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**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE**

September 26, 2007

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**RE: Nuclear Energy in Georgia**

Dear Sirs:

I am writing today in support of Southern Company's proposal to expand the source of nuclear generation at Georgia Power's Plant Vogtle.

Georgia continues to be one of the fastest growing states in our nation. By the year 2030, it is projected that 40 percent of the population of the United States will live in the Southeast. By 2030, the population of the state of Georgia is expected to increase by 4 million residents. Southern Company expects the demand on its system to increase 30 percent during the next 15 years.

Southern Company has a proven track record of operating three nuclear power plants at very high levels of reliability, with an average three-year fleet capacity factor of more than 90 percent. Nuclear power has a low production cost compared with other fuel sources and Uranium has far less price volatility than other fuel sources, including coal and natural gas. Furthermore, nuclear power accounts for 75 percent of all emission-free generation in the country. It emits absolutely zero carbon or greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere.

It is vitally important that we plan now to provide for the safe, clean, reliable and cost efficient energy needs for Georgia's future. Please accept my letter of support for Southern Company and their efforts to add to the nuclear generation mix at Plant Vogtle.

Sincerely,

Eric Johnson  
President Pro Tempore of the Senate  
State of Georgia