

Environmental Scoping Summary Report

V. C. Summer Nuclear Station

Fairfield County, South Carolina

January 2003

Docket No. 50-395

**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Rockville, Maryland**

(Enclosure 1)

Introduction

1
2 The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received an application from South Carolina
3 Electric and Gas Company (SCE&G) dated August 6, 2002, for renewal of the operating
4 licenses of the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station (V.C. Summer). The V. C. Summer Nuclear
5 Station is located in Fairfield County, South Carolina. As part of the application, SCE&G
6 submitted an environmental report (ER) prepared in accordance with the requirements of
7 10 CFR Part 51. 10 CFR Part 51 contains the NRC requirements for implementing the National
8 Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. Section 51.53 outlines requirements for preparation
9 and submittal of environmental reports to the NRC.

10
11 Section 51.53(c)(3) was based upon the findings documented in NUREG-1437, *Generic*
12 *Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Power Plants*, (GEIS). The
13 GEIS, in which the staff identified and evaluated the environmental impacts associated with
14 license renewal, was first issued as a draft for public comment. The staff received input from
15 Federal and State agencies, public organizations, and private citizens before developing the
16 final document. As a result of the assessments in the GEIS, a number of impacts were
17 determined to be generic to all nuclear power plants. These were designated as Category 1
18 impacts. An applicant for license renewal may adopt the conclusions contained in the GEIS for
19 Category 1 impacts, in the absence of new and significant information that may cause the
20 conclusions to fall outside those of the GEIS. Category 2 impacts are those impacts that have
21 been determined to be plant-specific and are required to be evaluated in the applicant's ER.

22
23 The Commission determined that the NRC does not have a role in energy planning decision-
24 making for existing plants, which should be left to State regulators and utility officials. There-
25 fore, an applicant for license renewal need not provide an analysis of the need for power, or the
26 economic costs and economic benefits of the proposed action. Additionally, the Commission
27 determined that the ER need not discuss any aspect of storage of spent fuel for the facility that
28 is within the scope of the generic determination in 10 CFR 51.23(a) and in accordance with
29 10 CFR 51.23(b). This determination was based on the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 and
30 the Commission's Waste Confidence Rule, 10 CFR 51.23.

31
32 On October 25, 2002, the NRC published a Notice of Intent in the *Federal Register* (67 FR
33 65612), to notify the public of the staff's intent to prepare a plant-specific supplement to the
34 GEIS to support the renewal application for the operating license for V. C. Summer. The plant-
35 specific supplement to the GEIS will be prepared in accordance with NEPA and 10 CFR Part
36 51. As outlined by NEPA, the NRC initiated the scoping process with the issuance of the
37 *Federal Register* Notice. The NRC invited the applicant; Federal, State, and local government
38 agencies; local organizations; and individuals to participate in the scoping process by providing
39 oral comments at the scheduled public meetings and/or submitting written suggestions and
40 comments no later than January 6, 2003. The scoping process included two public scoping
41 meetings, which were held at the White Hall A.M.E. Church in Jenkinsville, South Carolina, on
42 December 11, 2002. The NRC announced the meetings in local newspapers (The Herald

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1 Independent, The State, and The Lake Murray News), issued press releases, and distributed
2 flyers locally. Approximately 20 members of the public attended the meetings. Both sessions
3 began with NRC staff members providing a brief overview of the license renewal process and
4 the NEPA process. Following the NRC's prepared statements, the meetings were open for
5 public comments. Nineteen (19) attendees provided either oral comments or written statements
6 that were recorded and transcribed by a certified court reporter. The transcripts of the
7 meetings and the meeting summary were issued on January 14, 2003. The meeting summary
8 and transcripts are available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document
9 Room or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's document
10 system (ADAMS) under accession numbers ML030030791, ML030030808, and ML030030848.
11 ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm.html> (the Public
12 Electronic Reading Room) (Note that the URL is case-sensitive).

13
14 The scoping process provides an opportunity for public participation to identify issues to be
15 addressed in the plant-specific supplement to the GEIS and highlight public concerns and
16 issues. The Notice of Intent identified the following objectives of the scoping process:

- 17 • Define the proposed action.
- 18
- 19 • Determine the scope of the supplement to the GEIS and identify significant issues to be
20 analyzed in depth.
- 21
- 22 • Identify and eliminate peripheral issues.
- 23
- 24 • Identify any environmental assessments and other environmental impact statements
25 being prepared that are related to the supplement to the GEIS.
- 26
- 27 • Identify other environmental review and consultation requirements.
- 28
- 29 • Indicate the schedule for preparation of the supplement to the GEIS.
- 30
- 31 • Identify any cooperating agencies.
- 32
- 33 • Describe how the supplement to the GEIS will be prepared.
- 34
- 35

36 At the conclusion of the scoping period, the NRC staff and its contractor reviewed the tran-
37 scripts and all written material received, and identified individual comments. All comments and
38 suggestions received orally during the scoping meetings or in writing were considered. Each
39 set of comments from a given commenter was given a unique alphabetical identifier
40 (Commenter ID letter), allowing each set of comments from a commenter to be traced back to
41 the transcript, letter, or e-mail in which the comments were submitted. Several commenters
42 submitted comments through multiple sources (e.g., afternoon and evening scoping meetings).

Table 1 identifies the individuals providing comments and the Commenter ID letter associated with each person's set(s) of comments. The Commenter ID letter is preceded by SU (short for V.C. Summer). For oral comments, the individuals are listed in the order in which they spoke at the public meeting. Accession numbers indicate the location of the written comments in ADAMS.

Table 1. Individuals Providing Comments During Scoping Comment Period

Commenters			Comment Source and
ID	Commenter	Affiliation (If Stated)	ADAMS Accession Number
SU-A	Pearson		Afternoon Public Meeting ^(a)
SU-B	Marchiara	Fairfield County Council	Afternoon Public Meeting
SU-C	Burse		Afternoon Public Meeting
SU-D	Coleman	Representative	Afternoon Public Meeting
SU-E	Robinson	Fairfield County Council	Afternoon Public Meeting
SU-F	Wilder	Fairfield County Schools	Afternoon Public Meeting
SU-G	Murphy	Fairfield County Council	Afternoon Public Meeting
SU-H	Harmon	Pomaria-Garmany Elementary School	Afternoon Public Meeting
SU-I	Byrne	V.C. Summer Nuclear Station	Afternoon Public Meeting
SU-J	Summer	SCANA Services	Afternoon Public Meeting
SU-K	White	South Carolina Public Service Commission	Afternoon Public Meeting
SU-L	Bowlers	Irma/Chapin Recreation Commission	Afternoon Public Meeting
SU-M	Vickers	Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce	Afternoon Public Meeting
SU-N	Cannon	Pastor	Evening Public Meeting
SU-O	Pearson		Evening Public Meeting
SU-P	Sprott	Fairfield County School System	Evening Public Meeting
SU-Q	Byrne	V.C. Summer Nuclear Station	Evening Public Meeting
SU-R	Summer	South Carolina	Evening Public Meeting
SU-S	White	South Carolina Public Service Commission	Evening Public Meeting
SU-T	Rabb		Evening Public Meeting
SU-U	Caldwell		Evening Public Meeting
SU-V	Spratt	United States House of Representatives	Letter, December 11, 2002 (ML023540416)

(a) The afternoon transcript can be found under accession number ML030030808.

(b) The evening transcript can be found under accession number ML030030848.

Comments were consolidated and categorized according to the topic within the proposed supplement to the GEIS or according to the general topic if outside the scope of the GEIS. Comments with similar specific objectives were combined to capture the common essential issues that had been raised in the source comments. Once comments were grouped according to subject area, the staff and contractor determined the appropriate action for the comment. The staff made a determination on each comment that it was one of the following:

- A comment that was actually a question and introduced no new information
- A comment that was either related to support for or opposition to license renewal in general (or specifically, V.C. Summer) or that made a general statement about the licensing renewal process. It may have made only a general statement regarding Category 1 and/or Category 2 issues. In addition, it provided no new information and did not pertain to 10 CFR Part 54.

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- A comment about a Category 1 issue that
 - provided new information that required evaluation during the review
 - provided no new information.
- A comment about a Category 2 issue that
 - provided information that required evaluation during the review
 - provided no such information.
- A comment regarding alternatives to the proposed action
- A comment that raised an environmental issue that was not addressed in the GEIS
- A comment outside the scope of license renewal, which includes comments regarding the Need for Power
- A comment outside the scope of the environmental review on safety issues pertaining to 10 CFR Part 54.

Each comment is summarized in the following pages. For reference, the unique identifier for each comment (Commenter ID letter listed in Table A.1 plus the comment number) is provided. In cases where no new information was provided by the commenter, no further evaluation will be performed.

The preparation of the plant-specific supplement to the GEIS (which is the SEIS) will take into account all the relevant issues raised during the scoping process. The SEIS will address both Category 1 and 2 issues, along with any new information identified as a result of scoping. The SEIS will rely on conclusions supported by information in the GEIS for Category 1 issues, and will include the analysis of Category 2 issues and any new and significant information. The draft plant-specific supplement to the GEIS will be made available for public comment. The comment period will offer the next opportunity for the applicant; interested Federal, State, and local government agencies; local organizations; and members of the public to provide input to the NRC's environmental review process. The comments received on the draft SEIS will be considered in the preparation of the final SEIS. The final SEIS, along with the staff's Safety Evaluation Report (SER), will provide much of the basis for the NRC's decision on the V.C. Summer license renewal application.

1 The following pages summarize the comments and suggestions received as part of the scoping
2 process, and discuss their disposition. Parenthetical numbers after each comment refer to the
3 Commenters ID letter and the comment number. Comments can be tracked to the commenter
4 and the source document through the ID letter and comment number listed in Table 1.

5 Comments are grouped by category. The categories are as follows:

- 6
- 7 1. General Comments in Support of License Renewal and its Processes, or Specifically V.C.
8 Summer
- 9 2. General Comments in Opposition to License Renewal and its Processes, or Specifically
10 V.C. Summer
- 11 3. Comments Concerning Socioeconomic Issues
- 12 4. Comments Concerning Air Quality Issues
- 13 5. Comments Concerning Human Health Issues
- 14 6. Comments Concerning Terrestrial Resource Issues
- 15 7. Comments Concerning Uranium Fuel Cycle and Waste Management Issues
- 16 8. Comments Concerning Threatened and Endangered Species Issues
- 17 9. Comments Concerning Water Resource Issues
- 18 10. Comments Concerning Issues Outside the Scope of License Renewal: Operational Safety,
19 Aging Management, Need for Power, and Other Issues
- 20 11. Comments Concerning Process Issues

1 **1. General Comments in Support of License Renewal and its Processes, or Specifically**
2 **V.C. Summer**
3

4 **Comment:** And their employees have gone out and formed a partnership, I think, with the local
5 schools, so that they can do teaching and mentoring and assistance to these children in the
6 afternoons, to help them have a better education, so that they are not in the percentage of
7 illiterates in this county. (SU-E-5)
8

9 **Comment:** In addition to the fishing on the lake, the recreational lake was put in by SCE&G,
10 which is at the northern part of Lake Monticello. We have a nature trail on site that has been
11 used for our schools. We also facilitate the land for the county park that is on this side of the
12 county, Western Fairfield County. (SU-I-10)
13

14 **Response:** The comments are noted. Education, recreation, and social services were
15 evaluated in the GEIS and determined to be socioeconomic Category 1 issues. Information
16 regarding socioeconomics will be discussed in Chapters 2 and 4 of the supplement to the GEIS
17 for V.C. Summer license renewal. The comments provide no new information and, therefore,
18 will not be evaluated further.
19

20 **Comment:** Anytime we work toward an economic development project or just any event,
21 they're always there. (SU-E-4)
22

23 **Comment:** I also want to reiterate that the persons at the plant, some of the employees have
24 been very instrumental in our school system. (SU-F-5)
25

26 **Comment:** But through it all, I think V.C. Summer Nuclear Plant has been a safe partner, a
27 good neighbor, one that Fairfield County has to look at and say thank you for coming here,
28 thank you for managing it. It's rated in the top five safest nuclear plants in America. (SU-G-3)
29

30 **Comment:** And I'm here today to tell you of the support that my school has received from
31 SCE&G. (SU-H-1)
32

33 **Comment:** Now, the wonderful part of that fact that these SCE&G employees came to my
34 rescue is that only one of them had children in my school. I did know two of the others, but I
35 had never met any of the others, and they came through for me. (SU-H-2)
36

37 **Comment:** V.C. Summer, as many of you are probably aware, is owned two-thirds by South
38 Carolina Electric & Gas, and one-third by the State of South Carolina through the Public Service
39 Authority. You're going to hear a little bit more about that relationship when Robin White comes
40 up to speak a little bit later. Together, we have operated V.C. Summer safely for 20 years...
41 (SU-I-1)

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Comment: ...we look forward to operating the plant safely in this community for another 40 years. And obviously, we can only do that with a license renewal for plant extension that we've been talking about today. (SU-I-2)

Comment: In addition to energy, jobs and taxes, which are very, very tangible, there are a lot of intangible benefits. You've heard about some of them here today. ... But we also have a shadowing program Fairfield County Schools we support. We have a friendship program for vocational welding, who we support through Fairfield County Schools. (SU-I-7)

Comment: Community service, you heard a little bit about the chamber. Right now, one of our employees is the vice president of the chamber, next year will be the president of the chamber. I've been the president of the chamber in the past. (SU-I-11)

Comment: United Way Campaign, we have long been associated with the United Way campaign. ...we have an employee from our plant that has chaired that campaign three out of the last five years. (SU-I-12)

Comment: The communities and schools board, you heard some comments about Jeff Archie. I don't know if he is...he was this year, but he's going to be the chair of the County Communities and School Board. (SU-I-13)

Comment: Also, we are very interested in the Fairfield Behavioral Health Services, and their capital campaign committee to build a new facility, and I'm the chair of that steering committee, and SCE&G just announced \$30,000 towards that building campaign. (SU-I-14)

Comment: We think we have been a good neighbor of this community. (SU-I-15)

Comment: We have operated the plant safety, within the confines of regulation. (SU-I-16)

Comment: ...we would like to be a part of this community for the next 40 years. (SU-I-17)

Comment: Summer Station's environmental performance has been very good, as evidenced by the lack of news coverage for environmental problems at the plant for the first 20 years of the operating license. (SU-J-1)

Comment: The SCE&G, the operator of the Summer Station, has made positive environmental strides in recent years. (SU-J-3)

Comment: Development of the report required interviewing numerous employees, contact with county, state and federal agencies and review of applicable regulations. (SU-J-4)

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1 **Comment:** I believe that Summer Station will continue to provide electricity in an
2 environmentally sound manner for many years to come. (SU-J-6)

3
4 **Comment:** I also believe that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, when their review is
5 complete, will find that the environmental impacts from the operation of the Summer Station are
6 not significant, and that extension of the operating license by 20 years is prudent. (SU-J-7)

7
8 **Comment:** I believe that nuclear power, and Summer Station in particular, has a place in our
9 society and this community today and in the future. (SU-J-8)

10
11 **Comment:** Santee Cooper is pleased with the safe operations with the Summer Station and
12 wholly supports license extension. (SU-K-3)

13
14 **Comment:** The V.C. Summer stations has supported our programs by their involvement in our
15 home delivery meals program. Without the help of volunteers, we would be limited in the
16 number of meals we could serve to seniors. (SU-L-1)

17
18 **Comment:** Since 1997, and I'm sure long before that time, there has been a representative
19 from V.C. Summer Station on the Chamber Board of Directors. (SU-M-1)

20
21 **Comment:** V.C. Summer has just been invaluable to the chamber as far as our technology.
22 (SU-M-2)

23
24 **Comment:** They have supported the chamber, sponsorships for events and functions,...
25 (SU-M-3)

26
27 **Comment:** As good stewards of our environment, the staff of V.C. Summer developed a 1-1/2
28 mile nature trail on the shores of Lake Monticello. (SU-M-4)

29
30 **Comment:** You are welcome at any time to our church, and you have been a blessing to our
31 community. We wish you success and we hope that you will continue to be a vital part of this
32 community. (SU-N-1)

33
34 **Comment:** V.C. Summer Nuclear Power Station has worked with Fairfield County Schools
35 since its beginning. (SU-P-1)

36
37 **Comment:** They have also worked in partnership with Central Midlands Career Partnership.
38 (SU-P-2)

1 **Comment:** SCANA in a partnership with South Carolina Downtown Development, which the
2 downtown development -- the Department of Education sponsored Downtown in the Classroom.
3 (SU-P-3)
4

5 **Comment:** Support through financial donations have included teacher of the year, Students
6 Against Violence, Fairfield Central High School, and National Fire Safety Council, which
7 provided materials for students to learn about fire safety. (SU-P-4)
8

9 **Comment:** Our station here has donated computers to the school district. (SU-P-5)
10

11 **Comment:** The station employees have volunteered as tutors in the afternoon homework
12 center, and they are currently junior achievement teachers. (SU-P-6)
13

14 **Comment:** The employees serve as mentors for -- two employees, Steve Craft and Matt
15 Smith, they donated their time at McCCorey-Liston. (SU-P-7)
16

17 **Comment:** Employees at the station made donations to Gordon Early Childhood Development.
18 The V.C. Summer employees have made safety city presentations at McCCorey-Liston, Fairfield
19 Intermediate and Geiger Elementary Schools. (SU-P-8)
20

21 **Comment:** Kathy Walker, a teacher at the McCCorey-Liston, is partnering with the V.C. Summer
22 Station to design a reading program where employees will read for one hour once per month.
23 (SU-P-9)
24

25 **Comment:** Our V.C. Summer employees donated school supplies and served as judges at
26 Fairfield Middle School Science fairs. (SU-P-10)
27

28 **Comment:** Jeff Archie is currently serving as the chair of Communities and Schools of Fairfield
29 County, where he is my boss and tells me what to do right now. (SU-P-11)
30

31 **Comment:** This nationally-known program provides an afternoon program for at-risk children
32 at Fairfield Middle School. (SU-P-12)
33

34 **Comment:** And we look forward to being a part of this community and this county for another
35 40 years, and obviously we can only do that with an extension. (SU-Q-2)
36

37 **Comment:** In addition to energy, jobs and taxes, things that are very tangible, things that
38 everybody talks a lot about, we also provide a number of intangible benefits to the county. ...
39 Shadowing programs, strategic planning, career days, school supplies, donation of 100
40 computers. ... We've always been a partner in schools. (SU-Q-9)
41

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1 **Comment:** In addition to fishing, which I understand is very good on our lake, the recreation
2 lake lands was donated by SCE&G. We have a nature trail, and we also donate the land for the
3 county park. (SU-Q-11)
4

5 **Comment:** And community service, you've heard a little bit about the community service that
6 we do. Aside from having somebody in the chamber every year for the last ten years, we have
7 been in leadership positions in three of the last five years. (SU-Q-12)
8

9 **Comment:** We've always had somebody involved with the United Way campaign in this
10 county. ... We have chaired the United Way campaign in this county for the last three out of five
11 years. (SU-Q-13)
12

13 **Comment:** We are also a part of the campaign to raise capital funds to build a new substance
14 abuse center. ... I have the distinction of being the chair on their capital campaign, and SCANA
15 has just announced they're putting \$30,000 towards that campaign. (SU-Q-14)
16

17 **Comment:** We think we have been a good neighbor in this county for the last 20 years, and
18 we would like to go on being a good neighbor for the next 40 years. (SU-Q-19)
19

20 **Comment:** Summer Station's environmental performance has been very good, as evidenced
21 by the lack of news coverage for environmental problems in the plant for the last 20 years. (SU-
22 R-1)
23

24 **Comment:** SCE&G, the operator of the Summer Station, has made positive environmental
25 strides in recent years. (SU-R-3)
26

27 **Comment:** Development of the report required interviewing numerous employees, contact with
28 county, state and federal agencies and review of applicable regulations. (SU-R-6)
29

30 **Comment:** I believe that Summer Station will continue to provide electricity in an
31 environmentally sound manner for many years to come. (SU-R-8)
32

33 **Comment:** I also believe that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, when their review is
34 complete, will find that the environmental impacts from the operation of the Summer Station are
35 not significant, and that extension of the operating license by 20 years is prudent. (SU-R-9)
36

37 **Comment:** I believe that nuclear power, and Summer Station, in particular, has a place in our
38 society and this community today and in the future. Thank you. (SU-R-10)
39

40 **Comment:** Santee Cooper is pleased with the safe operations of the Summer Station and
41 wholly supports license extension. (SU-S-4)

1
2 **Comment:** I want you to know that V.C. summer is very dear to our heart, my husband and
3 myself. (SU-T-1)
4

5 **Comment:** We love the property. We love the plant. We love the people. I worked there for 19
6 years, and I can't say I had a bad day, because I worked with a family of people who were
7 caring people. (SU-T-2)
8

9 **Comment:** Thanks to SCE&G for meals on wheels that was served here in this very dining
10 area from Monday through Friday every week. (SU-T-6)
11

12 **Comment:** But they have been such a helping hand to us. We hope -- the community of
13 Jenkinsville and this church hope that everything goes well with your review, everything goes
14 well with your findings, and everything will go well with the V.C. Summer plant. We would hate
15 to lose them. (SU-T-7)
16

17 **Comment:** You have done much for the community and for Fairfield County, and have helped
18 us in the schools. (SU-U-1)
19

20 **Comment:** The V.C. Summer Nuclear Station has a proven track record as on the safest , most
21 reliable nuclear facilities in the nation. (SU-V-1)
22

23 **Comment:** They have a demonstrated record of being a good corporate neighbor through their
24 partnerships with the people of Fairfield County and the neighboring counties of Lexington,
25 Newberry and Richland. (SU-V-2)
26

27 **Response:** The comments are noted. The comments are supportive of license renewal for V.C.
28 Summer and are general in nature. The comments provide no new information; therefore, the
29 comments will not be evaluated further.
30

31 **2. General Comments in Opposition to License Renewal and its Processes, or** 32 **Specifically V.C. Summer** 33

34 **Comment:** I understand that November 10th was the cutoff for filing for intervention. If no one
35 has filed for interventions, does that preclude the citizens being able to have a hearing on the
36 final supplement? (SU-C-1)
37

38 **Comment:** The rules of practice and procedure that this relicensing is going to take place
39 under are so restricted that we're not going to bring out the fact -- we're not going to be able to
40 bring up the fact that a major crack in what they call the hot leg, which is the main big pipe that
41 cools reactors, which caught the attention of nuclear informed people all over the world, will not
42 be able to be brought up in hearings, because it's not going to be in the generic aging lessons

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1 learned protocol. And if it's not in the generic aging lessons learned protocol, we can't bring it
2 up. (SU-C-13)

3
4 **Comment:** The generic approach to age-related degradation solely benefits the nuclear
5 industry. They're relicensing nuclear reactors as if they're all the same is contrary to public
6 interest. (SU-C-16)

7
8 **Comment:** I respect the people that work there, and I think they do a good job. I know that
9 they're constrained by the people that pay their checks. (SU-C-22)

10
11 **Response:** The comments are noted. The comments oppose license renewal and its
12 processes at V.C. Summer, related to operational safety and aging issues. These issues are
13 not within the scope of the environmental review of this license renewal review. The comments
14 provide no new information; therefore, the comments will not be evaluated further.

15
16 **Comment:** You may be wondering why on earth are we here talking about relicensing a plant
17 20 years before the license runs out. ... Because if the plant gets relicensed now, it adds 20
18 years onto the life of it, and they can amortize that value, it makes their investment more
19 profitable. It's all about money for the company. (SU-C-14)

20
21 **Response:** The comments are noted. The comment opposes license renewal and its
22 processes at V.C. Summer, based on the timing of the process related to the existing operating
23 license. This issue is not within the scope of this license renewal review. The comment provides
24 no new information; therefore, the comment will not be evaluated further.

25
26 **Comment:** When I found out that they were going to build a nuclear power plant, I filed a
27 petition to intervene. What that means is that there were hearings that I could call witnesses, I
28 could cross-examine people. It went on for five years. I learned more than any civilian person
29 needs to learn about nuclear power. The process made a safer plant. ... I'm very upset that
30 there will be no intervenor in the relicensing process. What that will probably mean is that this
31 will be the only nuclear reactor in the U.S. ever to go through a licensing process without an
32 adjudicatory hearing. (SU-C-10)

33
34 **Comment:** But there are so many issues that aren't going to be considered in the relicensing
35 hearing, that it's a pretty futile gesture, but that we need to make an attempt to try and get the
36 State of South Carolina involved. (SU-C-15)

37
38 **Comment:** I have some problems with the procedure that is being utilized by the Nuclear
39 Regulatory Commission to consider relicensing the V.C. Summer Plant, and will be working with
40 citizens in this neighborhood and hopefully bring pressure down on the Department of Health

1 and Environmental Control to the basis responsibility that they have to ensure that this plant
2 operates in the safest fashion. (SU-C-21)

3
4 **Response:** The comments are noted. The comments oppose license renewal and its
5 processes at V.C. Summer. These issues are not within the scope of this license renewal
6 review. The comments provide no new information; therefore, the comments will not be
7 evaluated further.

8 9 **3. Comments Concerning Socioeconomic Issues**

10
11 **Comment:** We also provide jobs for about 625 SCE&G employees and in excess of 100 long-
12 term contract employees. (SU-I-5)

13
14 **Comment:** We also are the largest employer in the county now. (SU-Q-7)

15
16 **Comment:** Summer Station's operations provide jobs for nearly a thousand people. (SU-V-3)

17
18 **Response:** The comments are noted. Employment factors were evaluated in the GEIS and
19 determined to be a Category 2 issue. Information regarding employment will be examined on a
20 site-specific basis in Chapters 2 and 4 of the supplement to the GEIS for V.C. Summer license
21 renewal.

22
23 **Comment:** SCE&G is a wonderful partner for our county. Because they came online, we now
24 have some of the finest school facilities in the state. We also are able to offer, because of their
25 tax dollars, services to the people of this county that otherwise we could not afford because our
26 people cannot pay taxes to provide those services. (SU-E-3)

27
28 **Comment:** As far as an economic development impact on this county, this to me is a very
29 clean lake that they have provided. We then have people who are able to fish in this lake, and
30 we now have people who are selling property around this lake, which to us is an economic
31 development tool. And these people are coming in and building homes, which add to our tax
32 base. (SU-E-6)

33
34 **Comment:** ...that the plant has been a very vital part of the tax base in our county. (SU-F-2)

35
36 **Comment:** So if the plant were not to be licensed and, in my personal opinion, the industry
37 was not here to replace the plant that not relicensed, it would be devastating on the county. And
38 for the county to have a \$16 million impact from one plant, that's a big impact into our economic
39 base on the county level. (SU-F-3)

40
41 **Comment:** The school district is fortunate that the V.C. Nuclear Summer Plant is the largest
42 tax base in the county. We get in excess 11 million dollars per year in taxes from the plant.
43 (SU-F-4)

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Comment: The benefits of the taxes that's been b[r]ought in, over \$17 million to the county. Where would we be if it wasn't for V.C. Summer? (SU-G-3)

Comment: We're also the largest taxpayer in the county. You've heard a lot about that. We pay about 17-1/2 million dollars in taxes and represent about 67 percent of the tax base. (SU-I-6)

Comment: Aside from being the largest employer, we're also the largest taxpayer. Prior to Mack's closing, we were 67 percent of the tax base. ... V.C. Summer pays about 17-1/2 million dollars a year in property taxes to the county. (SU-Q-8)

Comment: There is a big tax check that keeps our schools going. (SU-T-5)

Comment: There are many things I could touch on that SCE&G has done in this community but just to give you an overall picture of how they became our neighbors and how good they are and the things that they have done. My husband had a vision many years ago for a fire department. ... And so SCE&G said, No problem, we will come up with the building. ... Then came EMS, which is a vital part of the community, very much needed, through SCE&G. (SU-T-3)

Comment: Then they became customers of the Jenkinsville Water Company, very good customers, for that we appreciate. They keep us going, they keep the post office going, because we're a small community. We're just thankful for the things that they have done. (SU-T-4)

Comment: SCANA owned companies pay more than 17.5 million in taxes to Fairfield County, money that helps support vital public services and provides for a better quality of life. (SU-V-4)

Response: The comments are noted. Public services, off-site land use, taxes, and transportation were evaluated in the GEIS and determined to be socioeconomic Category 2 issues. Information regarding these socioeconomic issues will be examined on a site-specific basis in Chapters 2 and 4 of the supplement to the GEIS for V.C. Summer license renewal.

4. Comments Concerning Air Quality Issues

Comment: ...want to make certain that SCE&G continue to follow guidelines to ensure that we are subjected to clean air and a safe environment. (SU-F-1)

1 **Comment:** Reliable operation of the Summer Station, a non-greenhouse gas emitter,
2 precludes the requirement to use greenhouse gas from any generation and is economical for
3 our customers. (SU-K-4)
4

5 **Comment:** Reliable operation of Summer Station, a non-greenhouse gas emitter, precludes
6 the requirement to use greenhouse gas from any generation and is economical for our
7 customers. (SU-S-5)
8

9 **Response:** The comments are noted. Air emissions are regulated through the U.S.
10 Environmental Protection Agency and the State of South Carolina. Air quality was evaluated in
11 the GEIS and determined to be a Category 1 issue. Air quality will be discussed in Chapter 2 of
12 the supplement to the GEIS for V.C. Summer license renewal. The comment provides no new
13 information and, therefore, will not be evaluated further.
14

15 **5. Comments Concerning Human Health Issues**

16

17 **Comment:** I've had constituencies ask me over the last 15 years -- there appears to be a
18 substantial increase in different types of cancer, particularly with our senior citizens. What can
19 you say to assure the community that this plant has no direct impact in regards to these
20 questions? (SU-B-3)
21

22 **Comment:** ...does your agency also check environmentally any of the medical records to see
23 whether or not these perceptions of increase of different types of cancers, ... do you also check
24 whether or not there is an increase of health risk to citizens in the area? (SU-B-4)
25

26 **Comment:** I did get asked the question about the perception of cancer. Fairfield County leads
27 the state in terms of diabetes, ... and the perception that the environment might complicate
28 these conditions. So I'm just raising this because we do need an independent study. That's why
29 I asked for a medical explanation. Have DHEC or other folks, the agency for this area, and just
30 for the public safety to make sure that these conditions and perceptions, that they are not
31 found, they're not authentic, and I think that will go a long ways to some uncertainties. (SU-B-6)
32

33 **Response:** The comments are noted. The NRC's regulatory limits for radiological protection
34 are set to protect workers and the public from the harmful effects of radiation on humans. The
35 limits are based on the recommendations of standards-setting organizations. Radiation
36 standards reflect extensive study by national and international organizations (International
37 Commission on Radiological Protection [ICRP], National Council on Radiation Protection and
38 Measurements, and National Academy of Sciences) and are conservative to ensure that the
39 public and workers at nuclear power plants are protected. The NRC radiation exposure
40 standards are presented in 10 CFR Part 20, "Standards for Protection Against Radiation," and
41 are based on the recommendations in ICRP 26 and 30. Emissions and effluents that are below
42 the limits set by the NRC are not considered to pose any significant risk to public health or
43 safety. V.C. Summer monitors its radiological emissions and effluents to ensure that any

Scoping Comment Report

1 radioactive releases are within allowable limits. V.C. Summer reports the results of its
2 monitoring program on an annual basis in two documents that are available to the public and
3 are provided to the NRC. These reports are 1.) Annual Effluent and Waste Disposal Report,
4 Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station, and 2.) Radiological Environmental Monitoring Report, Virgil
5 C. Summer Nuclear Station.
6

7 The NRC does review the annual amounts of radiological emissions and effluents released into
8 the environment by V.C. Summer and has found them to be well within the acceptable limits. In
9 the past, the State of South Carolina independently monitored the environment around V. C.
10 Summer for radioactive contamination and their results were consistent with those of V.C.
11 Summer. To ensure that the exposure limits to the public are met, NRC sets limits on
12 radiological effluents, requires monitoring of effluents and foodstuffs. SCE&G monitors its
13 effluents and calculates potential offsite doses caused by radioactive liquid and gaseous
14 effluents. These calculations are performed to demonstrate the licensee's compliance with its
15 technical specifications and the NRC regulations. Based on the information provided by V.C.
16 Summer, radiological emissions and effluents from the station have been well below the limits
17 set by the NRC and, therefore, pose no significant risk to public health or safety.
18

19 Numerous scientifically designed, peer-reviewed studies of personnel exposed to occupational
20 levels of radiation (versus life-threatening accident doses or medical therapeutic levels) have
21 shown minimal effect of human health, and any effect was from exposures well above the
22 exposure levels of the typical member of the public from normal operation of a nuclear power
23 plant.
24

25 The NRC does not routinely evaluate medical records. The NRC is not aware of any increase in
26 health risk to citizens in the area around V.C. Summer that could be linked to station operations
27 or emissions and effluents.
28

29 Radiation exposures to the public and workers were evaluated in the GEIS and determined to
30 be a Category 1 issue. Information regarding human health is discussed in Chapters 2 and 4 of
31 the supplement to the GEIS for V.C. Summer license renewal. The comments provide no new
32 information and, therefore, will not be evaluated further.
33

34 **Comment:** As far as health issues, we have a lot of health issues in Fairfield County, and a lot
35 of contributory things that have been done. We're unique in different things. We have a fault
36 line that runs right through here. We also have a great deposit of granite in the county that lets
37 off radon gas and all these other things that's not attributed to the Summer plant. (SU-G-2)
38

39 **Response:** The comment is noted. Human Health was evaluated in the GEIS and determined
40 to be a Category 1 issue. Information regarding human health will be discussed in Chapters 2
41 and 4 of the supplement to the GEIS for V.C. Summer license renewal. The comment provides
42 no new information and, therefore, will not be evaluated further.

1 **6. Comments Concerning Terrestrial Resource Issues**

2
3 **Comment:** We're a haven for wildlife. (SU-I-9)

4
5 **Comment:** On our site, you will hear a little bit more about this [haven for wildlife], but you will
6 find deer, turkeys, obviously fish, eagles and more buzzards than I can count, and an
7 occasional arrowhead. (SU-Q-10)

8
9 **Response:** The comment is noted. General biological resources were evaluated in the GEIS
10 and determined to be a Category 1 issue. Information regarding general biological resources
11 will be discussed in Chapters 2 and 4 of the supplement to the GEIS for V.C. Summer license
12 renewal. The comment provides no new information and, therefore, will not be evaluated
13 further.

14
15 **7. Comments Concerning Uranium Fuel Cycle and Waste Management Issues**

16
17 **Comment:** As stewards of the environment, management of Summer Station has reduced the
18 tri-annual cycle volume of low-level radioactive waste by 90 percent over the last six cycles for
19 18 years, recycling items previously disposed of and training the workforce to exercise prudent
20 utilization and materials have accomplished the significant reduction. (SU-K-2)

21
22 **Comment:** As stewards of the environment, the management of Summer Station has reduced
23 the tri-annual cycle volume of low-level radioactive waste by 90 percent over the last six cycles
24 for 18 years, recycling items previously disposed of and training the workforce to exercise
25 prudent utilization and materials have accomplished the significant reduction. (SU-S-3)

26
27 **Response:** The comment is noted. Waste management was evaluated in the GEIS and
28 determined to be a Category 1 issue. Information regarding waste management will be
29 discussed in Chapter 2 of the supplement to the GEIS for V.C. Summer license renewal. The
30 comment provides no new information and, therefore, will not be evaluated further.

31
32 **8. Comments Concerning Threatened and Endangered Species Issues**

33
34 **Comment:** The creation of Summer Station and its companion generating plant, Fairfield
35 Pumped Storage Facility, have provided an environment which has been conducive to the
36 expansion of the bald eagle population. (SU-J-2)

37
38 **Comment:** This survey found no evidence of threatened or endangered species on the plant
39 site or the transmission corridors. (SU-J-5)

40
41 **Comment:** The creation of the Summer Station and its companion generating plant, Fairfield
42 Pumped Storage Facility, have provided an environment which has been conducive to the
43 expansion of the bald eagle population. (SU-R-2)

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Comment: This survey found no evidence of threatened or endangered species on the plant site or the transmission corridors, with the exception of the eagles that are not nesting on the site now, but they do come onto the site. (SU-R-7)

Response: The comments are noted. Threatened and endangered species issues were evaluated in the GEIS and determined to be a Category 2 issue. Information regarding threatened and endangered species will be examined on a site-specific basis in Chapters 2 and 4 of the supplement to the GEIS for V.C. Summer license renewal.

9. Comments Concerning Water Resources Issues

Comment: ...it's just very important for me to know that we're protecting those lakes, because at some point, that may be the only source of drinking water we're going to have. So water is just a very important element to each of our lives. (SU-E-1)

Response: The comment is noted. Water resources were evaluated in the GEIS and determined to be a Category 1 issue. Information regarding water resources will be discussed in Chapters 2 and 4 of the supplement to the GEIS for V.C. Summer license renewal. The comment provides no new information and, therefore, will not be evaluated further.

10. Comments Concerning Issues Outside Scope of License Renewal: Operational Safety, Aging Management, Need for Power, and Other Issues

Comment: And will the aging issues be site-specific? (SU-C-5)

Comment: Does environmental review consider aging? (SU-C-6)

Comment: There is what's referred to as aging management programs underway. They're not preventing failures. In my estimation, aging management programs fix things before they break. (SU-C-15)

Response: The comments are noted. Safety matters related to aging are outside the scope of the NRC's environmental review. An NRC safety review for the license renewal period is conducted separately. The comments provide no new information and do not pertain to the scope of license renewal as set forth in 10 CFR Part 51 and Part 54. Therefore, the comments will not be evaluated further.

Although this topic may not be within the scope of the environmental review for license renewal, the NRC is always concerned with protecting health and safety. Any matter potentially affecting safety can be addressed under processes currently available for existing operating license in

1 the absence of a license renewal application. Therefore, a copy of these comments will be
2 provided to the project manager who currently oversees current operating and licensing
3 activities for consideration.
4

5 **Comment:** ... the limits set by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as low as reasonably
6 achievable is based on the financial expenditure of the industry to reduce the millirem exposure
7 to limits that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission considers acceptable. So if you will confirm
8 that that ALARA is based on a cost-benefit [analysis] by the industry. (SU-C-7)
9

10 **Response:** The comment is noted. The regulatory standards for radiological emissions and
11 effluents from nuclear power plants have been established to protect workers and the public
12 from the harmful effects of radiation on humans. Economics and costs of implementation were
13 not considered in the establishment of these standards. The radiation exposure standards and
14 dose limits set by the NRC are addressed in 10 CFR Part 20.
15

16 The requirement for keeping doses as low as is reasonably achievable (ALARA) is found in 10
17 CFR 20.1101. There are a number of factors related to maintaining exposures as far below the
18 dose limits as practical, and economics of improvements in relation to benefits to the public
19 health and safety is one of the considerations. Regulatory Guide 8.8, "Information Relevant to
20 Ensuring that Occupational Radiation Exposures at Nuclear Power Stations Will Be As Low As
21 Is Reasonably Achievable" and Regulatory Guide 8.10, "Operating Philosophy for Maintaining
22 Occupational Radiation Exposures As Low As Is Reasonably Achievable" provides information
23 to licensees on attaining the goals and objectives for ALARA.
24

25 The comments provide no new information and, therefore, will not be evaluated further.
26

27 **Comment:** Santee Cooper has a one-third non-operating interest in the Summer Nuclear
28 Station. (SU-S-1)
29

30 **Response:** The comments are noted. Ownership of V.C. Summer Station is outside the scope
31 of the NRC's environmental review. However, socioeconomic issues were evaluated in the
32 GEIS. Information regarding socioeconomic issues will be discussed in Chapters 2 and 4 of the
33 supplement to the GEIS for V.C. Summer license renewal. The comments provide no new
34 information and, do not pertain to the scope of license renewal as set forth in 10 CFR Part 51
35 and Part 54. Therefore, the comments will not be evaluated further.
36

37 **Comment:** I have found the operation of Summer Station to be found on a strong safety
38 culture. (SU-S-2)
39

40 **Response:** The comments are noted. Operational safety matters are outside the scope of the
41 NRC's environmental review. An NRC safety review for license renewal period is conducted
42 separately. The comments provide no new information and do not pertain to the scope of
43 license renewal as set forth in 10 CFR Part 51 and Part 54. Therefore, the comments will not be
44 evaluated further.

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1 Although this topic may not be within the scope of review for license renewal, the NRC is
2 always concerned with protecting health and safety. Any matter potentially affecting safety can
3 be addressed under processes currently available for existing operating license in the absence
4 of a license renewal application. Therefore, a copy of these comments will be provided to the
5 project manager who currently oversees current operating and licensing activities for
6 consideration.

7
8 **Comment:** We want something to happen on this western side of Fairfield County other than
9 McCrory's, and we support that. I have asked long ago for a civic center on this side of Fairfield
10 County. (SU-U-2)

11
12 **Response:** The comments are noted. Use of taxes generated by the county for services is
13 outside the scope of the NRC's environmental review. However, socioeconomic issues were
14 evaluated in the GEIS. Information regarding socioeconomics will be discussed in chapters 2
15 and 4 of the supplement to the GEIS for V.C. Summer license renewal. The comments provide
16 no new information and do not pertain to the scope of license renewal as set forth in 10 CFR
17 Part 51 and Part 54. Therefore, the comments will not be evaluated further.

18
19 **Comment:** So I am very concerned about the fact that they are meeting the guidelines that
20 need to be to protected because of nuclear power. (SU-E-7)

21
22 **Comment:** I think that there needs to be a consciousness, always a level of consciousness for
23 the responsibility of all of the regulatory agencies need to be there, because we need to protect
24 people from what they don't know is happening to them. (SU-G-1)

25
26 **Response:** The comment is noted. Operational safety matters and regulatory agency roles are
27 outside the scope of the NRC's environmental review. An NRC safety review for license
28 renewal period is conducted separately. The comments provide no new information and do not
29 pertain to the scope of license renewal as set forth in 10 CFR Part 51 and Part 54. Therefore,
30 the comments will not be evaluated further.

31
32 Although this topic may not be within the scope of review for license renewal, the NRC is
33 always concerned with protecting health and safety. Any matter potentially affecting safety can
34 be addressed under processes currently available for existing operating license in the absence
35 of a license renewal application. Therefore, a copy of these comments will be provided to the
36 project manager who currently oversees current operating and licensing activities for
37 consideration.

38
39 **Comment:** Maybe with the vision of SCE&G, we will not have to live through a brownout,
40 because that was not a good night. (SU-E-2)

1 **Comment:** South Carolina is a state that derives much benefit from nuclear. ... And while the
2 United States derives 21 percent of electrical needs from nuclear, South Carolina is almost 60
3 percent power from nuclear. (SU-I-3)
4

5 **Comment:** So when you combine all of the facilities currently, we're in excess of 1,550
6 megawatts of generated power right here in Fairfield County. The largest, obviously, is V.C.
7 Summer. We're just over 1,000 megawatts. (SU-I-4)
8

9 **Comment:** This state, South Carolina, is a very nuclear-rich state, derives a lot of benefit from
10 nuclear power. (SU-Q-3)
11

12 **Comment:** Those seven plants provide 60 percent of power that South Carolinians use.
13 (SU-Q-4)
14

15 **Comment:** When you combine the 15 megawatts at Parr hydro with the 525 megawatts that
16 we get from the lake that we built, plus the 1,000 megawatts from the V.C. Summer Plant,
17 you've got over 1,500 megawatts of power generated from this one location in Fairfield County.
18 (SU-Q-5)
19

20 **Comment:** We make enough power for about 650,000 homes. (SU-Q-6)
21

22 **Response:** The comments are noted. The need for power is specifically directed to be outside
23 the scope of license renewal in 10 CFR 51.95(c)(2). The comments provide no new information
24 and, therefore, will not be evaluated further.
25

26 **Comment:** As many of you are likely aware, we operate the station not only for ourselves, but
27 we own two-thirds of the V.C. Summer Station. But the state actually owns one-third of the V.C.
28 Summer Station through the South Carolina Public Service Authority, and Robin White is going
29 to talk about that relationship in a few minutes. We have operated V.C. Summer safely for the
30 past 20 years. (SU-Q-1)
31

32 **Comment:** Thus from both daily observation and the Nuclear Safety Review Committee review
33 audits, I have found the operation of Summer Station to be found in a strong safety culture.
34 (SU-K-1)
35

36 **Response:** The comments are noted. Operational safety matters are outside the scope of the
37 NRC's environmental review. An NRC safety review for license renewal period is conducted
38 separately. The comments provide no new information and do not pertain to the scope of
39 license renewal as set forth in 10 CFR Part 51 and Part 54. Therefore, the comments will not be
40 evaluated further.
41

42 Although this topic may not be within the scope of review for license renewal, the NRC is
43 always concerned with protecting health and safety. Any matter potentially affecting safety can

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1 be addressed under processes currently available for existing operating license in the absence
2 of a license renewal application. Therefore, a copy of these comments will be provided to the
3 project manager who currently oversees current operating and licensing activities for
4 consideration.

5
6 **Comment:** The security at the V.C. Summer plant, when it went into effect when I was the
7 intervenor, they had to be able to withstand the -- to repulse the assault of 12 dedicated
8 terrorists, and they were tested by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Well, they were failing -
9 - not just them, but across the board, nuclear reactors were not measuring up to the security
10 limits that were imposed by the NRC. So, in 1998, they did away with the test. (SU-C-18)

11
12 **Comment:** The power company just got permission to put more spent fuel rods in than it was
13 designed for, and it's in a metal building, and you can blow that up, and you can take out, oh, a
14 huge -- we're talking hundreds and hundreds of miles and hundreds of thousands of people,
15 and it's not even an impregnable building. (SU-C-20)

16
17 **Response:** The comments are noted. Each nuclear plant must have approved emergency and
18 safeguards contingency plans in accordance with 10 CFR Part 50, that are revised periodically.
19 Emergency and safeguards planning, which includes responses to threats of terrorism and
20 sabotage, are part of the current operating license and are outside the scope of the
21 environmental analysis for license renewal. Any required changes to emergency and
22 safeguards contingency plans related to terrorism and sabotage will be incorporated and
23 reviewed under the operating license. The comments provide no new information and do not
24 pertain to the scope of license renewal as set forth in 10 CFR Part 51 and Part 54. Therefore,
25 the comments will not be evaluated further.

26
27 Although this topic is not within the scope of review for license renewal, the NRC is always
28 concerned with protecting health and safety. Any matter potentially affecting safety can be
29 addressed under processes currently available for existing operating license in the absence of a
30 license renewal application. Therefore, a copy of these comments will be provided to the project
31 manager who currently oversees current operating and licensing activities for consideration.

32
33 **Comment:** We have always taken security very seriously at this station. Long before
34 September 11th, we've had security officers, weapons and plans, as well as deterring measures
35 for things like bombs. (SU-Q-15)

36
37 **Comment:** We are occasionally tested by the NRC. ... In fact, the SWAT team leader from
38 Fairfield County spent two weeks in the plant prior to the evaluation, just trying to figure out how
39 he was going to penetrate our security forces, and we passed our last evaluation with flying
40 colors. (SU-Q-16)

1 **Comment:** September 11th changed a lot of things, but it didn't change security at the nuclear
2 power plants. ... We have Wackenhut being tested by the power company, and we know that
3 one of Al Queda's targets they talked about was a nuclear reactor. (SU-C-19)
4

5 **Comment:** Since September 11th, we have enhanced our security plans. We have added
6 equipment, we have added security officers, and we have moved our defensive perimeter
7 further back. (SU-Q-17)
8

9 **Comment:** In fact, we had a drill last month that involved a terrorist attack in combination with
10 SLED, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, and Fairfield County Sheriff's Office. When
11 we debriefed that drill, we got favorable comments from both Fairfield County Sheriff and from
12 SLED. They were very comfortable that we have a very safe facility, and they are not concerned
13 with us. (SU-Q-18)
14

15 **Response:** The comment is noted. Each nuclear plant must have approved emergency and
16 safeguards contingency plans, per 10 CFR Part 50, that are revised periodically. Emergency
17 and safeguards planning, which includes responses to threats of terrorism and sabotage, are
18 part of the current operating license and are outside the scope of the environmental analysis for
19 license renewal. Any required changes to emergency and safeguards contingency plans related
20 to terrorism and sabotage will be incorporated and reviewed under the operating license.
21

22 Although this topic is not within the scope of review for license renewal, the NRC is always
23 concerned with protecting health and safety. Any matter potentially effecting safety can be
24 addressed under processes currently available for existing operating license absent a license
25 renewal application. Although the comment does not pertain to the scope of license renewal as
26 set forth in 10 CFR Part 51 and Part 54, it will be provided to the project manager who oversees
27 current operating and licensing activities for consideration.
28

29 **Comment:** Who will monitor the plant environmentally, safely after it's closed down? Will you
30 all continue to monitor the plant? (SU-D-1)
31

32 **Comment:** But after it's decommissioned, is anybody riding herd over it during that time period
33 to ensure the public that it's safe? I mean, after it's decommissioned, are there people that
34 come periodically to ensure the safety? (SU-D-2)
35

36 **Response:** The comments are noted. Decommissioning matters are outside the scope of the
37 NRC's environmental review. An NRC environmental review for decommissioning is conducted
38 separately. The process of decommissioning will remove the radiological hazard of the facility.
39 When the license is terminated, the site will be safe for unrestricted use, and NRC's oversight
40 of the facility is also terminated. More information is available in the GEIS for
41 Decommissioning. The comments provide no new and significant information; therefore, will not
42 be evaluated further.
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Comment: SCE&G has funded scientific research into striped bass population dynamics in the Santee River drainage and will fund a study if avian vacuolar myelinopathy, a disease that affects bald eagles -- and I challenge any of you to say that -- on Lake Murray. (SU-R-4)

Comment: SCE&G is a member of the Robust Redhorse Conservation Committee, which is an organization dedicated to recovery of a rare fish which is found only in Georgia and the Carolinas. (SU-R-5)

Response: The comments are noted. The comments address aquatic ecology issues and research. The comment does not pertain to the scope of the license renewal as set forth in 10 CFR Part 51 and Part 54. Therefore, the comments will not be evaluated further.

11. Comments Concerning Process Issues

Comment: I'm disappointed at the crowd, because I'm sure they don't know more than I did. That's the reason they're not here. Evidently, there was something wrong with the way you published this meeting. (SU-A-1)

Comment: That's why we're asking for you all to give the community a little bit of input in what SCE&G is doing for us. (SU-A-2)

Comment: If it was on a Saturday, more at a public facility, you might have more participation. So I would encourage that. There needs to be some more input from the citizens in this community, in this serious, serious decision that you are making. (SU-B-2)

Comment: I would ask the Regulatory Commission if you could find it to be possible to hold another committee meeting to give the constituency an opportunity to ask questions, to participate, and I will go out in the community and make sure that the churches and other constituencies is informed that you're having this hearing, if you would. (SU-B-5)

Comment: I was asked...to ask for another public hearing, where folks can actually participate. (SU-B-7)

Comment: How many people are here that don't work for the power company? (SU-C-2)

Response: The comments are noted. The comments address the license renewal processes at V.C. Summer with regard to public involvement. The license renewal review process is being conducted under NRC's environmental protection regulations in 10 CFR Part 51, which includes the format for the public participation process. Public Service Announcements were submitted

1 to local radio and television stations. Advertisements were placed in three local newspapers
2 and flyers were distributed throughout the community.

3
4 Although this topic may not be within the scope of review for license renewal, the NRC is
5 always concerned with improving the license renewal process with regard to public involvement.
6 Therefore, a copy of these comments will be provided to the NRC manager responsible for the
7 overall license renewal review process for consideration.

8
9 **Comment:** What you're doing in this process is a site-specific supplement to a generic
10 environmental impact statement; is that correct? (SU-C-3)

11
12 **Comment:** The only thing that will be considered that's site-specific will be in this portion of the
13 process? Are there other parts of the process reviewing the licensing that will be site-specific?
14 (SU-C-4)

15
16 **Response:** The comments are noted. The comments address the scope of the supplement to
17 the GEIS for V.C. Summer license renewal as it relates to generic and site-specific issues. Both
18 the environmental review and safety portions of the license renewal process examine site-
19 specific issues.

20
21 **Comment:** The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control funded the
22 renewal of the licensing? (SU-C-8)

23
24 **Comment:** And absent DHEC's standing as a formal intervenor, there will be no public
25 hearings on the final EIS; correct? (SU-C-9)

26
27 **Response:** The comments are noted. The comments address the role of the State of South
28 Carolina in the NRC environmental review for the supplement to the GEIS for V.C. Summer
29 license renewal. The comments provide no new information and, therefore, the comments will
30 not be evaluated further.

31
32 **Comment:** I guess I would ask the question, how many folks are here from Jenkinsville.
33 Three? Four? ... My only concern is that we are in a county that we have a 47-percent illiteracy
34 rate, and I think getting this information out to the public, as Ms. Pearson has just indicated, is
35 crucial. (SU-B-1)

36
37 **Comment:** I want to know how many people are here that aren't paid to be here today. Five
38 out of 54, let the record reflect. (SU-C-11)

39
40 **Response:** The comments are noted. The comments address the license renewal processes at
41 V.C. Summer with regard to public involvement. The license renewal review process is being
42 conducted under NRC's environmental protection regulations in 10 CFR Part 51, which includes
43 the format for the public participation process. Public Service Announcements were submitted

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1 to local radio and television stations. Advertisements were placed in three local newspapers
2 and flyers were distributed throughout the community.

3
4 Although this topic may not be within the scope of review for license renewal, the NRC is
5 always concerned with improving the license renewal process with regard to public involvement.
6 Therefore, a copy of these comments will be provided to the NRC manager responsible for the
7 overall license renewal review process for consideration.

8
9 **Comment:** Are 20 years up already for the first part of the V.C. Summer Nuclear Plant?
10 (SU-O-1)

11
12 **Response:** The comment is noted. The comment addresses the timing of the license renewal
13 process related to the existing operating license. SCE&G submitted its application for License
14 Renewal on August 6, 2002, which was at the 20-year mark for its original license.

15 16 17 **Summary**

18
19 The preparation of the plant-specific supplement to the GEIS (called a SEIS) for V.C. Summer
20 will take into account all the relevant environmental issues raised during the scoping process
21 that are described above. The draft SEIS will be made available for public comment.
22 Interested Federal, State, and local government agencies, local organizations, and members of
23 the public will be given the opportunity to provide comments to be considered during the
24 development of the final SEIS. Concerns identified that are outside the scope of the staff's
25 environmental review have been or will be forwarded to the appropriate NRC program manager
26 for consideration.