

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1010

September 28, 2007

Chief, Rules and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration
Mailstop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

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Dear Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chief:

I strongly support the Early Site Permit submitted for additional nuclear units at Plant Vogtle in Burke County, Georgia.

For several reasons, additional nuclear units at Plant Vogtle will benefit the citizens in my district, the state of Georgia, and the Southeast region and will ultimately improve our quality of life.

First, additional nuclear units will help meet Georgia's growing need for energy. Average residential consumption is up approximately 16 percent in the last 13 years, and our need for baseload generating capacity is expected to increase 30 percent during the next 15 years.

Second, a diverse and balanced supply of energy sources is the best way to guard against electricity shortages and to ensure our energy security. That diversity and security must include nuclear power which provides 20 percent of the nation's electricity. Today there are 104 nuclear power reactors operating in 31 states. Nuclear power is the second leading source of electricity, after coal. These two units are an important part of planning for Georgia's future energy security.

Third, nuclear power provides energy at a low, stable cost that Georgians appreciate. New, standardized technology requires fewer parts for the units, reducing construction and maintenance costs.

Fourth, an expanded Plant Vogtle will create new, better-paying jobs. Operation of a U.S. nuclear plant generates 400 to 700 permanent jobs. Additionally, these jobs pay 36 percent more than average salaries in the local area. The construction of the units will provide good jobs too, and supporting businesses will flourish.

Fifth, the people of Georgia support building these particular new power plants. I have seen opinion surveys indicating that 94 percent of the Georgia residents who were polled support building new nuclear plants.

For these reasons, I strongly support these additional nuclear units at Vogtle and nuclear power in the United States. If you have any further questions with regard to this manner, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (202) 225-4101.

Sincerely,


Paul C. Broun, M.D.
Member of Congress

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