

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Noel Holcomb, Commissioner

Historic Preservation Division

W. Ray Luce, Division Director and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
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October 4, 2006

Thomas C. Moorer
Project Manager-Environmental Support
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
P.O. Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201-1295

**RE: Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Expansion
Burke County, Georgia
HP-060428-001**

Dear Mr. Moorer:

The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) has reviewed the documentation submitted regarding the above referenced project. Our comments are offered to assist the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC) and its applicants in complying with provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA).

Regarding historic structures, HPD agrees that the Savannah River Site District, a National Register-eligible property, is located in the project's area of potential effects. However, we have determined that the project as proposed will have no effect to this or other listed or eligible historic structures.

Regarding archaeological resources, HPD has reviewed the report entitled "Intensive Archaeological Survey of the Proposed Expansion Areas at the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Burke County, Georgia" prepared by New South Associates. Based on the information contained in this report, HPD agrees with the recommendation that archaeological sites 9BK414, 9BK415, 9BK417, 9BK418, 9BK421 and 9BK422 do not meet the eligibility criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). In addition, HPD agrees with the recommendation that archaeological sites 9BK419 and 9BK420 may meet the eligibility criteria for listing on the NRHP but the project as proposed will have no effect to these sites. HPD further agrees with the recommendation that archaeological sites 9BK416 and 9BK423 should be considered eligible for listing on the NRHP. However, as both sites will be avoided, it is our opinion that the project will have no effect to these sites. Therefore, it is our finding that the project as proposed will have no effect to archaeological sites listed on or eligible for listing on the NRHP. Furthermore, it is our opinion that the survey coverage is adequate to identify historic properties that may be located in the project's area of potential effects.

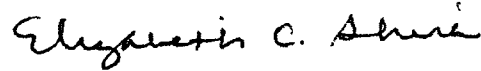
Please note that HPD recommends that the site boundary for 9BK423 be marked on construction documents and labeled as an environmentally sensitive area. Furthermore, as a non-project specific comment, sites 9BK416, 9BK419, 9BK420 and 9BK423 should be added to the facility's management plan for cultural resources. Regarding site 9BK423, it is our opinion that "No Trespassing" or "Sensitive Environmental Area" signage should be erected at the river in the area of the site as a measure to deter further looting.

One comment is offered on the draft archaeological survey report. The final copies of the report should include the state site form for each site recorded. Please forward three copies of the final report to our office when available.

Moorer
HP-060528
October 4, 2006
Page 2

If we may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth (Betsy) Shirk, Environmental Review Coordinator, at (404) 651-6624.

Sincerely,



for Karen Anderson-Cordova
Manager, Planning & Local Assistance Unit

cc: Mark Notich, USNRC, Mailstop O-11F1, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852
Anne Floyd, Central Savannah River Area RDC