our
17 regulations. So to paraphrase, we are trying to
18 determine whether renewing the V.C. Summer license for
19 an additional 20 years is acceptable from an
20 environmental standpoint.

21 I want to emphasize that if we, in our
22 process, determine that license renewal is acceptable
23 from an environmental standpoint, all that means is that
24 SCE&G has the option to operate the plant for an
25 additional 20 years. The NRC does not determine whether

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 the plant will actually operate. That's a decision that
2 will be made by SCE&G and the state regulators, which in
3 this case would be the South Carolina Public Service
4 Commission.

5 It is possible that, after receiving a renewed
6 license from the NRC, that the utility could determine
7 that it is not economically feasible to continue plant
8 operation, and the utility could decide not to operate
9 that plant.

10 On this slide, we present a more detailed
11 timeline of our environmental review process. The
12 licensee's application was received on August the 6th of
13 2002. On October the 25th, we issued a notice of intent
14 to prepare an environmental impact statement and conduct
15 a scoping process, which is what we're doing right now.

16 The scoping process, which you all are an
17 instrumental part of, is a data-gathering phase. The
18 information that we collect is used to develop a draft
19 of the environmental impact statement, which we expect
20 to issue for public comment in July of next year.

21 We will come back to Jenkinsville in September
22 of 2003 for another public meeting to talk with you
23 about the results of our review, and to give you another
24 opportunity to provide us with any comments or any
25 information that you may have.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 After receiving and evaluating the comments,
2 we will develop the final environmental impact
3 statement, which we expect to issue in February of 2004.

4 Yesterday, we went to the site to get familiar
5 with the lay of the land, to examine features of
6 particular interests, and to observe firsthand how the
7 site interacts with the environment.

8 This week we are gathering information for our
9 evaluation from a number of different sources, including
10 the documents sent to us from the licensee. We are also
11 compiling information from federal, state, tribal and
12 local government officials and interested people from
13 the local community who may have input that will help us
14 in our environmental evaluation.

15 We will consider all comments received during
16 the comment period, which expires on January 6th. So if
17 you get up and have a comment and then go home and think
18 of something brilliant that you forgot to say, we will
19 still accept those comments up until January 6th.

20 Our team focuses on many environmental issues.
21 This slide shows the range of areas included in our
22 review. Impacts considered include everything from
23 radiological effects to air quality, from water use and
24 quality, to effects on plant and wildlife.

25 We also look at what we call socioeconomics.

1 We ask the question, what type of economic effect does
2 the plant have on the lives of people here in Fairfield
3 County and in the surrounding counties.

4 We also consider environmental justice.
5 Environmental justice focuses our attention on the
6 question of whether there are minority or low-income
7 populations that may be disproportionately affected by
8 the proposed action in which it gets its license
9 renewal.

10 To prepare for our review, we have assembled a
11 team of NRC staff with backgrounds in the specific
12 technical and scientific disciplines required to perform
13 our environmental evaluations.

14 In addition, to supplement our technical
15 expertise of our staff, we have engaged the assistance
16 of National Laboratories to ensure that we have a
17 well-rounded knowledge base to perform our review. We
18 put together a team of about 15 people, many of whom are
19 here today to listen to what you have to say.

20 Let's summarize a few key points of an earlier
21 slide. Our schedule is to complete the scoping process
22 by the end of the public comment period, which is
23 January the 6th of 2003. After that, we will issue a
24 draft environmental impact statement in July of 2003.
25 And we expect to issue the final environmental impact

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 statement in February of 2004.

2 If you would like a copy of these documents
3 sent to you, we will need your name and your mailing
4 address. And in order to do that, all you have to do is
5 fill out one of the blue cards on the desk in the
6 hallway here, and that will facilitate that process.

7 Here we provide some contact information for
8 you. In case you have additional questions when you
9 leave today, my telephone number is provided in this
10 slide. I am the designated point of contact within the
11 NRC for the environmental portion of the review.

12 Mr. Raj, who spoke earlier, is the project manager for
13 the engineering management program.

14 Although my telephone number is on this slide,
15 I still need your specific comments in some form that we
16 could document. Documentation is very important. So
17 you could either submit your comments in writing or, as
18 Chip has indicated, you can get up and have your
19 comments transcribed through the oral comments that you
20 give today.

21 Oral comments are important because this
22 meeting is being transcribed and the transcript will
23 become the written record of your comments.

24 Arrangements have been made for documents
25 associated with this review to be available to you

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 locally at the Fairfield County Library, located at 300
2 Washington Street in Winnsboro, South Carolina, and the
3 Thomas Cooper Library located at 1322 Greene Street in
4 Columbia, South Carolina on the USC campus.

5 Also, documents are available through our
6 documents management system known as ADAMS, which you
7 can reach on our internet web page at www.nrc.gov.

8 As I had spoken earlier, after this meeting,
9 you can still submit comments. You can submit them by
10 mail, in person or by email. You can mail specific
11 written comments to the address shown here, which is
12 also included on one of the handouts that we have in the
13 hallway, so you don't have to write it down right now.
14 You can also stop by our Rockville office and speak to
15 speak to any of us and submit comments that way, or you
16 can submit comments by email to the address shown on the
17 slide, and that same address is also shown on the
18 handout that is on the table there.

19 This concludes the formal part of our
20 presentation. Once again, I would like to thank all of
21 you for coming out. We are genuinely interested in
22 hearing what you have to say, and I thank you for your
23 time.

24 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you very much.

25 You just heard Greg talk about the

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 environmental review. Raj Auluck talked about the --
2 what I call the safety review. It's the aging
3 management part of this. Both of those evaluations come
4 together as the basis for an NRC decision on whether to
5 renew the license.

6 Before we go on to you, I just wondered, Greg,
7 can you just clarify one thing? You told us when the
8 final environmental impact statement would be available.

9 What is the time frame for when that document
10 and the aging -- the safety review will come together
11 for an NRC decision, so that people know when a decision
12 would be made?

13 MR. SUBER: The decision now is at the level
14 of the Nuclear -- at the NRR director, and I believe
15 that's about a year after the final has been issued; is
16 that correct?

17 MR. AULUCK: Twenty-two months or 25 months.
18 The current schedule calls for 25 months. We're
19 changing -- arising to a final decision in 22 months.

20 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Can you do the math for
21 us?

22 MR. AULUCK: Yes. June of 2004.

23 FACILITATOR CAMERON: June of 2004 is the
24 projected date.

25 Questions on the environmental review or going

1 back to the safety review? Any questions from anybody?

2 MR. BURSEY: What you're doing in this process
3 is a site-specific supplement to a generic environmental
4 impact statement; is that correct?

5 MR. SUBER: Yes.

6 MR. BURSEY: The only thing that will be
7 considered that's site-specific will be in this portion
8 of the process?

9 MR. SUBER: Say that again.

10 MR. BURSEY: The only site-specific
11 considerations will be in this portion of the process?

12 MR. SUBER: Are you asking whether this
13 portion of the process, just consideration of
14 site-specific information?

15 MR. BURSEY: Well, I believe you answered that
16 to the affirmative.

17 Are there other parts of the process reviewing
18 the licensing that will be site-specific?

19 MR. SUBER: Other parts of the environmental
20 process or are you talking about the safety process?
21 I'm trying to understand.

22 MR. BURSEY: That's a two-part question.
23 Other parts of the environmental review, yes or no,
24 other than this initial supplement?

25 MR. SUBER: You're talking about the

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D C. 20005-3701

1 supplement for V.C. Summer?

2 MR. BURSEY: Right.

3 MR. SUBER: The entire supplement for
4 V.C. Summer is site-specific.

5 MR. BURSEY: And will the aging issues be
6 site-specific?

7 MR. SUBER: Okay. The aging issues,
8 Mr. Auluck will be able to address that.

9 MR. BURSEY: Does environmental review
10 consider aging?

11 MR. SUBER: No, it does not --

12 FACILITATOR CAMERON: The aging
13 considerations, as I understand it from Raj, are
14 considered in the safety evaluation. Of course, and
15 that is a site-specific evaluation. Although, for those
16 of you who are interested, there is a generic document
17 to look at aging issues. And Raj or John, do you want
18 to tell people a little bit about that?

19 MR. TAPPERT: I'd like to go back to what
20 Gregory was saying about the site-specific environmental
21 impact statement. We did a generic environmental impact
22 statement, and it basically had about 69 issues in
23 there.

24 We also looked at them site-specifically to
25 the extent we look for new and significant information

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 that might challenge (inaudible, door closes.)

2 So we deal with specific in-depth analysis for
3 the balance of the issues, but we also go back to what
4 we call Category 1, generic issues to see if there is
5 any new information.

6 Regarding the aging management, principally
7 the safety review, can you give more on that?

8 MR. AULUCK: Yes. We also have generic aging
9 issued lessons learned on the many issues, and applicant
10 can refer those issues that staff has already done that.
11 But staff still does review whether those staff reviews
12 is applicable to this particular case on site-specific
13 cases.

14 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Let's see if there is
15 any further questions. Thank you, John. Thanks, Raj.

16 Does anybody else have any questions at this
17 point? Councilman?

18 MR. MARCHARIA: Just a question. I don't know
19 how well you can assure the community, but I have been
20 on the council now about six years, somewhere in the
21 proximity of that.

22 I've had constituencies ask me over the last
23 15 years -- there appears to be a substantial increase
24 in different types of cancer, particularly with our
25 senior citizens. There is a perception of this, even if

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 it's not true, there is certainly a perception. I know
2 I get asked this question quite often. What can you say
3 to assure the community that this plant has no direct
4 impact in regards to these questions?

5 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Great. Thank you,
6 Councilman. We're going to go to Mr. Richard Emch to
7 answer that.

8 MR. EMCH: My name is Rich Emch. I'm a health
9 physicist. I work for the Nuclear Regulatory
10 Commission.

11 First, cancer is a concern to all of us. You
12 hardly go a day or a week or so around the world today
13 without hearing about some new cause of cancer or
14 something like how you cook your beef or whatever. So
15 it's a valid concern. It's one we all share about
16 making sure that ourselves and our families are as safe
17 as possible from cancer.

18 Let's start with some general information, and
19 then I will kind of come back to the specific
20 information about this area and about the Summer plant.

21 The issue of radiation risk, risk from
22 radiation, is a very well studied challenge to health.
23 There literally has been thousands of studies done over
24 the years. Amongst those studies, amongst the credible
25 studies, there has never been any information to show

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 health risk from radiation at doses below -- I'm going
2 to use terms here, I'm going to try to explain them to
3 you -- below about 10,000, 10,000 millirem. I'm using
4 that particular unit of measure because I want to talk
5 about other comparisons to it in a moment.

6 So of those studies, there has never been
7 anything shown from those studies of health effects
8 below those rates.

9 Now, in comparison, the average dose to you
10 and me, citizens of the world, citizens in the United
11 States, shall we say, the average dosage is over
12 300 millirem. That's why I used that particular unit
13 before. So we're talking 300 to 10,000. And so this is
14 the dose that you and I receive every day from various
15 sources, national radioactivity, x-rays, dental x-rays,
16 whatever.

17 From the Summer plant in particular -- we were
18 just at the plant yesterday, examining effluent reports
19 and environmental reports. This is where they go out
20 and make measurements of possible radioactive material
21 and fish, water, air samples, that sort of thing. From
22 that data, it's clear that the maximum -- the maximum
23 dose that anybody living in the environment in the
24 Summer would be receiving something much less than 1
25 millirem per year.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 So I'm just trying to throw out to you that
2 one out of 300 that you would normally get or more, and
3 then the comparison to anything below 10,000. So the
4 beef is, no, that whatever cancers are being experienced
5 and whatever, no, it's not due to the plant.

6 Now, having said that, again, we are here to
7 look for new and significant information. And
8 certainly, if anybody has data that they would like for
9 us to look at and see, we would be happy to do that. We
10 would like to do that. Does that answer your question,
11 sir?

12 FACILITATOR CAMERON: One thing while I'm
13 limping back here to the councilman is, one thing you
14 might want to say is that our NRC regulations limit the
15 radioactive emissions from a nuclear power plant; isn't
16 that correct?

17 MR. EMCH: Yes, they do.

18 MR. MARCHARIA: I guess in answer partially,
19 given to the environmental regulations, does your agency
20 also check environmentally any of the medical records to
21 see whether or not these perceptions of increase of
22 different types of cancers, do you monitor -- if you
23 monitor air and the environment and you do that, do you
24 also check whether or not there is an increase of health
25 risk to citizens in the area?

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C 20005-3701

1 MR. EMCH: Specifically, I'm not aware around
2 the Summer plant of anything that -- any methods that
3 are used to do that. Although, there have been -- as I
4 mentioned earlier, there have been many studies,
5 including studies specific to areas around nuclear power
6 plants in the United States, where there was -- where
7 they looked into that.

8 Again, there was no health impacts shown at
9 the scene at the plant from radiation from the plant.

10 FACILITATOR CAMERON: And usually, that type
11 of study is undertaken by the state departments of
12 health or by a federal agency called Agency for Toxic
13 Substances and Disease Registry, the Center for Disease
14 Control in Atlanta. I think -- and we will get you
15 specific information.

16 But I think that the Department of Health in
17 South Carolina did a study of cancer incidents by
18 county, and that just was released a few months ago.
19 But we will see if we can get you that.

20 Virgil, do you know anything about a recent
21 study at all that you could share with us?

22 MR. AUTRY: None that I'm aware of --

23 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Unfortunately, I have to
24 get you on the transcript. Just tell us who you are,
25 please.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MR. AUTRY: I'm Virgil Autrey, consultant for
2 DHEC, the radiological division. DHEC for years has
3 done environmental studies of this particular facility.
4 Because of the loss of federal funds to do that, we no
5 longer, but there are some information we shared with
6 the plant to look at this.

7 I know we have the cancer registry, the
8 Medical University of South Carolina has information on
9 these particular areas and clusters that may show some
10 problems there. But we have not identified for DHEC or
11 done any specific studies, but have -- (inaudible) --
12 other new facilities and the Savannah River Site. But I
13 don't think DHEC has done any technical things at this
14 point.

15 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you very much,
16 Virgil. We will see if we can get you more specifics on
17 that.

18 MR. BURSEY: I wanted some confirmation from
19 him. If I'm right, I wanted to share my knowledge, if
20 I'm right, and you correct me if I'm wrong, that the
21 methodology that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission uses
22 to determine those limits is based on a calculation as
23 referred to as low as reasonably achievable OR. And the
24 OR limits are not based on what is good and healthy for
25 you, because there are scientists that say that no

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 additional radiation is actually healthy.

2 Unfortunately, none of us in this room are
3 going to live long enough to determine what the
4 cumulative effects of what we're doing to our
5 environment are, but the limits set by the Nuclear
6 Regulatory Commission as low as reasonably achievable is
7 based on the financial expenditure of the industry to
8 reduce the millirem exposure to limits that the Nuclear
9 Regulatory Commission considers acceptable. So if you
10 will confirm that that OR is based on a cost-benefit
11 unless by the industry.

12 FACILITATOR CAMERON: That's an important
13 question to clarify, because that's not exactly the way
14 it is.

15 MR. EMCH: Whereas, you're right, in the
16 regulations you will find the words as low as reasonably
17 achievable. That's correct. The actual limits, though,
18 that have been set are very low limits. And actually,
19 they were set and said, Okay, we believe that these
20 limits would be safe, and they correlate to the limits
21 that were -- the standards set by the Environmental
22 Protection Agency and their regulations. And that's --
23 these limits, without getting into specific numbers,
24 which you will remember, I mentioned a little while ago,
25 various numbers of millirem. The millirem limits for a

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 year for a nuclear power plant are in the range of five
2 to ten millirems. And as I said, the data from the
3 Summer plant indicates that they are actually -- all of
4 the numbers I saw were 100 to 1,000 times lower than one
5 millirem. So they are well within the limits, the
6 safety limits, the limits below which we do not believe
7 that there is any risk.

8 Now, let's come back to a couple of your other
9 thoughts. One of them you mentioned what we referred to
10 as the linear non-threshold theory. That's a technical
11 concept for -- there is the concept that there is some
12 possible damage from any amount of radioactive dose.
13 That's what you're talking about. While we follow that
14 concept as a conservatism -- in other words, we follow
15 that concept to say, we don't want to allow any dose
16 unless there is some benefit from it. So you don't want
17 to take any dose that you don't have to take unless
18 there is some benefit from it. So that's that concept.

19 And from that and also related to that, you
20 talked about a cost benefit-study, actually, the
21 regulations do call for that if -- when plants were
22 originally licensed, they still had these limits of a
23 few millirem, but they also did studies to look at the
24 RAD waste handling system, the RAD waste clean-up system
25 of the plant. And they did cost benefit studies there

1 where they said there's an additional level of clean-up
2 that could be added to the plant, and they looked at
3 cost benefit in that respect. So that was as low as
4 reasonably achievable. But remember, that was in
5 addition to saying, no, you have to say within these
6 limits.

7 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Just so that it's clear,
8 and I think John is going to say something here, the
9 NRC's limits on how much radiation can go on from a
10 particular activity are set on the basis of safety.
11 There's no cost considerations in there at all. But
12 once that safety level is set, then the NRC requires a
13 licensee to go below that, to control their emissions
14 even lower than that, and that is based, just to be
15 conservative -- and that is based on the ALARA concept,
16 which is a cost-beneficial concept.

17 MR. TAPPERT: That's exactly what I wanted to
18 be sure that they're clear about that, that our
19 radiation limits are based on safety requirements.
20 They're with considerable margin to make sure exposure
21 to that level does not endanger the health and public.
22 What the as low as reasonably achievable, or ALARA,
23 concept is used for is that we're not -- we don't even
24 think that going up against those very conservative
25 limits is really appropriate to operate the facility.

1 The operation should maintain those levels as low as
2 possible below the already very safe limits.

3 So it's not that they don't mitigate measures
4 down to a safe level. They start at the safe level, and
5 they continue to go down as low as reasonably
6 achievable.

7 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you. Thank you,
8 Rich, for that.

9 Do we have any other questions before we go on
10 to hear from those of you who came to give us comments?

11 MR. BURSEY: The South Carolina Department of
12 Health and Environmental Control founded the renewal of
13 the licensing?

14 MR. AUTRY: We are participating agencies,
15 since we are the State of South Carolina, and we are
16 reviewing the relicensing of this facility and supply
17 all information, providing a technical review of it, not
18 only radiological, but other areas, as well.

19 MR. BURSEY: As an intervenor?

20 MR. AUTRY: We're a participating state. You
21 don't have to file intervenor status. You have to
22 provide input.

23 FACILITATOR CAMERON: So to clarify that, the
24 state did not file a petition to intervene in the
25 adjudicatory hearing. They are a cooperating,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 participating agency in the preparation of the
2 environmental review.

3 MR. BURSEY: And absent DHEC's standing as a
4 formal intervenor, there will be no public hearings on
5 the final EIS; correct?

6 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Unless someone comes in
7 with a late-filed petition and they open the hearing up.

8 So people are not confused about this, Raj
9 mentioned, as part of his overall process, that besides
10 the public meetings and comments that we do on the draft
11 environmental impact statement, there is an adjudicatory
12 hearing before a panel of judges that can be requested
13 on a license renewal application, as well as many other
14 types of applications. And that is a -- that's a formal
15 trial-type proceeding, where evidence is presented, and
16 there is cross-examination.

17 No one requested to what's called intervene
18 and basically participate in an adjudicatory proceeding.
19 So right now, there is not going to be an adjudicatory
20 proceeding, unless someone comes in and gets standing
21 through a late-filed petition.

22 Well, thank you for all of those questions,
23 and also the suggestions from Ms. Pearson and Councilman
24 Marcharia on how we can improve the notice process. We
25 take those seriously and will explore those with you.

1 I was going to start the formal comment part
2 of the meeting, but we may have one more question.

3 MR. MARCHARIA: I must ask this of the Nuclear
4 Regulatory Commission. I asked a question earlier, how
5 many people were from Jenkinsville, and only three hands
6 went up in this entire community. I would ask the
7 Regulatory Commission if you could find it to be
8 possible to hold another committee meeting to give the
9 constituency an opportunity to ask questions, to
10 participate, and I will go out in the community and make
11 sure that the churches and other constituencies is
12 informed that you're having this hearing, if you would.

13 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you, Councilman.

14 Okay. We have a formal request from the
15 councilman, which will be so noted for the NRC to
16 consider. But at a minimum, the next time we're out
17 here for the draft, anytime we come out here again for a
18 public meeting, I think it's a great idea to contact you
19 and make sure that we get the word out to everybody.
20 But there's -- you made a request for an additional
21 meeting. I just want to make sure the staff knows that.

22 All right. Let's go to the part of the
23 meeting where we hear from all of you a little bit more
24 formally. I was going to start with local officials,
25 and then I wanted to ask the companies, South Carolina

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Electric & Gas, to give us a little bit of what their
2 vision is behind this, and then we will go to the rest
3 of you who wanted to comment.

4 Representative Coleman was here, but I don't
5 think he's here right now. So what I would like to do
6 is to go to the two members of the Fairfield County
7 Council and go to Carolyn Robinson first, and then we
8 will go to Councilman Marcharia that we heard from
9 already, too, but we will go back to him for a comment
10 time. Wherever you're comfortable. You can use this or
11 use this or whatever.

12 MS. ROBINSON: We also have another council
13 member who has arrived.

14 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Oh, okay.

15 MS. ROBINSON: I don't know exactly everything
16 that I should say. But in thinking about the
17 environment, used to, the only thing I thought about
18 Broad River was it was a big river with a little bridge
19 that crossed over so I could go visit my aunt. Now that
20 I'm an adult, now that I sit on the county council, the
21 lake and the river means a lot of other aspects of
22 things to me.

23 Fairfield County is a special situation in
24 that we're surrounded by a lake and a river on either
25 side of our county. And by sitting on the environmental

1 committee for several years on council, it's just very
2 important for me to know that we're protecting those
3 lakes, because at some point, that may be the only
4 source of drinking water we're going to have. So water
5 is just a very important element to each of our lives.

6 In the early seventies, I started working for
7 the attorney who was assisting in the acquisition of the
8 property to build Lake Monticello. And I remember
9 asking him at that time, Why is this so important that
10 we acquire this land, that we have a nuclear power
11 plant? And he said, You should be fortunate that you
12 have a company who has a vision out there, who will look
13 and be prepared for the growth that is coming down.

14 Well, in the mid seventies, I was visiting in
15 Washington D.C., and I will always remember that was the
16 night of the big brownout in New York. And at that
17 time, I thought, oh, the senator was so right. Maybe
18 with the vision of SCE&G, we will not have to live
19 through a brownout, because that was not a good night.

20 And I just think about all of the power
21 equipment that we have now. If we have a brownout,
22 what's it going to do with all of that electric
23 equipment that we have in our homes?

24 SCE&G is a wonderful partner for our county.
25 Because they came online, we now have some of the finest

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 school facilities in the state. We also are able to
2 offer, because of their tax dollars, services to the
3 people of this county that otherwise we could not afford
4 because our people cannot pay taxes to provide those
5 services.

6 They are a very good partner for us. Anytime
7 we work toward an economic development project or just
8 any event, they're always there. And their employees
9 have gone out and formed a partnership, I think, with
10 the local schools, so that they can do teaching and
11 mentoring and assistance to these children in the
12 afternoons, to help them have a better education, so
13 that they are not in the percentage of illiterates in
14 this county.

15 As far as an economic development impact on
16 this county, this to me is a very clean lake that they
17 have provided. We then have people who are able to fish
18 in this lake, and we now have people who are selling
19 property around this lake, which to us is an economic
20 development tool. And these people are coming in and
21 building homes, which add to our tax base.

22 But in the process, SCE&G has very stringent
23 guidelines of what they can and can't do on this lake.
24 For instance, you can't ski. They're doing various
25 things to try to make this is a very environmental

1 impact upon the community. And I just appreciate the
2 fact that they're here. I appreciate the fact that they
3 live within the guidelines to protect us, because I
4 know, even though I may live 15 miles from here, should
5 something happen, that's the end of me. I don't have to
6 worry about an evacuation route. It's going to be gone.

7 So I am very concerned about the fact that
8 they are meeting the guidelines that need to be to
9 protected because of nuclear power.

10 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you very much,
11 Council woman.

12 Councilman Marcharia, do you want to use this
13 or come up to the podium?

14 MR. MARCHARIA: I'll just stand.

15 Once again, I've been accused of massively
16 running off at the mouth, so to speak, saying what's on
17 my mind. I hope that the messenger don't get killed in
18 the process. But I'm only expressing what constituency
19 has asked me to say. Otherwise, I would have stayed
20 home in bed, with this cold.

21 I did get asked the question about the
22 perception of cancer. Fairfield County leads the state
23 in terms of diabetes, and particularly in this area,
24 it's not uncommon to go to households to find that
25 people's legs are amputated, and people are on dialysis

1 machines, and the perception that the environment might
2 complicate these conditions.

3 So I'm just raising this because we do need an
4 independent study. That's why I asked for a medical
5 explanation. Have DHEC or other folks, the agency for
6 this area, and just for the public safety to make sure
7 that these conditions and perceptions, that they are not
8 found, they're not authentic, and I think that will go a
9 long ways to some uncertainties.

10 Other than that, those are some of the things
11 that I was asked to bring to you today and ask those
12 questions and, of course, to ask for another public
13 hearing, where folks can actually participate.

14 Certainly, if the plant wasn't here, we
15 certainly wouldn't have the support with our school
16 system. We wouldn't be where we are today. But you
17 wouldn't be here if your health is not good, either.
18 That's the primary concern, and that's where I speak
19 from that. Thank you very much for giving me an
20 opportunity.

21 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Great. Thank you very
22 much for those comments.

23 We're going to go to some school officials
24 now. First of all, Dr. Wilder. This is Dr. Rose
25 Wilder, Superintendent of the Fairfield County Schools.

1 DR. WILDER: Good afternoon. Thank you. I
2 would like to say that this morning I met with Dan
3 Palmer and another gentleman. And the first question
4 that was asked of me when they came to my office, I told
5 them, I said I'm trying to clean this table off
6 because -- my secretary wants to know why you're
7 cleaning this office up. I said, Two persons will be
8 here, and those persons contribute over \$11 million to
9 our school systems, so I wanted them to know that money
10 is being very well taken care of.

11 So I want to say that I, too, want to make
12 certain that SCE&G continue to follow guidelines to
13 ensure that we are subjected to clean air and a safe
14 environment, et cetera, et cetera.

15 But I'm pleased to say, too, that the plant
16 has been a very vital part of the tax base in our
17 county. I made a point to check with Ricky Douglas, the
18 accounting person, to find out what is the total amount.
19 I want you to know that I'm not just all about money for
20 the school system, because as the councilman says, if
21 we're not healthy, we can't enjoy it. But when I'm
22 asked the question what impact would it have on the
23 school system if the plant were to close or not be
24 relicensed after 2022, and my response to my secretary
25 was, I would be retired, but that would be -- you know,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D C. 20005-3701

1 we have other people to go on.

2 So if the plant were not to be licensed and,
3 in my personal opinion, the industry was not here to
4 replace the plant that not relicensed, it would be
5 devastating on the county.

6 And for the county to have a \$16 million
7 impact from one plant, that's a big impact into our
8 economic base on the county level.

9 Back to the school situation. The school
10 district is fortunate that the V.C. Nuclear Summer Plant
11 is the largest tax base in the county. We get in excess
12 11 million dollars per year in taxes from the plant.

13 On the other side, we want them to do what
14 they need to do to make sure the environment is clean
15 and healthy for everyone.

16 So with those comments said, I also want to
17 reiterate that the persons at the plant, some of the
18 employees have been very instrumental in our school
19 system. McCorey School in the district, actually, last
20 school term, there was a tutorial program in the
21 afternoons, and employees from the plant actually went
22 into the school system, worked with the students, and
23 served as mentors or lunch buddies. It was a wonderful
24 situation.

25 We also had occasion to have some persons come

1 in -- we have our career fairs. We've had persons come
2 in and serve as coaches or mentors to the students,
3 answering various questions. I'm pleased to say
4 Mr. Jeff Archie has been very active in the program --
5 the program targets low-income students. It's an
6 afterschool program. Jeff Archie, an employee of the
7 company, has actually served as, I think, as board chair
8 for that board. He's been a wonderful resource.

9 He heard me complaining one day that we need
10 to have some health with our website. He actually
11 volunteered some of the persons from the plant to help
12 us develop our website. And Mr. Greg, I think it's
13 Halnon has been familiar with the chamber. When I came
14 to the county a year ago, there was some strife between
15 chamber members and school board members, and Mr. Greg
16 from the plant came on that body, and he was actually
17 very instrumental in soothing some of the -- between the
18 school board the chamber members.

19 So in a nutshell, I can say that the persons
20 at the plant actually have been good neighbors. They
21 will be good for the economy. I have been blessed to
22 have met some of the people I have met, and we're
23 looking forward to more?

24 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you, Dr. Wilder.
25 Before we go to Lunelle Harmon, let's hear from

1 Councilman Murphy.

2 MR. MURPHY: Thank you. I've been on the
3 council for 18 years. I was educated in the high school
4 public school system. I live in Ridgeway. I've looked
5 at the V.C. Summer plant before it was the V.C. Summer
6 plant. I've been in education for 34 years. I remember
7 when the total budgets for the school was around
8 93 percent for the total funding for the Fairfield
9 County Federal government. I remember when the millage
10 was below three or four thousand dollars. Then you put
11 on the station out here at Parr, and that's \$12,500 and
12 on up, just to give you a little history there, a lot of
13 things.

14 I remember when we were trying to get this
15 licensing, people with all of this anxiety in this
16 community and around the county on what they're going to
17 bring into the county, they're going to have blind fish
18 and everything else out here. I remember all of those
19 things. That was rumors. I remember a lot of those
20 different things that were there, and I think that there
21 needs to be a consciousness, always a level of
22 consciousness for the responsibility of all of the
23 regulatory agencies need to be there, because we need to
24 protect people from what they don't know is happening to
25 them.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 As far as health issues, we have a lot of
2 health issues in Fairfield County, and a lot of
3 contributory things that have been done. We're unique
4 in different things. We have a fault line that runs
5 right through here. We also have a great deposit of
6 granite in the county that lets off rayon gas and all
7 these other things that's not attributed to the Summer
8 plant.

9 But through it all, I think V.C. Summer
10 Nuclear Plant has been a safe partner, a good neighbor,
11 one that Fairfield County has to look at and say thank
12 you for coming here, thank you for managing it. It's
13 rated in the top five safest nuclear plants in America.
14 The benefits of the taxes that's been bought in, over
15 \$17 million to the county. Where would we be if it
16 wasn't for V.C. Summer?

17 But through that, too, all of the
18 responsibilities and guidelines and things that we need
19 to go through need to be at the utmost importance to
20 make sure everyone is doing what they should do.

21 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you very much,
22 Councilman Murphy.

23 Lunelle Harmon, who is the principal of
24 Pomaria-Garmany Elementary School.

25 MS. HARMON: Thank you, Mr. Cameron, and good

1 afternoon to all of you. My name is Lunelle Harmon, and
2 I'm the principal of Pomaria-Garmany Elementary School
3 in Pomaria, in Newberry County, right next to here. I'm
4 located about ten miles from here. And I'm here today
5 to tell you of the support that my school has received
6 from SCE&G. I am an advocate of the statement, It takes
7 a village to raise a child.

8 In March of 2001, I received word that our
9 school playground had been found unsafe for children to
10 play on. Almost all of our playground equipment would
11 have to be torn down before school opened the following
12 school year.

13 I can't tell you what a dilemma I felt myself
14 in. The district told us that each school could receive
15 5,500 toward the purchase of playground equipment.
16 You're talking in terms of millions; I'm talking in
17 terms of \$5,500.

18 Well, since I didn't have any concept of the
19 prices for playground equipment at that time, I thought
20 that that might be a fair amount. Well, in case you
21 don't know, \$5,500 will buy about one nice slide for
22 children to play on.

23 So I went to my PTA, which is my backbone of
24 my school, and I asked them what we could possibly do to
25 help raise funding for our children to have playground

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 equipment, and I was told that we could begin with
2 having a country-fried steak supper. And we did, and we
3 raised funding through that.

4 I also went to speak to people at local areas,
5 like our Pomaria Town Council, and I told them I was not
6 beneath begging because it was for our children. And I
7 do have about 400 children in my school at the present
8 time, pre-K through five.

9 The supper that we had, I can't remember the
10 exact amount that was raised, but it was spearheaded by
11 my PTA office, and our vice-president, A.P. Smith, an
12 employee of SCE&G, and he has stuck by me. That's why
13 I'm here today.

14 We raised money from that supper, and we had
15 money donated by the Town of Pomaria, and it totaled
16 enough that we could purchase the playground equipment.
17 The only problem was, we were faced with an expensive
18 installation charge that we didn't have the money for.

19 After questioning prices, I was told that we
20 could pay a much smaller charge and have one person come
21 out as a consultant for one day if I could have people
22 on-site to actually do the work that was supposed to
23 meet safety standards.

24 Well, SCE&G employees came to our rescue.
25 They worked two very steaming June days. It was

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 horrible those days, I do recall. At the close of the
2 second day, we had our brand new insurance-approved
3 playground equipment installed, enough playground
4 equipment to occupy the time of approximately
5 80 students at one time. Of course, we have a ballfield
6 and stuff such as that that don't cost a lot of money.

7 But I do want to name these young men and
8 women who gave those two days to us: Ronnie Banister,
9 Mark Balkman, Frank Derrick, Richard Derrick, Cynthia
10 Hair, Barry Mather, Paul Hickman, Eric Rumfelt and my
11 faithful, A.P. Smith.

12 Now, the wonderful part of that fact that
13 these SCE&G employees came to my rescue is that only one
14 of them had children in my school. I did know two of
15 the others, but I had never met any of the others, and
16 they came through for me.

17 So by the time school started that year, we
18 were prepared for school to start. Even right before I
19 came today, we had a call from Mr. Thomas Fritter,
20 employed by SCE&G, and he was talking about a class
21 presentation that he will be making to my fourth-graders
22 next week.

23 So you see, during this holiday season, we're
24 very thankful for all of our blessings. I can honestly
25 say that Pomaria-Garmany is being supported by our

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 entire community, or a village, which is made up of our
2 parents, the Town of Pomaria, and people, such as SCE&G
3 employees. Yes, I am truly thankful that our entire
4 village raises our children and supports our schools.

5 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you very much,
6 Principal Harmon. What a great story.

7 Let's go to South Carolina Electric & Gas to
8 hear a little bit more about what their vision is in
9 license renewal. I would like to ask Steve Byrne,
10 senior vice president at the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station
11 to come up.

12 MR. BYRNE: Good afternoon. I'm Steve A.
13 Byrne. I am the vice president for Nuclear Operations
14 for SCE&G. I'm located here at the V.C. Summer Station.

15 V.C. Summer, as many of you are probably
16 aware, is owned two-thirds by South Carolina Electric &
17 Gas, and one-third by the State of South Carolina
18 through the Public Service Authority. You're going to
19 hear a little bit more about that relationship when
20 Robin White comes up to speak a little bit later.

21 Together, we have operated V.C. Summer safely
22 for 20 years, and we look forward to operating the plant
23 safety in this community for another 40 years. And
24 obviously, we can only do that with a license renewal
25 for plant extension that we've been talking about today.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 South Carolina is a state that derives much
2 benefit from nuclear. There are seven operating
3 reactors in this state, six in addition to the V.C.
4 Summer Station. And while the United States derives
5 21 percent of electrical needs from nuclear, South
6 Carolina is almost 60 percent power from nuclear.

7 This company, South Carolina Electric & Gas,
8 opened its first generating facility in this county in
9 1914. That was the Parr Generating Plant. That is a
10 facility that generates about 15 megawatts, relatively
11 small, but it's still operating today.

12 We also operate this man-made lake that you've
13 heard so much about, the Monticello Reservoir, is also a
14 pumped storage lake. We will pump it out in the
15 evenings and let it down during the day. We can
16 generate about 525 megawatts of electricity from
17 hydropower units in this county.

18 So when you combine all of the facilities
19 currently, we're in excess of 1,550 megawatts of
20 generated power right here in Fairfield County.

21 The largest, obviously, is V.C. Summer. We're
22 just over 1,000 megawatts. We also provide jobs for
23 about 625 SCE&G employees and in excess of 100 long-term
24 contract employees. When we have a feeling or a job
25 scare, our contract workforce will swell, usually for a

1 month or two at a time.

2 We're also the largest taxpayer in the county.
3 You've heard a lot about that. We pay about 17-1/2
4 million dollars in taxes and represent about 67 percent
5 of the tax base. Unfortunately, with the Mack Truck
6 closing, we may be the larger portion of the tax base.

7 Mack, I believe, was the second higher
8 taxpayer, and they pay just under a million dollars a
9 year, compared to our 17-1/2 million dollars a year.

10 In addition to energy, jobs and taxes, which
11 are very, very tangible, there are a lot of intangible
12 benefits. You've heard about some of them here today.

13 Our support of schools, not only in Fairfield
14 County, but also Newberry County. We do also support
15 science fairs as judges in Newberry County for their
16 high schools. But we also have a shadowing program
17 Fairfield County Schools we support. We have a
18 friendship program for vocational welding, who we
19 support through Fairfield County Schools.

20 We participate in the strategic planning. The
21 career days are very valuable with McCorey-Liston
22 School. We also donated a couple years ago in excess of
23 100 PC's to the local school district.

24 We're a haven for wildlife. The NRC team here
25 got to see that firsthand yesterday. They almost hit a

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D C 20005-3701

1 couple of deer. Went by a couple of flocks of wild
2 turkeys. Obviously, the aquatic life, and we are home
3 to at least one pair of nesting bald eagles. Saw three
4 of them out there the other day.

5 Recreational activities. In addition to the
6 fishing on the lake, the recreational lake was put in by
7 SCE&G, which is at the northern part of Lake Monticello.
8 We have a nature trail on site that has been used for
9 our schools. We also facilitate the land for the county
10 park that is on this side of the county, Western
11 Fairfield County. As you are well aware, there is not a
12 lot in Western Fairfield County to hang your hat on.

13 Community service, you heard a little bit
14 about the chamber. Right now, one of our employees is
15 the vice president of the chamber, next year will be the
16 president of the chamber. I've been the president of
17 the chamber in the past.

18 United Way Campaign, we have long been
19 associated with the United Way campaign. This is a very
20 difficult county to raise funds in. It is a thankless
21 task. We have also -- some of the local United Way
22 Fairfield County campaign, and we have an employee from
23 our plant that has chaired that campaign three out of
24 the last five years.

25 The communities and schools board, you heard

1 some favorable comments about Jeff Archie. I don't know
2 if he is -- he was this year, but he's going to be the
3 chair of the County Communities and School Board.

4 Also, we are very interested in the Fairfield
5 Behavioral Health Services, and their capital campaign
6 committee to build a new facility, and I'm the chair of
7 that steering committee, and SCE&G just announced
8 \$30,000 towards that building campaign.

9 In closing, I would like to say that SCE&G,
10 V.C. Summer and our employees have appreciated being a
11 part of this community for the last 20 years. We think
12 we have been a good neighbor of this community. We have
13 operated the plant safety, within the confines of
14 regulation, and we would like to be a part of this
15 community for the next 40 years.

16 One point of clarification, the fossil plant
17 that Mr. Marcharia was talking about is not an SCE&G
18 fossil plant.

19 (Laughter.)

20 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Ms. Pearson?

21 MS. PEARSON: I've got to go. I want to
22 welcome you to the community.

23 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Let me get you on here.

24 MS. PEARSON: I want to welcome you all to our
25 community and hope you come back again. You've heard a

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 lot about what SCE&G is doing for the schools. You've
2 read a lot about how the schools is not doing. We
3 integrated Winnsboro High with 18 students, and every
4 one of those students excelled and went to college with
5 25 units. Now they can't get out of high school, but
6 SCE&G is pouring money in it.

7 We need to get together, put this money
8 together. We could get a college in Fairfield County
9 for all SCE&G is doing for them. Don't get me wrong. I
10 just say that about me because my son works for SCE&G.
11 I ain't going to tell you what his name is.

12 But anyway, y'all come back to see us. We
13 need to get together. If we get a government in this
14 county, we'll have a wonderful county, but we've got to
15 get it together. Thank you for coming. I didn't have
16 anything to do with it, because I didn't know we were
17 going to be here until today. That's why we're asking
18 for you all to give the community a little bit of input
19 in what SCE&G is doing for us. When my lights go out,
20 I'm going to call you.

21 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you, Ms. Pearson.

22 Let's go to Steve Summer, who is the
23 environmental coordinator on the license renewal
24 application, and perhaps --

25 MR. SUMMER: My name is Steve Summer, and I'm

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 the environmental lead for the license renewal project
2 at the Summer station. I'm actually an employee of
3 SCANA Services. SCANA, the parent company of SCE&G,
4 took a lot of the functions, including some of the
5 environmental groups, and put them in a service company.
6 So earlier this year, I moved from SCE&G to SCANA
7 Services, but it really hasn't changed my job.

8 Nearly 25 years ago, I came to work at the
9 Summer station in the environmental surveillance
10 laboratory. The plant was still under construction.
11 Monticello Reservoir had just been filled. Over the
12 ensuing years, my career has been closely tied to Summer
13 Station. I spent 14 years in the plant's environmental
14 section, conducting radiological environmental
15 monitoring, and overseeing the nonradiological
16 environmental monitoring program.

17 The past 10-1/2 years have been spent in the
18 company's corporate environmental services department,
19 where I have continued to provide environmental support
20 to the plant. When the opportunity arose, I was happy
21 to become involved in the license renewal process.

22 Summer Station's environmental performance has
23 been very good, as evidenced by the lack of news
24 coverage for environmental problems at the plant for the
25 first 20 years of the operating license. The creation

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 of Summer Station and its companion generating plant,
2 Fairfield Pumped Storage Facility, have provided an
3 environment which has been conducive to the expansion of
4 the bald eagle population. It was a rare event in the
5 early years of the plant's operation to see a bald
6 eagle. Today it's commonplace, with eagles raising
7 their young in the Parr Reservoir and the Monticello
8 Reservoir area.

9 The SCE&G, the operator of the Summer Station,
10 has made positive environmental strides in recent years.
11 Some steps are small, such as the installation of perch
12 guards on distribution poles where bird electrocution is
13 a problem. Some steps are major, such as the
14 installation of additional pollution control equipment
15 on coal-fired plants, the conversion of two coal-fired
16 units to natural gas at Urquhart Station on Savannah
17 River, and the set-aside of river bottom wetlands in a
18 conservation easement at Cope Station.

19 SCE&G has funded scientific research into
20 striped bass population dynamics in the Santee River
21 drainage and will fund a study of avian vacuolar
22 myelinopathy, a disease that affects bald eagles, on
23 Lake Murray.

24 SCE&G is a member of the Robust Redhorse
25 Conservation Committee, a rare fish that's found only in

1 Georgia and South Carolina -- South and North Carolina,
2 and that organization is dedicated to the recovery of
3 that species.

4 SCE&G hired a consulting firm, Tetra Tech NUS,
5 to work with us in preparing the environmental report
6 and to guide us through the environmental review
7 process. Tetra Tech NUS has been involved in the
8 preparation of several license environmental reports and
9 is a leader in this area.

10 Development of the report required
11 interviewing numerous employees, contact with county,
12 state and federal agencies and review of applicable
13 regulations.

14 In conjunction with the environmental report,
15 a threatened and endangered species survey was conducted
16 for the plant site and associated transmission line
17 corridors. This survey found no evidence of threatened
18 or endangered species on the plant site or the
19 transmission corridors. With the exception to that
20 being the eagles that are not nesting on the plant site
21 now, but do come visit.

22 I have been involved with monitoring Summer
23 Station's environmental impacts, evaluating its
24 environmental performance, and providing environmental
25 support since the facility began operation and have now

1 been directly involved in the environmental assessment
2 for license renewal.

3 I believe that Summer Station will continue to
4 provide electricity in an environmentally sound manner
5 for many years to come. I also believe that the Nuclear
6 Regulatory Commission, when their review is complete,
7 will find that the environmental impacts from the
8 operation of the Summer Station are not significant, and
9 that extension of the operating license by 20 years is
10 prudent. I believe that nuclear power, and Summer
11 Station in particular, has a place in our society and
12 this community today and in the future. Thank you.

13 FACILITATOR CAMERON: I'm going to go to
14 Mr. Robin White now from the South Carolina Public
15 Service Authority.

16 MR. WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Cameron.

17 Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. My name
18 is Robin White. I'm the nuclear coordinator for the
19 South Carolina Public Service Authority. Most
20 recognized by its corporate name Santee Cooper.

21 Santee Cooper, as Steve indicated, has a
22 one-third non-operating interest in the Summer Nuclear
23 Station. We pay one-third of the expenses and receive
24 one-third of the electric production. SCE&G operates
25 the plant on Santee Cooper's behalf.

1 I have been employed by Santee Cooper for 12
2 years, and I've worked at Summer Station the entire
3 12 years. My job is to conduct oversight of all aspects
4 of stations operation to ensure that Santee Cooper's
5 interests are protected.

6 Prior to my joining Santee Cooper, I spent 22
7 of my 30 years in the Navy directly involved with the
8 Navy Nuclear Power Program. I commanded two submarines,
9 inspected more than 80 nuclear-powered vessels, and
10 directed operational material control to a group of
11 nuclear-powered submarines.

12 I believe my background qualifies me to
13 ascertain safe operation of a nuclear facility. As my
14 office is at the station, I have unfettered access to
15 all areas of the station, as well as the ability to talk
16 to all employees and review documentation on a continual
17 basis.

18 Another prime method of oversight is my
19 membership in the Nuclear Safety Review Committee, a
20 body established by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in
21 technical specifications. This committee reviews, on a
22 regular basis, all aspects of nuclear safety. Thus from
23 both daily observation and the Nuclear Safety Review
24 Committee review audits, I have found the operation of
25 Summer Station to be found in a strong safety culture.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 On several occasions in the last 12 years,
2 management of the station has elected to shut down the
3 plant when there was a question of proper operation of
4 critical equipment. This selection was done at
5 management's discretion, not by any requirement. The
6 last time was in 1998. One of the emergency diesel
7 generator governors exhibited abnormal characteristics.
8 Even though the other diesel engine was operating
9 normally, management elected to shut down the plant to
10 investigate and repair the abnormal operating governor,
11 and to verify that the other diesel would not be subject
12 to the same conditions.

13 As stewards of the environment, management of
14 Summer Station has reduced the tri-annual cycle volume
15 of low-level radioactive waste by 90 percent over the
16 last six cycles for 18 years, recycling items previously
17 disposed of and training the workforce to exercise
18 prudent utilization and materials have accomplished the
19 significant reduction.

20 Santee Cooper is pleased with the safe
21 operations with the Summer Station and wholly supports
22 license extension. The continued operation of Summer
23 Station is in the best interest of Santee Cooper's
24 customers, the people of South Carolina. Reliable
25 operation of Summer Station, a non-greenhouse gas

1 emitter, precludes the requirement to use greenhouse gas
2 from any generation and is economical for our customers.

3 Thank you for the opportunity to present these
4 remarks.

5 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you very much,
6 Mr. White. Our next three speakers are going to go to
7 Brett Bursey first, and then Kim Bowers, and then to
8 Perry --

9 MR. BURSEY: I'm Brett Bursey, and 25 years
10 ago I lived -- well, for 25 years, I've lived about
11 4 miles from here. When I found out that they were
12 going to build a nuclear power plant, I filed a petition
13 to intervene. What that means is that there were
14 hearings that I could call witnesses, I could
15 cross-examine people. It went on for five years. I
16 learned more than any civilian person needs to learn
17 about nuclear power.

18 Oh, I forgot to ask. I want to know how many
19 people are here that aren't paid to be here today. Five
20 out of 54, let the record reflect.

21 One of the things that I learned during this
22 five years of intensive work -- I mean, it was me and
23 the South Carolina Electric & Gas would show up, 20 men
24 in suits and me and my cardboard box. The process made
25 a safer plant. Jack Stoles, one of the managers at V.C.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Summer Plant, told me, Thank you, Brett, because the
2 people that owned this investment, eight of the top ten
3 stockholders in New York banks, are more concerned with
4 making money than the good people that are running this
5 plant. And when the good people running this plant go
6 to the management that has to relate to the corporate
7 owners that are looking out for the bottom line and say,
8 We've got to do this more safely, they say, Well, you
9 know, we may not have to do it more safely. Let's just
10 do it safe enough to get by.

11 I'm very upset that there will be no
12 intervenor in the relicensing process. What that will
13 probably mean is that this will be the only nuclear
14 reactor in the United States ever to go through a
15 licensing process without an adjudicatory hearing. So
16 what you will have, you will have a trial, and you won't
17 have anybody prosecuting. Everybody will be defending
18 the industry. DHEC will be there defending the
19 industry. They didn't do a darn thing during that
20 hearing that we had that lasted five years, and it was
21 the first state health agency that didn't intervene in
22 the 73 nuclear licensing proceedings that preceded that.
23 So I am upset.

24 I do want to say that I don't think -- I do
25 not question the integrity of the people that work for

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
- 1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D C. 20005-3701

1 SCE&G or the nuclear regulatory commission. They're
2 just doing their jobs. But SCE&G is constrained by the
3 profit made from the corporation, and the Nuclear
4 Regulatory Commission is constrained by being a
5 political operation. The rules of practice and
6 procedure that this relicensing is going to take place
7 under are so restricted that we're not going to bring
8 out the fact -- we're not going to be able to bring up
9 the fact that a major crack in what they call the hot
10 leg, which is the main big pipe that cools reactors,
11 which caught the attention of nuclear informed people
12 all over the world, will not be able to be brought up in
13 hearings, because it's not going to be in the generic
14 aging lessons learned protocol. And if it's not in the
15 generic aging lessons learned protocol, we can't bring
16 it up. So the NRC's stated goal is to make relicensing
17 more predictable and streamlined. To whose interest is
18 that?

19 You may be wondering why on earth are we here
20 talking about relicensing a plant 20 years before the
21 license runs out. How do we know what shape that plant
22 is going to be in in 20 years? How do we know what the
23 need for power is going to be? Maybe Councilman
24 Marcharia will get some people together in Fairfield
25 County, and they'll build some facility that uses

1 renewable energy and could compete with SCE&G.

2 We don't know what condition or the need for
3 power is going to be in 20 years. So why are we here?
4 Because if the plant gets relicensed now, it adds
5 20 years onto the life of it, and they can amortize that
6 value, it makes their investment more profitable. It's
7 all about money for the company. It increases the value
8 of the plant. It has nothing to do with safety. It's
9 got nothing to do with generating electricity. The one
10 fine hurdle here is, the Public Service Commission
11 asking if they would approve them -- the operation of
12 the reactor beyond this 40-year-life span. When they
13 built that plant, the question of aging wasn't an issue.
14 Now, 20 years later, the question of aging is an issue.

15 They found embrittlement to be an issue.
16 They're finding nuclear reactors that have been running
17 for as long as the V.C. Summer plant, the pipes are
18 getting brittle. But there are so many issues that
19 aren't going to be considered in the relicensing
20 hearing, that it's a pretty futile gesture, but that we
21 need to make an attempt to try and get the State of
22 South Carolina involved.

23 I would encourage all of the citizens here to
24 talk to their councilmen and to talk to DHEC and to try
25 and get them to file a petition to intervene, so that

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 there will be a hearing that brings out all of the
2 issues, and not just the ones that are put on the table
3 by the power company or the NRC.

4 The generic approach to age-related
5 degradation solely benefits the nuclear industry.
6 They're relicensing nuclear reactors as if they're all
7 the same is contrary to public interest. David Wise, a
8 nuclear official, told the publication Inside NRC, a
9 Nuclear Regulatory Commission insider magazine,
10 October 9th, 2000, in fact, nuclear power plants are
11 like snow flakes, each one is different. And in this
12 relicensing proceeding, the way it's designed, is
13 they're going to do -- (Inaudible, Door opens) -- like
14 they're all the same. We have very limited opportunity
15 to raise site-specific concerns.

16 In the past years, eight nuclear power plants
17 have been forced to shut down because of age-related
18 deficiencies. According to the Union for Concerned
19 Scientists, age-related failures occur approximately
20 every 60 days. There is what's referred to as aging
21 management programs underway. They're not preventing
22 failures.

23 In my estimation, aging management programs
24 fix things before they break. We're 20 years from the
25 end of the license of this reactor. Reactors this old

1 are having problems. This reactor is having aging
2 problems. They're finding them after they happen.

3 They didn't find a big crack in that hot leg
4 until after they shut down for a normal refueling
5 outage. If that pipe had broken, you would have what
6 the nuclear industry calls a loss of coolant accident,
7 and it would happen so rapidly, that we would have very
8 little time to evacuate our homes.

9 It's very high-tech -- a high-tech operation
10 that needs to have preventive measures proven that can
11 stay off the effects of aging before they fail, as
12 opposed to finding and fixing them after they fail.
13 They need to prove that to us before they relicense this
14 plant to operate 20 years from now.

15 The security at the V.C. Summer plant, when it
16 went into effect when I was the intervenor, they had to
17 be able to withstand the -- to repulse the assault of
18 12 dedicated terrorists, and they were tested by the
19 Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Well, they were
20 failing -- not just them, but across the board, nuclear
21 reactors were not measuring up to the security limits
22 that were imposed by the NRC.

23 So in 1998, they did away with the test. Now,
24 SCE&G tests themselves. It's kind of like an open-book
25 test, and they report to the NRC, We did a great job, we

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 can handle it.

2 September 11th changed a lot of things, but it
3 didn't change security at the nuclear power plants. I
4 don't know if you've been through an airport lately
5 where they have federal screeners that make you take off
6 your shoes. We have Wackenhut being tested by the power
7 company, and we know that one of Al Queda's targets they
8 talked about was a nuclear reactor.

9 I hope Al Queda is not listening. They
10 probably know this anyway. If they were going to do
11 something with a reactor, they wouldn't mess with 6 feet
12 of concrete. You've got the storage facility for its
13 spent fuel pool. The power company just got permission
14 to put more spent fuel rods in than it was designed for,
15 and it's in a metal building, and you can blow that up,
16 and you can take out, oh, a huge -- we're talking
17 hundreds and hundreds of miles and hundreds of thousands
18 of people, and it's not even an impregnable building.
19 And it's not even protected by people who passed any
20 type of objective security test.

21 I have some problems with the procedure that
22 is being utilized by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
23 to consider relicensing the V.C. Summer Plant, and will
24 be working with citizens in this neighborhood and
25 hopefully bring pressure down on the Department of

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Health and Environmental Control to the basis
2 responsibility that they have to ensure that this plant
3 operates in the safest fashion.

4 I respect the people that work there, and I
5 think they do a good job. I know that they're
6 constrained by the people that pay their checks. Thank
7 you.

8 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you, Brett.

9 Let's go to Kim Bowers.

10 MR. BOWERS: My name is Kim Bowers. I'm the
11 coordinator for the Irmo/Chapin Recreation Commission
12 Senior Services Program at Crooked Creek in Chapin. The
13 V.C. Summer stations has supported our programs by their
14 involvement in our home delivery meals program.
15 Irmo/Chapin Recreation Commission provides hot
16 nutritional meals for homebound, frail, older adults in
17 our community.

18 Without the help of volunteers, we would be
19 limited in the number of meals we could serve to
20 seniors. For over ten years, with over 25 volunteers,
21 V.C. Summer has provided hundreds of hours, of volunteer
22 hours to our program.

23 When our program increased and we needed
24 additional volunteers, V.C. Summer -- Mayor Hartley
25 immediately found us volunteers to increase our program.

1 As our program decreased, again, they graciously decided
2 to limit their delivery route, even though we had many
3 volunteers who wanted to continue.

4 Through the years, many volunteers of
5 V.C. Summer have become our friends and partners. The
6 volunteers at V.C. Summer are a reliable, steady and
7 long-lasting group. We look forward to having
8 V.C. Summer Station volunteer for home delivery programs
9 for years to come.

10 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you very much,
11 Mr. Bowers.

12 Let's go to Terrie Hickory from the Fairfield
13 County Chamber of Commerce.

14 MS. VICKERS: Good afternoon. It's a pleasure
15 to be here. Thank you for the invitation.

16 I'm Terrie Vickers with the Fairfield County
17 Chamber of Commerce. I've been with the Chamber since
18 1997, and I've had the distinct pleasure to work very
19 closely with the staff and management of the V.C. Summer
20 Station during my tenure.

21 Since 1997, and I'm sure long before that
22 time, there has been a representative from V.C. Summer
23 Station on the Chamber Board of Directors. Steve Byrne
24 served, as he stated earlier, as president in 2000, and
25 Greg Halnon is our current vice president, and he will

1 be stepping into the president's chair in January of
2 2003.

3 V.C. Summer has just been invaluable to the
4 chamber as far as our technology. We don't have a lot
5 of funds for technology. And when the plant was
6 upgrading their computer system, V.C. Summer donated
7 two computers to the chamber and the technical support
8 people to come in and pull us into the 21st century, and
9 for that we're very grateful.

10 They have supported the chamber, sponsorships
11 for events and functions, such as the annual
12 legislative -- (Inaudible, door opens) -- our Rock
13 Around the Clock Festival, which is an annual festival
14 downtown, our Christmas drop-in, business after hours,
15 and our annual membership banquet, just to name a few.

16 Steve Byrne, during his tenure as president,
17 also sat in the dunking booth at the annual festival.
18 That was great fun for the board to come around to see
19 if we could dunk him.

20 Steve is currently serving as the capital
21 campaign director for our Fairfield behavioral health
22 services, formerly known as Fairfield Substance Abuse
23 Commission. This is a major endeavor for a critically
24 needed new facility in a new and more convenient
25 location in the county.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 V.C. Summer and staff has also adopted
2 McCorey-Liston Elementary School in Jenkinsville,
3 working as mentors in other areas; and I'm sure that
4 that helped McCorey-Liston receive a grade of average,
5 one of the best in our county in the recent school
6 report cards.

7 V.C. Summer folks have taken a very strong
8 leadership role in the United Way campaign in Fairfield
9 County. Steve Byrne has served as head of that campaign
10 in 2000. Jeff Archie is heading that campaign this
11 year. These endeavors have been successful campaigns,
12 and bring money back to the agencies in Fairfield
13 County, so that they can continue to support their
14 clients and improve services to our community.

15 The Fairfield County Communities and Schools
16 Program, an afterschool tutorial program for at-risk
17 youth, combines school and social service resources to
18 give the chance at successful, productive lives.

19 SCANA Corporation played a strong leadership
20 role in forming this program. And their financial
21 support and employee participation in governing boards,
22 tutoring and mentoring these use is an investment the
23 company can be proud of. Currently, Mr. Jeff Archie of
24 V.C. Summer Station is serving as our local chair of the
25 Communities and School Program.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N W
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 The State of South Carolina has committed to
2 preparing its children to enter the first grade ready to
3 read. SCANA shares that commitment. The First Steps
4 program combines the efforts of public and private
5 organizations to provide various services to help
6 parents ready their young children for school.

7 SCANA is a proud supporter of the First Steps
8 program and has contributed \$500,000 to this critically
9 important cause. After the 2002 annual meeting, First
10 Steps presented Jeff Archie of SCE&G, V.C. Summer Plant
11 with the Community Service Award, in recognition of the
12 company's donation of land on which to build a new
13 childcare center in Western Fairfield County, as well as
14 their continued commitment and dedication to the future
15 of our children.

16 The Downtown as Classroom Program began in
17 1994 as a collaborative effort between SCANA, the
18 Department of Education, and the South Carolina Downtown
19 Development Association. This program exposes children
20 to all of the rewarding ways they can contribute to the
21 community in which they live.

22 Thanks to this support, Winnsboro has had
23 three successful Downtown as Classroom projects. My
24 favorite is "What Time Is It?" This is an abbreviated
25 walking tour of the downtown area of Winnsboro and its

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 historic buildings. This was done by an eighth-grade
2 class. It was researched, written and produced by those
3 students. It is currently being used in the chamber as
4 an information piece. It is put out by the South
5 Carolina Railroad Museum for the children that visit
6 there. But most importantly, it's being used by the
7 Literacy Counsel to help residents learn to read.

8 As good stewards of our environment, the staff
9 of V.C. Summer developed a 1-1/2 mile nature trail on
10 the shores of Lake Monticello. Finches, wood duck
11 boxes, bluebird boxes and plant identification markers
12 make this a delightful place for residents and visitors
13 to enjoy. This trail, along with the Lake Monticello
14 recreation area, is featured in our tourism booklet,
15 things to see and do in the old English district.

16 This is in all of the welcome centers across
17 the State of South Carolina, and it's also included in
18 every packet of information that we send out from the
19 chamber of commerce, and it is also placed in all
20 information brochure racks throughout the county.

21 I'm sure this is a small part of the many
22 other activities in which the staff of V.C. Summer is
23 involved. I enjoy working with the folks from
24 V.C. Summer, SCANA and SCE&G. They are dedicated
25 employees. They're very personable. They're concerned.

1 Most of all, they are very professional in everything,
2 that they do, and you always go the extra mile, and for
3 that, I say thank you.

4 I know you've heard a lot about the tax
5 dollars that V.C. Summer pays. If you look at the way
6 those tax dollars are allocated, the largest portion
7 does go to our school district, and that's very
8 beneficial. But I also need -- we need to think about
9 the allocation to our library, the hospital, the fire
10 board, the recreation areas, the general operation of
11 the county and, of course, the school district. All of
12 these are very viable to life in our community.

13 We're grateful to V.C. Summer to your
14 tremendous contribution, and to the effort that you're
15 making to improve the quality of life in our community.
16 Thank you.

17 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you very much.

18 Mr. Bursey brought up a concern that we hear a
19 lot after the events of September 11th, a security
20 concern. And I thought that it might be useful to just
21 have John Tappert talk a little bit about what the
22 commission has done since then in terms of security
23 considerations.

24 John?

25 MR. TAPPERT: Just real briefly. Even before

1 September 11th of last year, the commission took
2 security of facilities very seriously and have very
3 stringent requirements in place. We have highly-trained
4 guard forces and multiple barriers to facilities, motion
5 sensors, armored defensive positions, and a whole bunch
6 of other defenses, and that was before 911. They are
7 the most secured civilian installations in this country.

8 Of course, after those terrorists attacks, the
9 commission took additional actions to make it even more
10 secure. We issued orders to each of the 103 nuclear
11 power plants. (Inaudible, coughing). They have
12 additional vehicle bottom barriers and guards and things
13 of that nature.

14 The commission is also doing a number of
15 additional studies and reviews to determine what
16 additional precautions will be appropriate with the
17 current world situation and analyzing the threats --
18 (Inaudible, coughing).

19 So you're not going to see any of that
20 discussion in our environmental impact statement or in
21 the other safety review. We don't consider that in the
22 scope of license renewal, per se, because it applies to
23 all 103 plants. It's not necessarily restricted to just
24 license renewal. So it's being taken care of on a
25 generic basis, but you're not necessarily going to see

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 it as part of this review. I just wanted to make that
2 point.

3 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you.

4 MR. TAPPERT: If you have a number of other
5 issues that you raised, you can have a number of other
6 people discuss that with you, as well.

7 FACILITATOR CAMERON: Thank you. I don't
8 think we have anybody else that wants to talk this
9 afternoon. We are going to be back at 7:00 for another
10 meeting, 6:00 open house.

11 Before we close, though, are there any other
12 questions that we can answer for anybody? The staff is
13 going to be here. Our consultants will be here to talk
14 to you after the meeting, also.

15 Well, thank you very much for coming out, and
16 we will adjourn.

17 (Proceedings concluded at 3:30 p.m.)

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25