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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS  
THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING PROCESS FOR  
BELLEFONTE NUCLEAR PLANT,  
UNITS 3 & 4 COMBINED LICENSES APPLICATION  
UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

+ + + + +

April 3, 2008

1:30 P.M.

+ + + + +

Scottsboro Goosepond Civic Center

1165 Hembree Drive

Scottsboro, Alabama 35768

FACILITATOR: CHIP CAMERON

SPEAKERS: JIM LYONS

MALLECIA HOOD

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

(1:30 p.m.)

MR. CAMERON: Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to the Public Meeting today. My name is Chip Cameron. I'm with the Office of the Executive Director at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. One acronym that we will be using today is the NRC, but we will try to eliminate any others or at least explain them to you.

And our topic for today is the NRC's Environmental Review Process as part of the NRC's evaluation of applications for new reactors. And we do have an application from Tennessee Valley Authority, TVA, to construct and operate two new reactors at the Bellefonte site.

And it's my pleasure today to serve as your facilitator. In that role, I'll try to help all of you to have a productive meeting. I just wanted to say a couple of words about some meeting process issues before we get to the substance of the session.

I wanted to tell you about the format for the meeting and just some simple ground rules so that we all will have a good meeting this afternoon.

In terms of the format for the meeting, I like to describe these meetings as a two-part

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1 meeting. The first part is to give all of you some  
2 background information on what the NRC looks at when  
3 it evaluates whether to grant one of these  
4 applications for new reactors that we have in and  
5 most importantly how all of you can participate in  
6 the NRC evaluation process. So we have a couple of  
7 brief NRC presentations to give you information on  
8 that. And then we'll have a little bit of time to go  
9 on to all of you to answer any questions that you  
10 might have about the process.

11 And the focus today is on the  
12 Environmental Review Process of the NRC evaluation,  
13 and we call this a Scoping Meeting. And that's a  
14 term that's associated with the preparation of an  
15 Environmental Impact Statement, an EIS, another  
16 acronym, under the National Environmental Policy Act.

17 And as you will be hearing from the NRC staff, the  
18 end result of the -- or not end result, but the end  
19 product of the NRC's Environmental Review is going to  
20 be an Environmental Impact Statement.

21 That kicks off the second part of the  
22 meeting which is an opportunity for the NRC staff to  
23 listen to all of you, your advice, your  
24 recommendations, your comments on what should be in  
25 the scope of the NRC Environmental Impact Statement,

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1 what issues should we look at. So we're here to meet  
2 with you in person on these issues. We're also  
3 taking written comments and the NRC staff will tell  
4 you more about that. But I just want to assure you  
5 that the comments that you give us today will have  
6 the same weight as any written comments that the NRC  
7 gets.

8 And when we get to the second part of the  
9 meeting, the NRC staff is going to be in the  
10 listening mode, so we won't be responding to things  
11 that you say. We will take that back, your comments  
12 back, to NRC Headquarters and do a thorough  
13 evaluation of those comments. And there will be a  
14 document out that you can look at to see how the NRC  
15 evaluated your comments.

16 In terms of ground rules, as I said,  
17 they're very simple. After we're done with the NRC  
18 presentations -- and I would just ask you to hold  
19 your questions until after both of the NRC  
20 presentations are done. If you have a question, just  
21 signal me. I'm going to bring this microphone out to  
22 you. And if you could just introduce yourself to us  
23 and ask your question, we'll try to answer it to the  
24 best of our ability.

25 And during that question period -- and

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1 it's not going to be a real long period because we  
2 really want to get to hearing your comments -- if you  
3 could just keep it to a question, rather, and save  
4 your comments for the comment part of the meeting.  
5 Sometimes our questions have a tendency to morph into  
6 a comment.

7           And I would ask that only one person  
8 speak at a time for two important reasons. One, so  
9 that we can give our full attention to whomever has  
10 the floor at the moment. And secondly, so that we  
11 can get a, what I call, clean transcript. We have  
12 Stephen Anderson here, who is our stenographer today.

13       He's taking a transcript of this meeting that will  
14 be publicly available. So if we just have one person  
15 speaking at a time, we'll know who that is in the  
16 transcript.

17           When we get to the comment part of the  
18 meeting, we do have a lot of people who want to talk  
19 today. So I'm going to set a guideline of three to  
20 five minutes for your presentations and usually  
21 that's enough to give us a summary of what your  
22 concern is and have the NRC staff start thinking  
23 about what we want to do with that concern. And if  
24 you need more time, you can use the written comment  
25 period to amplify. So I just ask everybody to be as

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1 concise and brief as possible.

2 And finally if we could just remember to  
3 extend everybody courtesy. It's not even something  
4 that needs to be said I find in meetings in the South  
5 because there's an innate courtesy here. But you're  
6 going to hear things that you're going to disagree  
7 with, I would imagine, one way or the other today.  
8 So that if you could just show courtesy to the person  
9 who's giving that opinion.

10 And I want to thank all of you for being  
11 here to help the NRC with this important decision  
12 that they have to make over the next several months.

13 Let me just introduce the speakers and  
14 we'll get started. We have Jim Lyons here and Jim is  
15 the Director of the Division of Environmental and  
16 Site Review -- close enough I guess. And that's in  
17 the Office of New Reactors at NRC. And he's going to  
18 tell you a little bit about the NRC.

19 And then we're going to move to a little  
20 bit of a longer presentation. We have Mallecia Hood  
21 right here and Mallecia works in Jim's division. She  
22 is the Project Manager for the Environmental Review  
23 on the Bellefonte license application.

24 And I didn't know, Jim, are you going to  
25 introduce -- okay, good. Well, with that, Jim, let's

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1 go to you and we'll get started.

2 MR. LYONS: Thank you, Chip. Can  
3 everybody hear me okay since it's the first time  
4 we're using this mic?

5 I'll apologize if I have a coughing fit  
6 during this. I've been getting over an upper  
7 respiratory infection about two weeks ago, but the  
8 doctor tells me I'll only cough for another few  
9 weeks. So I'm very thankful for that.

10 But thank you, Chip, for that  
11 introduction. We expect that his setting of the  
12 ground rules will help us have an effective meeting  
13 this afternoon.

14 We've already had some valuable  
15 discussions during the Open House and hope that  
16 that's helped you understand a little bit better  
17 about what we're here for and what we're about, what  
18 we're trying to accomplish. Let me also thank all of  
19 you for taking the time to come out this afternoon to  
20 help us fulfill our responsibilities under the  
21 National Environmental Policy Act.

22 (Microphone adjusted.) Is that better?  
23 Okay.

24 I realize that some of you are taking the  
25 time out of your own personal schedule to be here and

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1 we do appreciate that.

2 As Chip said, my name is Jim Lyons. I'm  
3 the Director of the Division of Site and  
4 Environmental Review -- he just has that skipped  
5 around -- in the NRC's Office of New Reactors. We  
6 will be presenting some information today on the  
7 application for two new power reactors to be  
8 constructed and operated at the Bellefonte site.

9 My staff is responsible for managing the  
10 Environmental Review that has to be conducted before  
11 the NRC can make a decision on the application. We  
12 work closely with our Safety counterparts and in our  
13 Division of New Reactor Licensing, who manage the  
14 Safety Review and the overall schedule for the NRC's  
15 reviews.

16 Some of you may have participated with us  
17 in our public information meeting last September as  
18 we shared information on the various steps in the  
19 licensing process. In that meeting we told you about  
20 the opportunities that you would have to observe or  
21 participate in the work of the NRC once we received  
22 an application to construct and operate new reactors  
23 at the Bellefonte site. We discussed the licensing  
24 process, including Safety Reviews, inspection  
25 activities, the hearing process, as well as the

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1 Environmental Review that we're really here to talk  
2 about today.

3 In September we came to share with you  
4 information about what a Combined Construction Permit  
5 and Operating License -- or what we call a Combined  
6 License or a C.O.L. -- you'll hear those two terms --  
7 is. What you could expect as far as the NRC's role  
8 in reviewing the application and how you can get  
9 involved in the process. At the Outreach Meeting, we  
10 stressed that this is your home and your community  
11 and that the proposed project, if the NRC and all the  
12 other permitting agencies grant approvals to build,  
13 will have more of an impact on you than on anyone  
14 else.

15 As you'll hear from my staff today, the  
16 NRC did receive an application for a Combined License  
17 at Bellefonte in October of last year. And then  
18 after we completed our Acceptance Review, we found it  
19 acceptable to docket that application in January and,  
20 therefore, begin our formal review. So we are still  
21 in the early stages of the review and right now much  
22 of our effort is focused on gathering information.

23 You will hear more about the Safety  
24 Review in the hearing process when Mallecia talks.  
25 But I want to lead off this meeting by putting

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1 today's meeting into proper context.

2           So go to the next slide. The purpose of  
3 this meeting is to give you the opportunity to share  
4 with us your comments on what you think we should be  
5 considering as part of our Environmental Review when  
6 we develop our Environmental Impact Statement. In  
7 that sense you will help shape exactly what our  
8 review is.

9           You will hear that we already have a  
10 well-structured review process to cover all areas.  
11 And our review team is staffed with nationally and  
12 internationally recognized experts in all the  
13 environmental areas. Nevertheless, we do not live in  
14 this community. We want to better appreciate those  
15 environmental values and insights that you might have  
16 today so that we can really focus on those.

17           And the next slide, please. So this  
18 meeting is with and for you. Other meetings that we  
19 may have in the site area such as those on the safety  
20 issues, you'll be able to observe. But this meeting  
21 is really to you to participate and actually give us  
22 your comments.

23           But that being said, this is not going to  
24 be the only opportunity for us to receive comments  
25 from you. Because as we conduct our review and

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1 develop our Environmental Impact Statement, we'll be  
2 meeting with a number of agencies locally and at the  
3 state, tribal, and federal level to obtain  
4 information about the region and the potential impact  
5 of the project.

6           You will hear that later on in our review  
7 we will come back to your community and explain the  
8 analyses that we've performed and our preliminary  
9 conclusions. Then we will ask you for your comments  
10 on that document, which is our Draft Environmental  
11 Impact Statement. And we will address your comments  
12 that you provide us at that next meeting in our Final  
13 Environmental Impact Statement.           So that is  
14 kind of setting the stage for why we're here. Let me  
15 again thank you for allowing us to come into your  
16 community and for you taking the time to meet with us  
17 and share your views on the potential environmental  
18 issues associated with this project.

19           We have a long way to go before we can  
20 make any kind of a final determination on the  
21 environmental impact and whether the Safety Review is  
22 acceptable or not. And so you'll have opportunities  
23 along the way to be involved.

24           So with that let me introduce Mr. Joseph  
25 Sebrosky. He's the NRC's Safety Project Manager for

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1 the Bellefonte Project. Also we already introduced  
2 Mallecia. And her Branch Chief is William (Butch)  
3 Burton, who's here and Butch works for me.

4 So with that introduction, let me turn  
5 the meeting over to Mallecia as our next speaker.  
6 And again let me thank you for coming out and sharing  
7 your comments with us today. Thank you.

8 Mallecia.

9 MS. HOOD: Thank you, Jim. The Combined  
10 License is a Combined Construction Permit, an  
11 operating license with conditions issued by the NRC.

12 It is an NRC decision that authorized the Applicant  
13 to construct and operate a nuclear power plant at a  
14 specific site, in this case Bellefonte, and to  
15 construct and operate that plant in accordance with  
16 the laws and regulations.

17 While there are many relevant laws and  
18 regulations, the Atomic Energy Act is the primary law  
19 under Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations is  
20 the key regulation that is applicable, as well as the  
21 National Environmental Policy Act.

22 Our Environmental Review of the C.O.L.  
23 includes compliance with statutes like National  
24 Historic Preservation Act, Endangered Species Act,  
25 and Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and other

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1 environmental laws and regulations.

2 TVA submitted the Combined License  
3 application on October 30th, 2007 for two AP 1000  
4 reactors to be built at the Bellefonte site. TVA  
5 proposes that these two new reactors, Units 3 and 4,  
6 be built adjacent to the existing Units 1 and 2,  
7 which is non-operational.

8 Slide 5 please.

9 NRC regulation allow C.O.L. applications  
10 to reference what are called certified designs.  
11 These designs NRC has reviewed and approved through a  
12 rule making. The AP 1000 reactor design was  
13 previously certified by NRC through a rule making.  
14 The NRC is currently reviewing a proposal to satisfy  
15 a modified version of the AP 1000 design which again  
16 would be done through rule making.

17 TVA, like some other C.O.L. applicants,  
18 is interested in using this revised AP 1000 design  
19 and a C.O.L. application references that revised  
20 design in the event it gets certified. As a result,  
21 the NRC's schedule for making a final determination  
22 on that design rule making will impact the schedule  
23 for review on the C.O.L..

24 So as this slide shows, there are three  
25 components to the staff's review. For the Bellefonte

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1 C.O.L., the staff is doing its site specific Safety  
2 Review of the design as it will be located at  
3 Bellefonte, as well as an analysis of the  
4 environmental impact of using that design at the  
5 site.

6           Meanwhile, the staff has reviewed the  
7 modified AP 1000 design to determine if it is  
8 appropriate for certification by rule making. The  
9 rule making process includes separate opportunities  
10 for public notice and comments. In short, generic  
11 issues that are addressed by the design certification  
12 that are not unique to sites in that design at  
13 Bellefonte are reviewed separately.

14           Next slide, please.

15           NRC received a C.O.L. application. The  
16 Safety Review and Environmental Review are done in  
17 parallel. The Safety Review follows the orange path,  
18 while the Environmental Review follows the green  
19 path. The Safety Review complies with regulations to  
20 ensure the public health and safety. Major  
21 considerations of Safety Review are design of the  
22 facility and site suitability.

23           I will discuss the hearing process and  
24 the Environmental Review process in more detail in  
25 upcoming slides.

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1 Next slide. This slide outlines some of  
2 the areas of our Safety Review. These areas include  
3 the design of the facility. Bellefonte plans to use  
4 the AP 1000 reactor design. Site suitability. This  
5 describes how the environmental factors affect the  
6 plant design, quality assurance, adequate physical  
7 security. We conduct this review in consultation  
8 with Homeland Security. Emergency Preparedness. We  
9 conduct this review with consultation with FEMA.

10 Operator training to ensure that  
11 operators for the potential new units are trained in  
12 operating the units in a safe manner. Joe Sebrosky  
13 is the Lead Safety Project Manager. And he's also  
14 here to answer any Safety Review questions.

15 Next slide please.

16 The primary purpose of this meeting is to  
17 go over the Environmental Review process. The NRC's  
18 Environmental Review is guided by the National  
19 Environmental Policy Act. The National Environmental  
20 Policy Act requires federal agencies to use a  
21 systematic approach to consider the environmental  
22 impacts concerning the decision making proceedings.  
23 NEPA is a disclosure tool which involves the public.  
24 And as such, we'll be gathering information and  
25 evaluate the information to determine what the

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1 environmental impact of constructing and operating  
2 Bellefonte Units 3 and 4 will be.

3 We will then document that information  
4 and invite the public participation to provide us  
5 your comments. In accordance with NEPA, an  
6 Environmental Impact Statement, which is also known  
7 as the EIS, is required for any major federal action  
8 that has a potential to significantly affect the  
9 quality of the human environment.

10 The Commission has decided issuing a  
11 Combined License is a major federal action.

12 Next slide, please.

13 As part of the NRC's Environmental  
14 Review, we plan to evaluate the environmental impact  
15 of construction, operation of two new units at the  
16 Bellefonte site. We use a systematic decision making  
17 process through an Environmental Review. The  
18 Environmental Standard Review Plan NUREG-1555  
19 provides guidance to the NRC staff on how to review  
20 the application and how to document our findings in  
21 our Environmental Impact Statement.

22 During the Environmental Review, we also  
23 provide opportunities for the public involvement  
24 during the Scoping period and comment period on the  
25 Draft EIS. We will clearly document our

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1 environmental findings in our Draft and Final EIS for  
2 Bellefonte Project. And throughout this entire  
3 review, we will maintain an open and transparent  
4 review process.

5 Next slide, please.

6 This slide is a representation of the  
7 Environmental Review in more detail. TVA, the  
8 Applicant, submitted the Environmental Report to the  
9 Agency on October 30th, 2007. Once the application  
10 is submitted, the staff reviews it to ensure it meets  
11 our technical sufficiency guidance so we can make a  
12 decision whether to proceed in our review.

13 Once the decision has been made, NRC  
14 issues a Notice of Intent, which notifies the public  
15 of the Agency intentions to develop the Environmental  
16 Impact Statement and to conduct the Scoping process.

17 The Notice of Intent for this action was issued in  
18 the Federal Register on February 21st, 2008. That  
19 Notice of Intent initiates the Scoping process during  
20 which we identify the scope of the Environmental  
21 Review. This initiates the public comment where you,  
22 the public, provide us with your written comments  
23 through April 25th, 2008.

24 This public meeting is also part of the  
25 Scoping process and we will also collect your

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1 comments here today because this meeting is being  
2 transcribed.

3           The NRC team has been at the site and in  
4 the site facility this week to begin its independent  
5 evaluation of the information provided by the  
6 Applicant in the Environmental Review --  
7 Environmental Report to ensure that we understand the  
8 representations made by the Applicant and the  
9 technical basis for its positions.

10           The NRC team is meeting with other  
11 organizations to develop independent sources of  
12 information to ensure that we have confidence in the  
13 accuracy and reliability of the information that will  
14 be used in the Agency's Environmental Impact  
15 Statement.

16           For some issues we may elect to do  
17 confirmatory analysis or calculations as part of our  
18 independent evaluation. For some issues the Agency  
19 may formally seek to obtain additional information,  
20 also known as RAIs, to ensure that a record is  
21 complete. Reflecting on information that we obtain  
22 as part of this audit and the comments that you share  
23 with us during the Scoping process, NRC will then  
24 develop its Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

25           Once the staff has completed the Draft

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1 EIS, NRC will make it publicly available to allow the  
2 public to provide comments on the Draft EIS. The  
3 public will have 75 days to provide comment on the  
4 Draft EIS. In the spring 2009 time frame, NRC will  
5 have another public meeting to receive public  
6 comments on the Draft EIS and to share the results of  
7 our review.

8           Once the Agency has completed the above  
9 action, the Agency will issue the Final EIS. And  
10 that documentation will be used as one of several  
11 different inputs to the hearing process. Our  
12 regulation requires a hearing for all new reactor  
13 applications. The result of the Combined License  
14 process would be a decision made by the Agency on the  
15 application.

16           Next slide, please.

17           Now I want to use this slide to refocus  
18 us on why we're here today. We have come to your  
19 community with the hope that you will share with us  
20 those environmental issues and values that you  
21 believe are important for us to consider as we  
22 conduct our review.

23           We do not live in this community. You  
24 know this environmental setting better than we do.  
25 And you may be able to share with us environmental

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1 concerns that we should consider before the NRC  
2 completes its assessment. We are in the earliest  
3 stage of our review. And if you elect to share your  
4 insights related to the environmental issues with us,  
5 we do believe that it will improve our efforts.

6 That is why we're here today to obtain insights  
7 from you, the public, about those issues that you  
8 think should be considered. If you want to reflect  
9 upon the decision and discussion that we are  
10 referencing today, you will still have opportunity to  
11 share your comments or provide additional comments to  
12 us through April 25th.

13 In a later slide, I will list how to  
14 share comments with us after today's record is  
15 closed. All comments received during the Scoping  
16 period will be included in our Scoping Summary  
17 Report. And this document will be available on the  
18 NRC's website. Comments applicable to the  
19 Environmental Review will be considered in our  
20 development of the Draft EIS.

21 Next slide, please.

22 The staff gets its information from a  
23 number of different sources. Obviously we do get a  
24 starting point from the Combined License Application  
25 and from discussions that we have with the applicant,

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1 TVA.

2 We are seeking information from you, the  
3 public, at today's meeting and through the remainder  
4 of the comment period. Over the last couple of days,  
5 we have been talking to some of your local, state,  
6 and federal officials to get their input. We've also  
7 been talking to social service agencies. And the  
8 staff will be doing their own independent  
9 Environmental Review using the sources that they have  
10 available to them.

11 We will be considering a number of  
12 issues, including environmental impacts of the post  
13 construction operation of the nuclear plant here in  
14 the area. We'll also be considering alternatives to  
15 that proposed action, including potential alternative  
16 sites and what those environmental impacts should be.

17 And finally, we'll also be considering  
18 possible mitigation measures which are things that  
19 can be done to decrease the environmental impact of  
20 the construction operation of the plant.

21 Next slide, please.

22 To prepare for the review, we have  
23 assembled a team of NRC staff with backgrounds in the  
24 scientific and technical disciplines that are  
25 required to do this review. In addition, we have

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1 contracted with the Pacific Northwest National  
2 Laboratory, which is also known as PNNL, to assist us  
3 in this review.

4 The NRC team, along with PNNL  
5 Contractors, is comprised of nationally and  
6 internationally recognized experts on wide-ranging  
7 topics related to the environmental issues at nuclear  
8 power plants. This slide gives you an idea of some  
9 of the areas of interest we consider during our  
10 review. We will be considering ecological issues,  
11 public health issues, socio-economic issues, water  
12 issues, and water quality issues. These are some of  
13 the areas that we would like to hear your comments.

14 Next slide, please.

15 You can submit your written comments on  
16 Environmental Reports submitted by the Applicant  
17 through April 25th, 2008. We do have copies of the  
18 Federal Register Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS  
19 and conduct Scoping on the table in the back of the  
20 room. The Notice describes how you, the public, can  
21 submit your Scoping comments.

22 Once the staff has completed Draft EIS,  
23 NRC will make it publicly available to allow the  
24 public to provide comments on the Draft EIS. The  
25 public will have 75 days to provide comments on the

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1 Draft EIS.

2 In the spring 2009 time frame, the NRC  
3 will have another public meeting to share the results  
4 of our review and receive public comments on the  
5 Draft EIS. Once NRC evaluates your comments, the  
6 Agency expects to issued the Final Environmental  
7 Impact Statement in January 2010.

8 The NRC website and specifically the  
9 Bellefonte Project web page contains current  
10 information about the schedule of activities. If  
11 there is a schedule change, that will be reflected on  
12 the project web page. The specific project web page  
13 is listed on a later slide.

14 All oral comments received today will be  
15 transcribed and will be included in the Scoping  
16 Summary Report.

17 You can also submit your comments in  
18 writing. The address to submit comments by e-mail is  
19 noted on this slide. We have also made available an  
20 e-mail address where you can also submit your  
21 comments. The e-mail address is  
22 bellefonte.coleis@nrc.gov. You can also submit your  
23 comments in person in our Rockville office in  
24 Maryland.

25 I would like to mention that our e-mail

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1 address was rejecting outside e-mail until it was  
2 fixed on March 18th. I would like to take this time  
3 to apologize for any inconvenience this may have  
4 caused anyone. Again if -- please resubmit your  
5 comments. The e-mail address is  
6 bellefonte.coleis@nrc.gov, so we can receive your  
7 comments.

8 Slide 6, please.

9 Another opportunity you have for public  
10 involvement is in the hearing process. The public  
11 has 60 days from February 8th, 2008 through April  
12 8th, 2008 to petition for leave to intervene in the  
13 hearing process. In order to file a Petition to  
14 Intervene, you must obtain a digital certificate  
15 approval in advance or waiver for digital certificate  
16 requirement. Instructions for e-filing are on the  
17 NRC website and in the Hearing Notice. We do have  
18 copies of the Hearing Notice on our display tables.

19 I would like to take this time to recap  
20 on some very important public involvement  
21 information. The Environmental Review process and  
22 the Public Comment period on the Environmental Report  
23 submitted by the applicant will end on April 25th,  
24 2008. You can participate in the Scoping Meeting and  
25 the meeting on the Draft EIS. The NRC web page for

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1 Bellefonte Project can help you stay informed on  
2 activities related to the project, such as access to  
3 the Draft and Final EIS that discusses all review  
4 results.

5 The opportunity for leave to intervene in  
6 the Hearing Process closes on April 8th, 2008.

7 Please note, you must receive digital certificate  
8 approval before you can file a Petition to Intervene.

9 The hearing covers both the safety and environmental  
10 issues. To obtain more information, you can visit  
11 the web page listed.

12 Here is NRC point of contact for the  
13 Bellefonte Combined License Application. In addition  
14 to myself I have also provided you the information of  
15 Joe Sebrosky, who is our Lead Safety Project Manager.

16 Joe has the responsibility for the overall project  
17 and also the responsibility for the Safety Review.

18 This application can be reviewed on the  
19 internet at our Electronic Reading Room at NRC's  
20 website which is nrc.gov. The Scottsboro Public  
21 Library has been kind enough to give us some shelf  
22 space for the Environmental Report, the Draft and  
23 Final EIS.

24 If you wish to be on our mailing list,  
25 make sure your name and address is provided to one of

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1 the NRC staff at our registration desk. This is one  
2 way of ensuring that you will be notified of upcoming  
3 meetings and ensuring that you will get copies of the  
4 Draft and Final EIS.

5 I would also like to take this time to  
6 thank you for coming out to today's meeting. And  
7 this concludes my presentation.

8 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, thank you very  
9 much, Mallecia.

10 We have time for some questions before we  
11 go to the comment part of the meeting.

12 So let's go to Louise. And could you  
13 introduce yourself to us, please?

14 MS. CORNFLOW: Louise Cornflow with the  
15 Bellefonte Efficiency and Sustainability Team. I  
16 have two questions. One question is, everything in  
17 the Environmental Review that was submitted by TVA is  
18 that open for -- is that part of the EIS comments?  
19 Is that game for the comments?

20 MR. CAMERON: Why don't you ask the  
21 second one and we'll get both.

22 MS. CORNFLOW: Okay, the second question  
23 is that TVA is -- I assume that TVA is also working  
24 on an Environmental Impact Statement parallel to this  
25 process and that -- who can we contact within TVA to

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1 learn the progress of that report?

2 Thank you.

3 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Louise. And  
4 Louise's first question is the relationship between  
5 the Applicant's Environmental Report and what is in  
6 the Environmental Impact Statement.

7 And, Mallecia, if you could just talk a  
8 little bit about that and the Environmental Impact  
9 Statement may be broader than what's in the  
10 Environmental Report. But certainly the  
11 Environmental Report is a starting point. Do you  
12 want to speak to that? And then we'll see if we need  
13 to add anything else.

14 MS. HOOD: The Environmental Report is a  
15 starting point for the staff to begin the process in  
16 writing our Environmental Impact Statement. And what  
17 we do is we do an independent review. We come onto  
18 the site. We review the site. We gather all the  
19 information. And if we feel there's not enough  
20 information in the Environmental Report, we also  
21 request additional information so we can then write  
22 the Environmental Impact Statement. So it is a  
23 broader document that NRC will provide to the public  
24 for review.

25 MR. CAMERON: Let me bring this out to you

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1 so that we can get you on the transcript. And this  
2 is the follow-up question from Louise Cornflow.  
3 Louise?

4 MS. CORNFLOW: Everything that's in the  
5 Environmental Review would be captured by your EIS?

6 MS. HOOD: Everything in the  
7 Environmental Review will be captured in our EIS.

8 MS. CORNFLOW: Thank you.

9 MR. CAMERON: Okay. And in terms of TVA  
10 contact, Jack, do you want to just provide one of  
11 your staff names? And please introduce yourself.

12 MR. BAILEY: I'm Jack Bailey, Vice  
13 President of Nuclear Generation Development for TVA.

14 If we have a project related question on the  
15 environmental process or what we're doing with it,  
16 Jim Chardos on my staff would be the person to  
17 contact. If we have a TVA environmental question,  
18 Bruce Yeager or Ruth Horton would be the names that  
19 they'd contact.

20 MS. CORNFLOW: Who is right now working  
21 on the Environmental Impact Statement?

22 MR. BAILEY: Right now we are doing the  
23 environmental input to the Combined License. We are  
24 not doing the TVA NEPA process yet.

25 MS. CORNFLOW: When will that begin?

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1 MR. BAILEY: That will begin probably in a  
2 month. It hasn't started yet.

3 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you. Thank you  
4 very much.

5 MR. BAILEY: So for right now on what  
6 we're doing and what that schedule will be, Jim  
7 Chardos would be the person to contact. C-h-a-r-d-o-  
8 s.

9 MR. CAMERON: And Jim is here today. And  
10 we'll ask him to come over and introduce himself to  
11 you and give you his contact information. All right.

12  
13 Other questions on process? Let's go  
14 over here.

15 MS. BARCZAK: Sara Barczak, Southern  
16 Alliance for Clean Energy. A question on the process  
17 of NRC's review of the generic change to the AP 1000  
18 certified design. How is that rolled into the  
19 development of the Draft EIS and how are citizens  
20 supposed to follow that part of the process?

21 MR. CAMERON: Thanks, Sara. I think  
22 that's probably a question for Joe. And, Joe, just  
23 clarify besides answering the -- addressing the issue  
24 of the generic change to the design, where in the NRC  
25 Review does that play out, not necessarily

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1 environmental perhaps, but safety. But if you could  
2 clarify that for us.

3 MR. SEBROSKY: The process that TVA is  
4 using for the Combined License and what we're  
5 reviewing against is codified in our regulations.  
6 Mallecia talked about Title 10. Specifically it's 10  
7 CFR, Part 52. And in 10 CFR, Part 52, it has the  
8 process for the Combined License. And it allows an  
9 Applicant to reference a design certification. And  
10 in this case that's what TVA has done. It's  
11 referenced a certified design, which is the AP 1000.

12 There is an Environmental Review that's  
13 done at a high level for that design certification.  
14 There's a Severe Accident Management Alternative that  
15 is looked at. The certified design process, the AP  
16 1000 has been certified. But it is also undergoing  
17 an amendment. And I think that's what you're  
18 referencing.

19 The Environmental Review associated with  
20 that is very limited because it is applicable to the  
21 design. You don't know at that point what site.  
22 That is done under the Combined License process.

23 So to answer your question about how  
24 that's factored into the EIS. And I'll look to OGC  
25 if I say anything, our Office of General Counsel, if

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1 I say anything incorrect. It's not the Environmental  
2 Impact Statement that that process is just related to  
3 the site and the Combined License.

4 We know that it's the AP 1000 design.  
5 But as far as changes in the design, there should be  
6 very little impact as it relates to the Environmental  
7 Impact Statement. But the process, that design  
8 certification the way it's arranged and the amendment  
9 process, that amendment has to be codified before we  
10 could provide the license.

11 So I don't know if I addressed your  
12 question, but it's a parallel process right now. The  
13 design certification is going -- the amendment is  
14 going on in parallel with the Combined License  
15 process. They are referencing that. And design  
16 changes and changes that are being made under that  
17 design certification have to be -- as part of that  
18 process have to be incorporated into the Combined  
19 License.

20 MR. CAMERON: Does that answer your  
21 question, Sara? Were you concerned about, if there  
22 are changes to the design, are those changes  
23 incorporated by reference into the TVA application  
24 and what implications would that have for the Safety  
25 Analysis Report, for example?

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1 MR. LYONS: Well, the short answer is  
2 yes. If you look at TVA's Combined License  
3 application, it references the certified design plus  
4 the amendment. So any changes that are done as part  
5 of that Amendment Review have to be reflected in the  
6 Combined License application.

7 There are two separate processes for the  
8 design certification and for the Combined License.  
9 The design certification goes through a rule making  
10 process. The Combined License goes through a process  
11 that includes a hearing.

12 MR. CAMERON: So there'd be two avenues  
13 for the public to participate on changes to the  
14 design. One would be the rule making that would be  
15 done on the changes to the design for certification.

16 And then when that -- those changes were certified,  
17 then those would also become part of the TVA Combined  
18 License application?

19 MR. LYONS: Yes.

20 MR. CAMERON: And then however you  
21 participate on the Combined License application,  
22 those changes would be fair game for discussion.  
23 Thank you, Joe.

24 Ann.

25 MS. HARRISON: My name is Ann Harrison.

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1 I'm with the National Sierra Club. And I'm not  
2 unknown to the TVA, the DOE, the MIC, and UI. So I  
3 won't go any further than that.

4 The thing that bothers me here is they  
5 sent me a copy of this application. And silly me, I  
6 sat down and read every word of it three times. Some  
7 glaring space in it that's not addressed. Wondering  
8 at what point you're going to work up to that and how  
9 you're -- that and let the public know that you're  
10 going to fill in the blanks later.

11 And I don't understand and I haven't  
12 heard it stated here. Are you going to do a totally  
13 from ground zero EIS, or are you going to reach back  
14 into history 30 years ago and pull up that? Because  
15 the world changed 30 years in five years just here in  
16 this community.

17 I wonder where you're going to start with  
18 the EIS. How much are you going to use of current  
19 information? And at what point will the public be  
20 aware of where you're going to start from?

21 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Ann.

22 Mallecia, the last question is can you  
23 talk to Ann and the rest of the audience in terms of  
24 what types of information might the NRC have in the -  
25 - might we look at in the preparation of the

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1 Environmental Impact Statement? Is it going to be  
2 all current information? Might there be information  
3 from the past that is still relevant to the issues,  
4 Mallecia?

5 MS. HOOD: Okay, to answer your question,  
6 Ms. Ann, we're going to use both. We're going to use  
7 current information. And we're going to go back and  
8 use existing information to build our Draft EIS.

9 MR. CAMERON: And we always need to get  
10 this on the record. What was that comment, Ann?

11 MS. HARRISON: Are these selective  
12 choices or will you tell us where you're going to  
13 reach back? Because it creates an argument if we  
14 don't all go to the same place and do a different  
15 analysis on the same information. So I'd think it  
16 would behoove all of us to know where you're going to  
17 start from with what. I mean I don't see any reason  
18 to go back in history and try to pull up history  
19 unless it's a deed.

20 MS. HOOD: Well, there's some information  
21 in the past that's also still relevant. And we will  
22 have references to guide the public of where the  
23 information came from. So it's not going to be a  
24 blind case information. It's going to be -- you're  
25 going to have a map, a road map, to show you where

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1 the information was gathered.

2 MR. CAMERON: And I gather from what  
3 you're saying, Mallecia, is that if there's  
4 information from the past that is now outmoded or no  
5 long applicable, then NRC would not be relying on  
6 that information. But anything that the NRC does  
7 rely on, the public would know what the source of  
8 that information is and would have opportunity to  
9 comment.

10 MS. HOOD: Yes, yes, you're right.

11 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Other questions out  
12 here before we go to comment? And, yes, if you could  
13 just introduce yourself to us.

14 MS. GOTTFRIED: I'm Yolande Gottfried  
15 from Sewanee, Tennessee. I have three related  
16 questions. Your process shows you how you get to the  
17 EIS.

18 How do you get from the EIS to the  
19 decision of whether or not to grant this license?

20 How likely is it that after going through  
21 all this process is there a probability that the  
22 license would not be granted?

23 And do you ever not grant licenses in  
24 these cases?

25 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Yolande, that's

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1 a very, very good question. And Barry, if you could  
2 -- the first question relates to the NRC decision.  
3 So it's not only how the Environmental Impact  
4 Statement plays into that decision. But how does the  
5 other part of the evaluation, the safety part, play  
6 into the decision? And I think you heard what the  
7 other two questions were.

8 Barry Zalcman.

9 MR. ZALCMAN: Barry Zalcman, Staff. You  
10 bring out a very important point because there's a  
11 decision making process that we go through. The  
12 Staff's Environmental Review is one element to that  
13 decision making process.

14 Mr. Lyons referred to earlier the  
15 opportunity we had before the application arrived to  
16 talk about the other elements of the process.  
17 Clearly it includes our Safety Evaluation Report  
18 presentation before an Advisory Committee on Reactor  
19 Safeguards who then can advise the Commission.  
20 Inspection activities that we go through as well.  
21 And the potential for a hearing.

22 Now the question is whether or not  
23 interested parties have issues, where they have  
24 concerns with the application itself. Mallecia  
25 talked about the timing to get those issues presented

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1 to the Commission for leave -- to ask for permission  
2 to Leave to Intervene.

3 The completion of all the staff work is  
4 timed out over some period of time. Each of these  
5 elements have to come to fruition. So the Staff  
6 Environmental Impact Statement is one element of it.

7 And if there is a hearing on that, if  
8 there was a contention raised that goes before the  
9 Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, which is a three-  
10 judge panel where we present our Environmental Impact  
11 Statement and evidence. And they have to pass  
12 judgment whether or not we've fulfilled our  
13 responsibilities under the National Environmental  
14 Policy Act.

15 Likewise if there are issues in  
16 contention on the safety side, they will ventilate  
17 those issues as well. Ultimately they make an  
18 initial finding to the Commission.

19 If there is no contention that is  
20 submitted into the hearing process, there's still a  
21 mandatory hearing on the Combined License  
22 application. And the opportunity is for the  
23 Commission to weigh in, ultimately passing judgment  
24 that the staff fulfilled its responsibility under the  
25 National Environmental Policy Act and that the Safety

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1 Evaluation provides reasonable assurance that the  
2 public would be adequately protected if this plant  
3 were to be both constructed and operated.

4 So it's all those three elements that  
5 come together before the Commission ultimately makes  
6 a decision.

7 Does that address all the issues?

8 Let me get Chip with a microphone.

9 MR. CAMERON: The other two is there a  
10 possibility -- the second question is there a  
11 possibility that the license would not be granted.  
12 And secondly has there been a situation where we have  
13 not granted a license?

14 MR. ZALCMAN: Regarding prior history,  
15 prior history, we had a different licensing framework  
16 than the one that's going to be being employed today  
17 by most of the applicants. Prior history was a  
18 different set of regulations, dealing with both the  
19 construction permit and operating license.

20 Mallecia talked about Title 10 of the  
21 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 50 was the original  
22 way that all 104 operating plants today were  
23 licensed. We're dealing with a different framework  
24 now.

25 Under that process, you had a

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1 construction permit first which was an approval to  
2 begin construction of the facility. And then there  
3 would be a request at later point in time once the  
4 plant was built to represent the as-built design.  
5 Present that information to the Commission, seeking a  
6 permission to issue an operating license.

7           There were some requests for construction  
8 where issues were not satisfactorily resolved based  
9 upon the proposal presented to the Agency. So the  
10 Agency could not approve it. Applicants sometimes  
11 have changed their requests of the Agency.

12           For example, there was a site that was in  
13 the middle of the Delaware River, the Burlington  
14 site, where the Applicant proposed to build a  
15 facility there. In the end it didn't pass muster.  
16 And as a consequence of that, the Applicant changed  
17 the location for that facility. It's now in the  
18 Salem Hope Creek location.

19           So there's a situation where the Agency  
20 was not in a position to approve the request made  
21 initially by the Applicant. Applicant modified the  
22 request, found a suitable location for that facility,  
23 and they were able to go forward with the project.  
24 So they have to meet the requirements.

25           The ultimate objective is do you meet the

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1 safety requirements and does the staff fulfill its  
2 responsibility under NEPA in order for this action to  
3 go forward. If any of those conditions are not  
4 satisfactory, then the Agency is not in a position to  
5 advance the application.

6 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you. Thank you  
7 very much, Barry.

8 And I think we're going to move on. That  
9 was a pretty comprehensive discussion of the decision  
10 making process.

11 We're going to go to the comment part of  
12 the meeting now.

13 The staff, NRC staff will be here after  
14 the meeting. If there are other questions that you  
15 want to follow up on, please talk -- NRC staff, you  
16 can recognize them. One way you can recognize them  
17 is they do have name tags on.

18 So all right. We're going to go to the  
19 comment part of the meeting. We're going to listen  
20 to all of you. And we have a lot of speakers. And I  
21 apologize in advance if I can't be more flexible in  
22 terms of the time.

23 So we are going to move on right now,  
24 sir. I'm sorry. So we can make sure that we get  
25 everybody on this afternoon.

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1                   And we're going to go first to Jim  
2 McCamy, who is representative of Congressman Bud  
3 Cramer. And, Jim, are you -- and let me just  
4 acknowledge while Jim is coming up that we do have  
5 some other staff here from other federal  
6 representatives. We have Lafreda Jordan from Senator  
7 Shelby's office. There's Lafreda right there. And  
8 we have Jason Harper from Congressman Aderholt's  
9 office. Jason are you? Okay. All right.

10                   But we're going to hear from Jim McCamy.  
11 And then we're going to go to James Tidmore.

12                   Jim.

13                   MR. MCCAMY: Thank you, I'm Jim McCamy.  
14 I'm District Director for Congressman Cramer, Fifth  
15 Congressional District. And on behalf of the  
16 Congressman, first, NRC, thank you for proceeding  
17 with this process the way you are. Thanks to TVA for  
18 your application. And especially to each one of you,  
19 thank you for being here today to take part in this  
20 process.

21                   I have a letter from the Congressman that  
22 he asked me to read that he has addressed to Mr. Dale  
23 Klein, Chairman of the NRC.

24                   "Dear Chairman Klein, I would like to  
25 welcome the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to the

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1 Fifth Congressional District of Alabama for its two  
2 Scoping Meetings. These meetings will allow the  
3 public to comment on the Environmental Impact  
4 Statement for Bellefonte Nuclear Plant.

5 "I'm pleased that the NRC is taking the  
6 next step in reviewing the Tennessee Valley Authority  
7 and NuStart Energy Consortium's Combined Construction  
8 and Operating License application. I strongly  
9 support the application. And it is my hope that the  
10 NRC will evaluate the EIS and complete the  
11 application process in a thorough and timely manner.

12 "I believe you'll find that the citizens  
13 of Jackson County and Alabama continue to share a  
14 strong support for nuclear energy and the future  
15 development of the Bellefonte facility. They  
16 understand the role that nuclear energy can play as a  
17 clean, safe, and reliable source of energy.

18 "Thank you for your time and  
19 consideration of NuStart and TVA's pursuit of a  
20 C.O.L. for a nuclear plant at Bellefonte. And I look  
21 forward to hearing of its success.

22 "Sincerely, Bud Cramer, Member of  
23 Congress."

24 And I will submit this for the record.

25 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you very much,

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1 Jim. And thank the Congressman for us.

2 James Tidmore.

3 MR. TIDMORE: Good afternoon. I'm James  
4 Tidmore. I'm Chairman of the Jackson County  
5 Commission. The Jackson County Commission is the  
6 governing agency of Jackson County. We're elected  
7 by the people. There's four Commissioners and the  
8 Chairman.

9 I'd like to address these comments both  
10 to TVA and the NRC. Make no mistake about it, the  
11 Jackson County Commission is unequivocally in support  
12 of TVA in its endeavor to secure a Combined License  
13 to build Units 3 and 4 at its Bellefonte Nuclear site  
14 in Hollywood.

15 Regardless of what some may say, the  
16 Jackson County Commission for several reasons cannot  
17 take any other position. The economic impact for  
18 Jackson County alone clearly justifies the  
19 Commission's position. The number of construction  
20 jobs, plus the number of permanent positions created  
21 would revolutionize the economic picture in Jackson  
22 County.

23 Our county traditionally lags behind  
24 other counties in the Tennessee Valley area. This  
25 could be completely reversed by this TVA project.

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1 Another economic benefit for the county and the whole  
2 Tennessee Valley area would be a significant increase  
3 in TVA in lieu of taxes. These funds for our county  
4 support schools, town and municipal governments,  
5 hospitals, ambulance service, county government, fire  
6 departments, and rescue squads.

7 I think that those who oppose this very  
8 important project are misguided, lack understanding,  
9 and refuse to view clearly the overall importance of  
10 TVA's application to build this nuclear facility in  
11 our county.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much. I'll  
14 skip to Dus Rogers, Rick Roden, and then we're going  
15 to go to Donnie Safer.

16 And this is Dus?

17 MR. ROGERS: Yes. I'm Dus Rogers. And I  
18 have two statements I'd like to read.

19 "My name is Goodrich A. Rogers. And I  
20 live here in Jackson County and have lived here for  
21 almost 20 years. I live within sight of the  
22 Bellefonte cooling towers, approximately five miles.

23 "I am here today representing the Jackson  
24 County Economic Development Authority and Industrial  
25 Development Boards. And these boards have

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1 unanimously passed resolutions encouraging the  
2 construction of a new nuclear power plant at the  
3 Bellefonte site.

4 "We're here today to encourage the NRC to  
5 grant TVA a C.O.L. to build two new Westinghouse AP  
6 1000 reactors on this TVA site. And we are in favor  
7 of this for several reasons.

8 "Number one, it will be the largest  
9 economic development project ever in Jackson County.

10 And we would like to have many of our people work in  
11 the construction business and also in the plants once  
12 it is constructed.

13 "We know that that there will be  
14 approximately 2,500 construction jobs and 800  
15 permanent jobs. We also know that these jobs will be  
16 high paying jobs and highly skilled jobs. We are  
17 optimistic that many of the 7,752 people who leave  
18 Jackson County every day to work in surrounding  
19 counties will be able to save time and money by  
20 working here in their home county.

21 "We know too that these jobs can really  
22 enhance the quality of life for these families. My  
23 co-worker, Shelia Shepard, her husband is an  
24 Assistant Unit Operator at Browns Ferry Nuclear Power  
25 over in Athens. And we have seen first hand how

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1 their life style has improved as a result of him  
2 taking this job.

3 "Unfortunately he, like many of our  
4 nuclear operators, has to drive to Browns Ferry,  
5 Watts Bar or Sequoyah to work in their chosen field.

6 We want to bring him and some of the others home to  
7 Jackson County.

8 "Number two, we have a corps of workers  
9 across North Alabama and Tennessee who are  
10 experienced and skilled workers for both the  
11 construction trades and the actual operation of a  
12 power plant. In fact, Jackson County is within 125  
13 miles of three TVA operating nuclear power plants.

14 "We feel like the Tennessee Valley  
15 corridor between Oakridge, Tennessee and Huntsville,  
16 Alabama is a high tech corridor. And having a new  
17 nuclear power plant will enhance this.

18 "Number three, the North Alabama  
19 Industrial Development Association, which is NAIDA,  
20 Territory in North Alabama -- this is the TVA  
21 territory -- it is the fastest growing area of this  
22 state. This land comprises 16 percent of Alabama and  
23 has accounted for 35 percent of the new jobs in the  
24 last several years.

25 "We need the base load power generated by

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1 two nuclear reactors to sustain this growth. Low  
2 cost reliable electricity is a very large factor in  
3 this economic growth.

4 "We also know that the Base Realignment  
5 and Closure, BRAC, is locating approximately 4,500  
6 new jobs and approximately 4,500 new contractor jobs  
7 bringing many more families to the valley.

8 "One of our primary missions in economic  
9 development is to assist our local industries.  
10 Jackson County and North Alabama still have a strong  
11 industrial base. Approximately 16 percent of our  
12 workers are involved with manufacturing as opposed to  
13 eight or nine percent nationwide. We must continue  
14 to provide a competitive and reliable source of  
15 electricity to retain these existing industries and  
16 remain competitive. Our power distributors will tell  
17 you that we need the additional base load power right  
18 now."

19 I'm going to hand in a copy of my written  
20 comments. But I also have a brief comment I'd like  
21 to read from Dr. Tom Gibson, who is a radiologist  
22 here in Scottsboro. Dr. Gibson has been at Jackson  
23 County Hospital for many years. And it's brief.

24 "In 1970" -- this is from Dr. Gibson, It  
25 says, "In 1970 I was the only radiologist in Jackson

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1 County and about the only resident with any training  
2 and experience in dealing with radioactive materials.

3 "It was about this time that the  
4 Bellefonte site for a nuclear powered electricity  
5 generating plant was first proposed. In the next  
6 couple of years acting as the Radiation Safety  
7 Officer for the Jackson County Health Department, I  
8 examined the proposal, its details, and the  
9 possibility of risks for the people of my county.

10 "It was my conclusion then as it is today  
11 that there is virtually no risk and that the benefits  
12 for our area and for the country as a whole are  
13 substantial.

14 "In the 35-year interval since  
15 construction began, there have been technological  
16 advances in the construction of nuclear power plants  
17 that reduces further the extremely remote possibility  
18 of a problem.

19 "It should further be noted that, despite  
20 what the opponents of this project might say, that  
21 there is no problem that could occur with such a  
22 facility that would threaten the lives or the  
23 genetics of us or our progeny. Nuclear power is  
24 cleaner, greener, less polluting, less space  
25 occupying, and generally less expensive than any of

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1 the alternatives that will be shrilly advocated at  
2 this or other public meetings.

3 "I hope that the decision makers involved  
4 will encourage completion of the Bellefonte Nuclear  
5 Power Plant.

6 "Sincerely, Dr. Thomas A. Gibson."

7 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much, Dus.

8 We're going to go to Rick Roden now. And  
9 then we're going to go to Donnie Safer, Sara Barczak,  
10 and Louise Cornflow.

11 This is Rick Roden?

12 MR. RODEN: Yes, my name is Rick Roden.  
13 I'm the President and CEO of the Greater Jackson  
14 County Chamber of Commerce, the voice of business in  
15 Jackson County. We represent 650 members all over  
16 Jackson County. And my Board of Directors have  
17 recently passed a resolution which I'd like to read.

18 "Whereas the Tennessee Valley Authority  
19 has submitted an Application for Combined Licenses to  
20 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to build Units 3  
21 and 4 at the Bellefonte Nuclear Plant.

22 "And whereas NuStart, a consortium of  
23 nuclear facilities that includes TVA, selected the  
24 Bellefonte site to build a twin Westinghouse design  
25 reactor plant.

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1 "And whereas the Tennessee Valley region  
2 is one of the fastest growing regions in the entire  
3 United States.

4 "And whereas BRAC, Base Realignment and  
5 Closure, will be bringing close to 10,000 jobs to  
6 North Alabama in the next four years.

7 "And whereas Jackson County has always  
8 supported the completion of Bellefonte,

9 "Now therefore be it resolved that the  
10 Board of Directors of the Greater Jackson County  
11 Chamber of Commerce fully supports TVA in the  
12 completion of Bellefonte as a nuclear plant."

13 This is signed by all 24 Board Members  
14 who represent all business all over Jackson County.

15 Now, I've been asked to read a letter.  
16 Some of you may be aware that our Mayor is battling  
17 cancer. He was not able to be here. But he has  
18 asked me to read his letter for the City of  
19 Scottsboro.

20 "Dear Friends, Many years ago the people  
21 of Jackson County were so excited to be a vital part  
22 of the growing nuclear energy program as the planning  
23 and implementation of the Bellefonte Nuclear Plant  
24 began construction.

25 "When the program went into mothball

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1 status, the people in our city and county and  
2 surrounding areas experienced a decline in economic  
3 activities that only recently have made a comeback.

4 "And now we find ourselves with wonderful  
5 opportunities facing us. Our unemployment rate is  
6 low. Scottsboro is experiencing an influx of  
7 development and growth in housing, highlighted by the  
8 development of Goosepond Island.

9 "With the combined effort of the city of  
10 Scottsboro, the Jackson County Commission,  
11 collectively we have built the new Jackson County  
12 Industrial Park to secure quality and high paying  
13 jobs for the people of this area.

14 "BRAC, the Base Realignment and Closure  
15 Program, offers 10,000 jobs to North Alabama area in  
16 the next four years.

17 "An aggressive effort has been made on  
18 the part of your city leaders in our city, county,  
19 and state government, the Chamber of Commerce, the  
20 Industrial Development Board, the State of Alabama  
21 ADO, Alabama Development Office, and especially our  
22 EDA, the Economic Development Authority, aggressively  
23 working for a better tomorrow for the great people of  
24 this area.

25 "While concentrating on growth, we also

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1 examine other aspects of our economy, and the safety  
2 and well-being of our people is of high importance as  
3 well. Many outstanding people of our area have  
4 carefully listened to all proposals that have been  
5 presented to us on what we might be able to do with  
6 the Bellefonte facility over the coming years.

7 "Many mayors before me have tried to be  
8 an essential part of the revitalization of the  
9 property. Most recently one proposal was that of  
10 producing tritium.

11 "Today we find ourselves with a unique  
12 opportunity to watch the city of Scottsboro, Jackson  
13 County, and the surrounding Tri-State area, and the  
14 United States greatly prosper with its proposal by  
15 TVA. Not through being imitators but by being  
16 innovators in the production of energy through the  
17 new generation nuclear reactor process and lead the  
18 way for others to emulate.

19 "Many leaders of our area have listened  
20 to the proposal and find it to be a good one. Many  
21 improvements including enhancements in safety  
22 innovations and technology have been made in the 30  
23 years since a nuclear reactor has been built in the  
24 United States.

25 "I have reviewed documentation where TVA

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1 has considered the building of the Bellefonte  
2 facility with concentration on endangered species and  
3 wildlife, hazardous waste, historic structures,  
4 farmland, groundwater, the 100-year flood plain, and  
5 the drinking water quality and supply just to list a  
6 few.

7 "I am one of several who have carefully  
8 considered the presentation of NuStart Consortium and  
9 TVA and feel that the safety issue has been addressed  
10 in an acceptable manner.

11 "On any issues there are proponents and  
12 opponents. That is simply the free spirit of the  
13 wonderful country in which we live. And it is our  
14 right to argue as we choose.

15 "It is after careful consideration of  
16 related factors that, as the Mayor of the City of  
17 Scottsboro, I firmly feel that we need to proceed  
18 with conviction and steadfast commitment, working  
19 hand in hand with TVA on the development and final  
20 completion of the Bellefonte facility as a nuclear  
21 site with two new generation safe and highly  
22 productive Westinghouse nuclear reactors.

23 "I have every confidence that if we are  
24 fortunate enough to be successful in TVA's quest for  
25 energy improvement at Bellefonte, that in years to

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1 come that we will proudly look back on this event as  
2 one of the most dynamic to help our people and our  
3 economy grow and prosper in a safe and fruitful  
4 Jackson County.

5 "Sincerely, Dan Deason, Mayor of  
6 Scottsboro."

7 Then I would like to enter into record  
8 several other resolutions that I will not take time  
9 to read. But I will let you know who they are coming  
10 from. These are Highlands Medical Center, City of  
11 Stevenson, City of Scottsboro, TARCOG, the Top of  
12 Alabama Regional Counsel on Governments, the Town of  
13 Dutton, Town of Flat Rock, Jackson County Board of  
14 Realtors, Jackson County Shrine Club, Flat Rock  
15 Ruritan Club, Town of Hollywood, Town of Hytop, Town  
16 of Langston, Town of Pisgah, Town of Section, Town of  
17 Skyline, and Town of Woodville. Then also I have one  
18 individual that asked me to deliver one also.

19 So I'd like to put these into record and  
20 make it note that every single person that has signed  
21 every single resolution are residents of Jackson  
22 County.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you very much,  
25 Rick, for delivering those messages to us. And they

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1 will be in the transcript for people to look at.

2 And we're going to go to Donnie, Donnie  
3 Safer, right now, then Sara Barczak, and then Louise  
4 Cornflow.

5 This is Donnie Safer.

6 MR. SAFER: Thank you. I'm Don Safer  
7 from Nashville, Tennessee. I am a TVA rate payer.  
8 And I'm glad to be here. Thank you for the  
9 opportunity to speak. And I only wish that I had  
10 more confidence in the integrity of this process. It  
11 is not the NRC's job to deny this application but  
12 rather to push it through. The results of this  
13 approval are virtually a foregone conclusion.

14 That being said, the topic today is which  
15 environmental issue should the NRC consider during  
16 its review of the Combined Licensing. And I'll  
17 address those.

18 But before I do that, there is no safe  
19 dose of radiation. And that's just a fact. The  
20 background radiation that we normally get we're used  
21 to it. Any increase in that is going to cause cancer  
22 and mutations. And it's just a scientific fact. It  
23 can't be changed.

24 Environmental issues, water, volume and  
25 temperature, quality. The number of nuclear

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1 facilities above and below Bellefonte on the  
2 Tennessee River, the number of coal fired plants.  
3 The drought, floods. Last summer Browns Ferry  
4 Nuclear Plant had to shut down because the water  
5 temperature was too high to use it at time of peak  
6 demand.

7 Hydrologic issues, seismic issues. On  
8 environmental justice, the proposed placement of this  
9 plant in an area with high unemployment is no  
10 accident. It is a high risk technology that you are  
11 not as likely to be critical of as a more prosperous  
12 area.

13 And that's one of the key issues of  
14 environmental justice. The most risky technologies  
15 and the most damaging technologies go to the areas  
16 that don't have the economic freedom to say no. And  
17 you have to realize that. That's why they want to  
18 put it here and that's why -- that's just a base.  
19 And I hope that's considered by the NRC in the  
20 environmental justice.

21 Waste disposal. Over 60 years after the  
22 start of the nuclear age, a start that was heralded  
23 by the terrible bombings of civilian populations in  
24 Hiroshima and Nagasaki. And 30 years and billions of  
25 dollars after TVA's disastrous rush into its first

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1 round of nuclear power plant construction. And we  
2 still have 25 billion dollars of debt that TVA is  
3 carrying from the construction program in the '70s.  
4 It's still on there. And we're still paying for it.

5 And now we're starting to build a whole new round.

6 These plants as best I can figure out the  
7 estimate today is four billion dollars for each  
8 plant. That's a lot of money. And that's all I'll  
9 say about that.

10 There's no solution to the waste problem.

11 The Yucca Mountain facility is so far behind  
12 schedule. It's supposed to receive waste years ago.

13 And it's not supposed to receive waste until I think  
14 2017 is the projected time now. So in the meanwhile  
15 at Browns Ferry and at Watts Bar and at Sequoyah, the  
16 nuclear waste is piling up in spent fuel that just  
17 sits there.

18 And so far we've been fortunate. It's  
19 not been leaking. But those facilities were not  
20 designed for long-term storage and there is no long-  
21 term storage answer that has been found because there  
22 is no answer. It's been 50 years, 60 years and  
23 nobody has come up with an answer. And lots of money  
24 and lots of smart people.

25 Decommissioning. There's no provision

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1 for the funding of the decommissioning in that four  
2 billion dollars. They say they're putting bonds up  
3 for it or whatever. But the decommissioning costs  
4 are going to be huge. And if they don't decommission  
5 it, you're going to have a fence around that plant.  
6 It may be 50 years from now. It may 60 years from  
7 now. Most of us probably will not be alive. But the  
8 children and the grandchildren and those beyond will  
9 be looking at that facility if it's not  
10 decommissioned properly.

11 Terrorism target. We all know and fear  
12 terrorism. These plants are high -- they're high  
13 value targets from a terrorist perspective. They can  
14 do great damage. And if the wind's blowing the right  
15 way, no telling where the radiation is going to go.  
16 Weather patterns for drift of radioactive releases  
17 need to be considered.

18 All around the world, the only countries  
19 that have developed nuclear weapons have done it from  
20 domestic nuclear power programs. And what does that  
21 mean? That means that if we continue to build  
22 nuclear power plants, then the North Koreas and the  
23 Iraqs all want and deserve nuclear power plants. But  
24 then they have the technology to build nuclear  
25 weapons. It means more nuclear weapons in the hands

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1 of countries that one day can be our friends and one  
2 day can be our enemies because of the way  
3 international politics works. You have to factor  
4 that in. It may not be an environmental impact  
5 today, but it's an environmental impact as nuclear  
6 weapons proliferate.

7           The time frame for the environmental  
8 effects of these plants is 250,000 years. The wastes  
9 these plants create is going to be toxic and cause  
10 mutations for 250,000 years. Jesus was born 2,000  
11 years ago. And if anybody can imagine 250,000 years  
12 in the future, you're doing a better job than I am.

13           I think it's the height of human  
14 arrogance to leave that kind of a legacy to our  
15 future generations just so we can have electricity.  
16 There are clean alternatives that are out there.  
17 Solar power is coming on. The cost of solar is  
18 reducing. And this would be a perfect area to have a  
19 solar factory. And we're not the highest value. I  
20 mean, you know, the desert southwest is a better  
21 place to boil water to create solar energy. But we  
22 do -- solar photovoltaic is very appropriate here.  
23 And it comes at a time when our peak demand is.

24           So the choice to use nuclear power to  
25 boil water to meet our need for electricity is

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1 selfish and foolish. It's just plain wrong. Nuclear  
2 power is not part of the solution to human induced  
3 climate change.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Donnie.

6 And Sara. Sara Barczak. And then  
7 Louise.

8 MS. BARCZAK: My name is Sara Barczak.  
9 And I'm the Safe Energy Director with Southern  
10 Alliance for Clean Energy. We are a regional, non-  
11 profit organization with members here in Alabama,  
12 throughout the TVA region, and across the Southeast,  
13 who are concerned about the impacts energy choices  
14 have on our health, economy, and environment.

15 Additionally we have to remember that  
16 every U.S. taxpayer is subsidizing this process. So  
17 all of us have a say in this decision that's going to  
18 be coming up in the next few years.

19 Thank you to the NRC for holding two  
20 public meetings today to address the environmental  
21 scoping issues that should be evaluated as the NRC  
22 prepares the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

23 I have my comments divvied up into two  
24 sections. For the sake of time, I'll be saying the  
25 rest of it tonight.

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1                   We have serious concerns about TVA's push  
2 to build two new reactors here at the Bellefonte  
3 site. The uncertainties associated with new nuclear  
4 power plants continue to escalate putting rate  
5 payers, tax payers, and the environment at increasing  
6 risks. These risks are not adequately addressed in  
7 the application.

8                   And I dare say that very few people in  
9 this room even read one page of the application  
10 because it's a very burdensome document to go  
11 through. And I share anyone's frustration in the  
12 room who actually did read this application. In  
13 fact, I think the NRC should have rejected this  
14 application from the get go.

15                   We know that TVA has better ways to meet  
16 the region's increasing demand for energy, protect  
17 our water resources, and combat global warming.  
18 Investing more resources in the region's wind, solar,  
19 and bio-energy industries and promoting energy  
20 efficiency measures instead of costly nuclear power  
21 would benefit TVA and offer local economic  
22 development opportunities for the region without  
23 draining our water resources or our pocketbooks.

24                   Unfortunately the Bellefonte application  
25 does not adequately address these other energy

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1 options. The NRC needs to fully evaluate TVA's need  
2 for power along with alternative supply options,  
3 including energy efficiency and demand side  
4 measurement -- management measures. TVA, as we all  
5 know, has had a history of overestimating capacity  
6 needs. And the application continues that trend. It  
7 fails to show that TVA needs the additional  
8 generating capacity by building reactors at  
9 Bellefonte.

10 Further since the price tag for  
11 Bellefonte is already sitting at over four billion  
12 dollars for reactors that were abandoned decades ago,  
13 we feel that the NRC should consider that investment  
14 when comparing it to other energy options, such as  
15 energy efficiency and conservation. Where could we  
16 have been if four billion dollars had been spent on  
17 energy efficiency rather than the abandoned site.

18 In terms of water impacts, nuclear power  
19 plants have a large impact on water quantity and  
20 quality. They release radioactive contaminants and  
21 hazardous chemicals into the surrounding water  
22 resources. They contribute to thermal pollution,  
23 negatively impact aquatic life, and require enormous  
24 volumes of water. They require more water use than  
25 other traditional forms of energy production and

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1 significantly more water than energy efficiency  
2 measures and clean energy technologies, such as solar  
3 and wind.

4 This reality is not mentioned in the  
5 application. According to TVA's application, the two  
6 Bellefonte reactors will withdraw over 71 million  
7 gallons of water per day from the Tennessee River,  
8 via the Gunterville Reservoir, and consume or lose  
9 over 46 million gallons per day, returning only about  
10 a third. This represents more water consumption than  
11 all public water systems in the Gunterville  
12 Watershed combined.

13 And I had to look at a lot of different  
14 things in the TVA application to figure that out. I  
15 think that's quite remarkable.

16 The plant will be competing with other  
17 important water users in Alabama and the region. Yet  
18 the application does not acknowledge the impacts this  
19 may have, nor does it ponder the impacts this could  
20 have during severe drought conditions, such as we  
21 have experienced recently. The NRC needs to address  
22 this in the Draft EIS.

23 The Tennessee River upon which Bellefonte  
24 is located is already stressed from a variety of  
25 industrial and municipal users. The full extent of

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1 this degradation is not discussed in the application.

2 For instance, the NRC should be aware that the  
3 Tennessee River basin as a whole is considered to be  
4 the single most biologically diverse river system for  
5 aquatic organisms in the United States. And harbors  
6 the highest number of imperiled species of any large  
7 river basin in North America with 57 species and 47  
8 mussel species considered to be right now "at risk."

9 Many fish and mussel populations  
10 throughout the entire Tennessee River Basin including  
11 the Middle Tennessee River, which encompasses  
12 Gunter'sville Reservoir site of Bellefonte, are  
13 greatly reduced from the historical numbers. The  
14 decline cited by fisheries and aquatic invertebrate  
15 experts are due to the incremental impacts from dams,  
16 urbanization, industrialization, and nuclear power  
17 facilities.

18 The application itself even states that  
19 within the Gunter'sville Reservoir alone there has  
20 been a 44 percent decline of fresh water fish  
21 captured in TVA sampling since 1984. Yet it fails to  
22 fully analyze the important ecosystem and evaluate  
23 properly the cumulative impacts to the basin. NRC  
24 must do a better job in the Draft Environmental  
25 Impact Statement.

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1                   And I will save the rest of my comments  
2 for later tonight.

3                   Thank you.

4                   MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you. Thank you  
5 very much, Sara. We get to go to Louise Cornflow,  
6 who I believe has a graphic to show us as part of her  
7 presentation. And then we're going to go to Gary  
8 Morgan, Liz Bennet, Ross McCluney, and Joe Thompson.

9                   Okay, you have about 14 people coming up  
10 to help you right now. Is there a light bulb joke  
11 here? I don't know. I'm not going to look.

12                   MS. CORNFLOW: This chart is from the  
13 Environmental Report Review, whatever, that TVA  
14 submitted to the NRC. So this is part of their  
15 application document. And what it shows is the  
16 Project Construction Staffing over months. And so  
17 you're talking -- so does everybody sort of  
18 understand that chart?

19                   Okay, the different colors are the  
20 different kind of job skills folks will need. The  
21 bottom is Civil and Structural Employment. So I  
22 assume that would be largely the least skilled  
23 workers. And perhaps some folks here in TVA could  
24 chime in. Mechanical, I assume are mechanical  
25 skills. Electrical skills, indirect services, and

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1 modular fabrication. And I assume that's when  
2 Toshiba comes in and installs the Westinghouse.  
3 Everybody understands that. Toshiba owns  
4 Westinghouse.

5 And so what we're really looking at is  
6 how the different job skills will come in and leave  
7 over time. As I said, that is in the Environmental  
8 Review which is out there.

9 At a February Scottsboro Rotary Club  
10 meeting, Gary Curtis, the Senior Project Manager for  
11 TVA's Nuclear Generation Development and  
12 Construction, said that one of the best parts of the  
13 five-year project was the 2,500 construction jobs and  
14 800 full-time jobs that will come with the building  
15 of the two reactors.

16 "That's just the beginning," said Curtis.

17 "It's very exciting. To put it simply," he said.

18 "Bellefonte just makes good economic sense. It's  
19 inexpensive for you."

20 Let's review some of the Jackson County  
21 costs for this boom town project to help you decide  
22 whether it truly will be inexpensive for you.

23 Proposed construction begins in 2013 with a peak  
24 phase of construction targeted for three years later.

25 The estimated on-site construction work force during

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1 the peak construction phase increases to 3,000 and  
2 diminishes until completion of the construction  
3 phase.

4           Planned construction will increase  
5 traffic on local roads by 3,100 vehicles daily. TVA  
6 states County Roads 33 and 113 and Bellefonte Road  
7 may need expansion. TVA does not offer to pay for  
8 these upgrades. This bill will be picked up by the  
9 taxpayers of Jackson County and the State of Alabama.

10  
11           TVA expects at least half of the  
12 construction force, 1,500 -- this is all in their  
13 document -- will migrate to Scottsboro and the other  
14 half living outside the country. Assuming they bring  
15 their families, TVA estimates that the county  
16 population will increase by 6,000. But remember this  
17 is a transient work force that will migrate to the  
18 next construction site once finished here.

19           TVA is not talking about local jobs.  
20 They're talking about folks coming in and then  
21 leaving. Be aware, TVA makes no promise in its  
22 Environmental Review about hiring local people for  
23 any position. While a temporary population boom will  
24 increase new service jobs in the area, it is critical  
25 to remember that the workers will leave when the work

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1 is done. And the economic boomlet will decline.

2           Scottsboro and Jackson County will need  
3 to pay for an increase in police and fire protection  
4 to provide the same level of coverage you enjoy  
5 today. Certainly some individuals in the county will  
6 profit from the boom in temporary housing. Currently  
7 the county does not have enough housing for the peak  
8 construction phase according to TVA.

9           And after the construction phase, who  
10 will live in these vacant units?

11           TVA estimates that the 1,500 migrant  
12 workers will bring with them 1,080 school age  
13 children. How many portable classroom and teachers  
14 for them will the county have to buy for this  
15 temporary student influx?

16           TVA says, "In the long run, the cost of  
17 providing education for additional students should be  
18 offset by the increase in local government revenues  
19 generated by the plant." Thus the county will spend  
20 whatever tax money it gets to provide for the  
21 temporary services needed. And then afterwards, you  
22 know who will be left holding the bag.

23           Finally after everyone is gone,  
24 Bellefonte will have 800 plant operators who may not  
25 all choose to live in this county.

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1 But should Bellefonte ever come online,  
2 Jackson County will now and forever pay the costs of  
3 constant vigilance over a radioactive contaminating  
4 and contaminated site. Five short years of an  
5 economic boomlet compared to a forever contaminated  
6 and contaminating site. How inexpensive is that?

7 Thank you.

8 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, very much,  
9 Louise, for putting that socio-economic information  
10 out there for us.

11 Garry Morgan, and Garry has a big green  
12 rubber box that he's bringing up here. And don't be  
13 alarmed.

14 MR. MORGAN: It's just some rocks.

15 MR. CAMERON: It's just some rocks. He  
16 assures us.

17 MR. MORGAN: I appreciate your concern on  
18 that though.

19 MR. CAMERON: And this is Garry Morgan  
20 and his rocks.

21 MR. MORGAN: There you go. Garry Morgan  
22 and his rock. Yes, sir. My name is Garry Morgan.  
23 I'm a resident of Scottsboro. I live about four and  
24 a half miles from Bellefonte. And I have some  
25 concerns. My concerns are on the environmental

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1 issues concerning the proposed new plant.

2           Around the Bellefonte area, you know when  
3 I was growing up as a kid, I hunted and fished in  
4 this area. And I'm very familiar with the terrain in  
5 that area. And this is why I want to address my  
6 concerns to the TVA and the NRC. And I appreciate  
7 the NRC's concerns. I appreciate you all being here  
8 and allowing the citizen input. That's what our form  
9 of republic is all about.

10           In talking about the terrain there,  
11 surrounding the area around Bellefonte is called a  
12 karst terrain. And simply what karst terrain is is  
13 sinkhole terrain. That area -- and I have a letter  
14 here which I'll present to the reporter if that's  
15 appropriate, concerning the karst terrain and the  
16 sinkholes -- it is extensive.

17           And this is what my rocks are about. I  
18 want to demonstrate to you what the karst terrain is  
19 and what it means, what the sinkholes mean during  
20 drought.

21           Now in reading the TVA C.O.L. and the  
22 environmental part of that report, it barely  
23 addresses the issue of karst terrain. As a matter of  
24 fact, in one part it makes a mention that sinkholes  
25 are forming there. But as what it does not mention

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1 is what happens in drought. And of course, right now  
2 this area is in a severe drought situation.

3 I want to show you something here with  
4 the rocks. Now this is chert rock. And this is the  
5 type of rock that is to the east of the current  
6 facility and proposed facility, River Ridge  
7 essentially.

8 This is another type of rock that's in  
9 the area. It's limestone. It's kind of like a slate  
10 or shell type of formation. And there's another type  
11 of limestone, very compacted, very hard.

12 But in the karst terrain, in the sinkhole  
13 terrain, we have this. And I want to show you this.

14 I'll have to put the microphone down. When that  
15 terrain dries out, this is what happens when the  
16 rocks dry out. That is what happens when we have  
17 drought. And that is what my concern is.

18 I appreciate the time. Thank you very  
19 much.

20 Who do I give my letter to?

21 MR. CAMERON: You can leave it right  
22 here. And we will make sure that it gets put on the  
23 attachment. And, Garry, thank you. Thank you very  
24 much for that presentation.

25 I should add for the record for the

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1 transcript is at the end of Garry's presentation when  
2 he was saying, "This is what happens to the rocks."  
3 He was basically ripping the rocks apart, crumbling  
4 them with his bare hands.

5 MR. MORGAN: That's right.

6 MR. CAMERON: And, Garry, I'm sure people  
7 are going to want to talk to you afterwards. So if  
8 you could be available, that would be good. Thank  
9 you.

10 MR. MORGAN: And I left some rocks here.

11 MR. CAMERON: And there's rocks up here.  
12 Okay. Thank you, Garry.

13 MR. MORGAN: You're welcome.

14 MR. CAMERON: Liz, Liz Bennett? Is Liz  
15 here? Okay, well, that's fine. You don't have to.  
16 If you want to, you can though. Okay, we're going to  
17 put this on the record. This is a statement by Liz  
18 Bennett, who is from right here local. And we're  
19 going to put this onto the transcript, Liz.

20 MS. BENNETT: I mean it's my third one  
21 I've written. Every time they bring up nuclear  
22 power, I write something.

23 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Liz, we'll put  
24 this on. I think I'll just put it on the record for  
25 now.

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1           And this -- if anybody wants to read this  
2 before we break up, it's going to be right up here  
3 with our ace administrative person, Tomeka. And it's  
4 right there. Thank you. Thank you, Liz.

5           And next we're going to go to Jo? Is it  
6 Jo Thompson, I guess. And then to Ross McCluney.  
7 Jo?

8           MR. MCCLUNEY: Jo is my wife and she  
9 could not be here today.

10          MR. CAMERON: And are you Ross?

11          MR. MCCLUNEY: I'm Ross.

12          MR. CAMERON: Okay, Ross, thank you very  
13 much.

14          MR. MCCLUNEY: Hi, everyone. It's a  
15 pleasure to have an opportunity to speak about this  
16 issue in a public setting with the government  
17 listening. My name is Dr. Ross McCluney. I'm a  
18 physicist and I worked for 30 years at the Florida  
19 Solar Energy Center. The center is a research  
20 institute of the University of Central Florida.

21                 I retired at the end of November and  
22 moved to Chattanooga, where I now live with my wife,  
23 Jo, who couldn't make it to the meeting. And I think  
24 we're something like 40 miles from the Bellefonte  
25 site.

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1 I happened to see a wind rose. And it  
2 looked like the highest probability direction for  
3 wind is in the Chattanooga direction. So we're  
4 downwind some of the time. And so that the basis of  
5 my personal concern.

6 I'm also here representing the Best  
7 Chapter of the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense  
8 League, which we formed to gather citizens from our  
9 area that are concerned about this plant.

10 I wish to argue against TVA's dismissal  
11 of solar as a viable alternative to nuclear at the  
12 Bellefonte site. A recent revolution in photovoltaic  
13 solar electric cell manufacturing is producing  
14 dramatic increases in the cost to manufacture --  
15 decreases -- I'm sorry -- in the cost to manufacture  
16 and install solar electric generating arrays. It's  
17 also taking far less fossil fuel energy to  
18 manufacture the cells.

19 This is the so-called imbedded energy.  
20 In one new case, this new imbedded energy is so low  
21 that it takes only from one to three years for the  
22 power output from the solar cells to match the energy  
23 input to make the cells.

24 Along with this reduction of imbedded  
25 energy, the new cells also have very low emissions of

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1 harmful pollutants during manufacturing.

2 Additionally, photovoltaic manufacturing costs have  
3 been decreasing steadily for a number of years.

4 I have a little bit more involved written  
5 presentation that I'll leave that has a DOE,  
6 Department of Energy, chart showing the drop in  
7 prices over time.

8 Along with these improvements, solar cell  
9 efficiency has also grown substantially from around  
10 14 percent for a conventional crystalline silicone  
11 cells to 18.6 percent for a new built Mitsubishi  
12 multi-crystalline silicone cell. Now Nanosolar,  
13 Incorporated, a new company, has made recent  
14 breakthroughs in reducing cost of manufacture solar  
15 cells based on seven areas of innovation. The  
16 substrate for these cells can even be flexible  
17 material, making it possible to print solar cells on  
18 flexible surfaces.

19 With these improvements in the technology  
20 of solar cells, it becomes feasible to generate  
21 copious quantities of electrical power at modest  
22 cost. There is a misperception that in the southern  
23 Southeastern U.S. we have too low a solar resource  
24 for economic viability.

25 So I used the Department of Energy Solar

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1 calculation method to find that the annual average  
2 solar radiation availability in Phoenix, Arizona,  
3 where one of my son's lives, is only 33 percent  
4 greater than that in Huntsville. So to collect the  
5 same annual amount of power from the sun, you only  
6 need to expand a Huntsville solar array by 33 percent  
7 in area to get the same solar energy in a year.

8 Well, I also looked at the time profiles  
9 of solar availability at the two cities. In summer  
10 months, the electricity demand is highest during the  
11 afternoon and early evening when air conditioning  
12 systems are working hardest. But the cooling demand  
13 lags into the early evening hours as the sun sets.  
14 So there's a need for short term storage of the solar  
15 energy collected during the peak hours, releasing it  
16 as the sun goes down. We only need a few hours to  
17 cover that decline.

18 A variety of short-term electrical  
19 options is available. This is detailed in the paper  
20 I will submit.

21 Investment by TVA into distributed solar  
22 electricity in this case makes a lot of sense as an  
23 alternative to the nuclear option. Solar technology  
24 can be applied now on small scales. That means with  
25 low initial capital cost, using a distributed power

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1 approach. This may be more feasible than larger  
2 scale solar and suffers smaller line losses since the  
3 energy is stored and used near where it is generated.

4  
5           TVA already has its Generation Partner's  
6 Program though which business and homeowners invest  
7 in solar electric generation capacity on their  
8 property at no cost to TVA. Instead of going  
9 nuclear, TVA could help its customers install a large  
10 quantity of photovoltaic solar cells on suitable  
11 rooftops for their buildings.

12           New capacity built with this program  
13 should be more than enough to cover any anticipation  
14 of rising demand in the TVA system. Which others  
15 will dispute that we even have such a rising demand.

16           But if you assume there has to be some additional  
17 capacity, the argument is it can easily be done with  
18 solar.

19           Southern California Edison, a utility in  
20 California, announced a few days ago a large scale  
21 solar program. The intent is to use it as a peak  
22 demand response requiring no transmission lines. In  
23 a joint press event with the SCE, the Governor  
24 Schwarzenegger called on other utilities to follow  
25 Edison's example. And he said, "I urge others to

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1 follow in their footsteps. If commercial buildings  
2 statewide partner with utilities to put this solar  
3 technology on their rooftops, it will set off a huge  
4 wave of renewable energy growth."

5 So now I'd like to turn to the issue of  
6 jobs in Scottsboro.

7 MR. CAMERON: Ross, could you just try to  
8 sum up?

9 MR. MCCLUNEY: I'm near the end.

10 MR. CAMERON: Thank you.

11 MR. MCCLUNEY: We've heard conflicting  
12 testimony this afternoon. The County Commission  
13 gives us a dire warning that jobs is a problem in  
14 this county. There's an economic issue, economic  
15 depression. And they're really anxious to have some  
16 source of new jobs. The Mayor of Scottsboro, on the  
17 other hand, says that they've taken steps to try to  
18 bring in industry. And that's been successful. And  
19 that actually unemployment is decreasing.

20 Well, so I conclude that the town of  
21 Scottsboro is experiencing -- which it thinks is  
22 experiencing these hard times -- and I'm not sure  
23 which it is. That here if TVA here would follow the  
24 solar alternative, it wouldn't take much investment  
25 to attract many more new jobs and provide much more

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1 dramatic economic growth in Scottsboro. By making  
2 the town a thriving hub of solar electric generation  
3 systems and components manufacturing, TVA could help  
4 Scottsboro solve its jobs problem in a safer  
5 environmentally benign way.

6 Green technology is generally very labor  
7 intensive. There would be lots of jobs for metal  
8 forming machine operators, component assembly  
9 workers, and wiring specialists. Mechanical and  
10 electrical engineers would be needed too. And  
11 warehousing and shipping facilities will have to be  
12 built and operated. The economic stimulus action of  
13 such development, if the city of Scottsboro will  
14 embrace it, could exceed the expected economic  
15 benefits of the proposed nuclear reactors.

16 And this development would last for a  
17 very long time. It wouldn't go away after the plant  
18 is finished. So it's clear that this would be a much  
19 better long-term investment for TVA than nuclear  
20 reactors.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Ross.

23 And I just wanted to clarify what I said  
24 before is that Tomeka Terry, who is helping us with  
25 some of these important tasks, she is an engineer.

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1                   And this isn't on. I guess I've said  
2 enough about that.

3                   We're going to go to Kate Houseton and  
4 then Lou Zeller, Sandra Kurtz, and Diane Darrigo.

5                   MS. HOUSETON: My name is Kate Houseton.  
6 I'm with the Clean and Safe Energy Coalition or CASE  
7 Energy. We're a grass roots organization that brings  
8 together individuals and organizations in support of  
9 nuclear energy.

10                  I'd just like to make a broad statement  
11 on nuclear energy and on this process. The NRC's  
12 regulatory process for new reactors, the C.O.L.  
13 process, is vital to ensuring that nuclear energy  
14 continues to provide clean, affordable electricity in  
15 this country. I for one enjoy the benefits of  
16 electricity. I like my air conditioning. I like my  
17 cell phone charger. I like my garage door opener. I  
18 like my refrigerator. And I'm not the only one.

19                  The demand for electricity in this  
20 country is on the rise, expecting to increase 25  
21 percent by 2030. The United States must continue to  
22 provide electricity that all of us with all of our  
23 gadgets and technologies continue to demand. And we  
24 must responsibly plan now to provide enough  
25 electricity in the future. It's nuclear plants like

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1 Bellefonte that will help this country meet its  
2 demand for energy while also being kind to the  
3 environment since nuclear produces none of the  
4 emissions associated with poor air quality, smog, and  
5 climate change.

6 Nuclear energy already provides essential  
7 highly skilled and well paying jobs to Alabama as  
8 well as valuable tax revenue. We need to preserve  
9 benefits like these for future generations. And the  
10 C.O.L. process which helps streamline efforts and  
11 includes valuable input from the public -- part of  
12 which is happening today -- helps us to ensure that  
13 we're planning responsibly for the future in terms of  
14 both meeting energy demand and how we're affecting  
15 the environment with energy production to meet that  
16 demand.

17 I applaud TVA for moving ahead with  
18 Bellefonte project. Thank you very much.

19 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you very much,  
20 Kate.

21 And Lou Zeller is our next speaker. Lou.

22 MR. ZELLER: Thank you, Chip. My name is  
23 Lou Zeller. And I'm the Science Director with the  
24 Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League. As you  
25 might could tell from the display we have in the

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1 information out front, we're opposed to nuclear power  
2 because of the threat that it represents to our  
3 livelihoods and our health and well-being.

4 I just want to make two brief comments  
5 here today. Yesterday, Blue Ridge Environmental  
6 Defense League and the Bellefonte Efficiency and  
7 Sustainability Team filed a supplemental motion to  
8 suspend the license process or ask for a 60-day delay  
9 in filing of documents. This is an expedited  
10 request, because as we saw from the slide  
11 presentation earlier, there are deadlines looming.

12 What we have cited in our motion is the  
13 failure of TVA to submit hydrological data,  
14 seismological data, quality assurance information  
15 cited in a letter from Mr. Bergman of the NRC's staff  
16 to TVA and three violations also mentioned in that  
17 letter.

18 There are documents lacking, not posted  
19 to the NRC website, which we need for our review at  
20 this time. It is unfair to ask the public or a  
21 public interest organizations to review an incomplete  
22 application, an application which TVA has had since  
23 October to get right.

24 This information is docketed through the  
25 electronic information system. It's available to

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1 anyone. We have also posted this motion to the  
2 website of our own which is at bredl.org.

3 My other comment I would like to address  
4 I guess primarily to Mr. James Tidmore. And I  
5 appreciate the Chairman's remarks here. But our  
6 motives are not misguided. We want the best for our  
7 children. And the best in this case would be the  
8 Bellefonte Efficiency and Sustainability Team.

9 Into the record I would submit the  
10 projected total cost estimate for 2,200 megawatts of  
11 power. These are documents submitted before the  
12 Public Service Commission in the state of Florida by  
13 Florida Power and Light.

14 For a similar sized power station, 2,200  
15 megawatts would cost about \$14 billion dollars.  
16 Fourteen billion dollars would buy an enormous amount  
17 of efficient electricity sources, sustainable  
18 electricity sources, electricity devices which could  
19 be manufactured here in Jackson County, sir, or  
20 anywhere in the Tennessee Valley.

21 We want the best for the Tennessee  
22 Valley.

23 Thank you very much.

24 I will submit these documents into the  
25 record.

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1 MR. CAMERON: Thank you. Thank you very  
2 much, Lou. And we will put these into the record.  
3 Thank you.

4 Next we're going to go to Sandra, Sandra  
5 Kurtz?

6 MS. KURTZ: Thank you, Chip. I am Sandy  
7 Kurtz. And I live in Chattanooga. I am an  
8 Environmental Education Consultant. And I live  
9 downwind from Sequoyah, Browns Ferry, Widow's Creek  
10 Coal Burning Plant, and Watts Bar, and perhaps the  
11 proposed Bellefonte Plant. I am concerned about  
12 that. Thank you for allowing me to speak.

13 In reviewing the environmental section of  
14 the licensing application for Bellefonte Units 3 and  
15 4, I think some points have been missed that should  
16 be considered. The application is incomplete. And I  
17 have three points to make about that.

18 These two Bellefonte nuclear reactors  
19 will draw 71 million gallons of water per day.  
20 Seventy-one million gallons per day from the  
21 Gunter'sville Reservoir. The withdrawal of such  
22 massive amounts of water, given the increased  
23 development upstream and around Gunter'sville  
24 Reservoir, cannot be sustained and still protect the  
25 riverine ecosystem or allow for ample drinking water

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1 and other business and industrial needs of  
2 municipalities in the future.

3           We heard about the new industrial park.  
4 They will need water. Bear in mind that there are  
5 already the existing Widow's Creek Steam Plant  
6 withdrawals and the upstream withdrawals from  
7 existing nuclear plants.

8           In fact, the amount of water that will be  
9 required by Bellefonte as we heard earlier is more  
10 than that taken by all the municipalities' existing  
11 water systems now drawing their drinking water from  
12 the Gunter'sville Reservoir. I think a reassessment  
13 is needed of this information.

14           Number two, the data and studies in this  
15 application are old. It appears that NuStart on this  
16 application has done a cut and paste job for TVA.  
17 Much of the data appears to come from the original  
18 application with studies on water flow and water  
19 quantity done between 1992 and 1998. Given climate  
20 change concerns, the drought, and population growth,  
21 the data needs updating before licensing can be  
22 properly considered.

23           Wild life officials have recommended a  
24 full biological inventory as there are endangered  
25 species -- endangered and threatened species -- in

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1 this area. The old data was not thorough or  
2 complete.

3 In most federal applications, third, it  
4 is required that one give alternatives solutions to  
5 the problem. That is indeed the core of the NEPA  
6 process. While this application is clearly for NRC,  
7 whose job it is to approve or deny nuclear power  
8 plant applications, I still think alternatives should  
9 be considered.

10 In the January 2008 edition of Scientific  
11 America, -- here it is -- there is a viable, doable  
12 energy plan that has been described that would switch  
13 us from coal, oil, natural gas, and nuclear power to  
14 solar power plants that would supply 69 percent of  
15 all U.S. electricity and 35 percent of our total  
16 energy by 2050. The technology is available.

17 This is the kind of thinking that TVA can  
18 and should be doing. Here are where new jobs are to  
19 be had without the negative health and environmental  
20 impacts and risks associated with nuclear power.

21 I urge TVA's withdrawal of the  
22 application or NRC's denial of the license to  
23 proceed.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you very much, Sandra.

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1 We're going to go to Diane Darrigo next.

2 Diane.

3 MS. DARRIGO: Hi, I'm the Radioactive  
4 Waste Project Director at Nuclear Information and  
5 Resource Service. We are a non-profit organization  
6 that opposes nuclear power, nuclear waste, and  
7 unnecessary radiation exposures.

8 There are many aspects of the nuclear  
9 power issue that need to be addressed in the  
10 Environmental Impact Statement process: the health,  
11 the environment, the water, the radiation in  
12 particular.

13 I want to talk about the reality right  
14 now and I would want the EIS to encompass the fact  
15 that there is nowhere for the so-called low level  
16 radioactive waste from this facility to go. There's  
17 nowhere for this waste after June 30th. The hottest  
18 of the so-called low level waste. There's not one  
19 repository in the United States to take it.

20 I was just yesterday at the Nuclear  
21 Regulatory Commission meetings discussing with the  
22 nuclear industry extended onsite storage. Right now  
23 it's pretty much intended that this so-called low  
24 level waste -- and I always put it in quotes when I'm  
25 writing and say "so-called" because even though

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1 according to the people who generate and dump the  
2 waste and the National Academy of Sciences, some of  
3 this waste can give a lethal dose in 20 minutes  
4 unshielded. There's really not a low risk from low  
5 level radioactive waste. And it is routinely  
6 generated in the creation of nuclear power.

7           The one dump that can now take this waste  
8 is going to close to all but three states' generators  
9 at the end of June, the Barnwell, South Carolina  
10 site. And there's a hope by the industry that a dump  
11 in Texas will open. There's a hope that maybe a dump  
12 in Utah will expand and take more hotter waste than  
13 it currently can take.

14           There's a hope that processors in the  
15 state of Tennessee will continue to take the material  
16 and chop it up or burn it and try to put it into  
17 piles so they can dilute it and send it to either  
18 regular garbage dumps, recycle it into commerce or  
19 send it to one of these lower concentration dumps.

20           But the truth is that there's nowhere for  
21 this waste to go. We all know about the irradiated  
22 fuel, the high level waste that comes from the  
23 reactor and that there's a hope that Yucca Mountain  
24 will take that.

25           But I'm talking about the reactor itself

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1 and the resins and filters from cleaning the cooling  
2 water and the activated pipes and the radioactive  
3 elements all the same as high level waste that are in  
4 the low level waste and the fact that this site will  
5 be a defacto permanent storage or disposal site for  
6 the material.

7           One of the extranalities, one of the  
8 problems, with existing nuclear power is that this  
9 waste is sent off to other places or dispersed in a  
10 way that the liability is shifted from the people  
11 that make the profit on the power. So there may be  
12 wonderful financial benefits in this community it's  
13 quite clear. But from whatever money is given into  
14 the tax base etcetera.

15           However, there is waste that is from the  
16 reactors here now that it dumped and in dumps around  
17 the country that have since closed. The one in  
18 Western New York at West Valley is projected to cost  
19 five to 10 billion dollars just for that dump for one  
20 portion of the industry's low level radioactive  
21 waste. Ten billion dollars for that one of six  
22 dumps.

23           So this is not being factored in. And it  
24 needs to be factored into the costs and the health  
25 effects and the liabilities of the creation of more

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1 nuclear waste in this community.

2 And there are routine releases into the  
3 air and water from the operation of the facility. If  
4 we have both high and low level waste from two more  
5 reactors building up in addition to the additional  
6 routines releases, the IS cannot continue to dismiss  
7 the additional routine radioactivity that's going  
8 into the air and water in this community and then the  
9 potential long term storage. I believe

10 that the site should be licensed as a permanent  
11 radioactive waste disposal site if it is going to be  
12 a nuclear reactor site because there is no permanent  
13 disposal site for this material. And that ought to  
14 be included in the Environmental Impact Statement.

15 We will support the other contentions  
16 that are being submitted on this facility. And I  
17 thought I would share that one particular one.  
18 Because as of June 30th of this year, even the  
19 existing reactor has nowhere to send its class B, C,  
20 and greater than C radioactive waste.

21 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, thank you,  
22 Diane.

23 We're going to go to Ellen O'Connor,  
24 Jennie Carter, M. T. Holloway, and Finn Bille. And I  
25 may have mispronounced that, but --

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1 And this is Ellen?

2 MS. O'CONNOR: Good afternoon, everyone.

3 I'm speaking as a citizen of Jackson County. And I  
4 live outside Skyline on a nice, very nice bluff that  
5 overlooks Hollywood. And the Bellefonte towers loom  
6 largely from my bluff. I do believe we do need  
7 nuclear power to help us in the future with our  
8 electricity needs.

9 But as a nurse for 40 years, I do have a  
10 few concerns about the by-product which can be a  
11 radiation leak or whatever you want to call it. And  
12 if you've never seen someone who has been burned by  
13 radiation, let me tell you it's not pretty and  
14 usually die.

15 Now I kind of consider myself living at  
16 ground zero. I don't know what the mile radius would  
17 be that we wouldn't be affected if something happened  
18 at the plant. But I do hope that in the future  
19 before this license is granted that people will look  
20 at the health as well as the safety of the residents  
21 of Jackson County.

22 And I have lived in a solar home. I do  
23 like solar electricity. I don't have it in Skyline,  
24 but that's beside the point.

25 I just want people to understand that

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1 health wise this is -- can be very dangerous to  
2 people. And at this point in time, although I do  
3 know we have Highland Medical Center as our hospital  
4 in Jackson County, I'd be a little hard to believe  
5 that they could cope with a major breach if it were  
6 to happen. Much less a little leak that no one would  
7 hear of, but somebody might show up in the ER with a  
8 radiation burn.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you, thank you  
11 Ellen.

12 Is it Finn, Finn Bille?

13 MR. BILLE: My name is Finn Bille. I  
14 live in Chattanooga. I have two visions of  
15 Scottsboro for the year 2060 that I want to present  
16 to you. In the first one I'm haunted by the vision  
17 of a grandchild in the year 2060. He's dying of  
18 radiation poisoning. No one knows whether the  
19 explosion at the Bellefonte Plant was accidental or  
20 the result of a terrorist attack. But his parents  
21 are sick. He's dying. They don't have long to live.

22  
23 As John, his father, looks at his wife  
24 who's lost all of her hair and is struggling to  
25 breathe, he wonders what could they have been

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1 thinking back in 2008? How could they even  
2 contemplate creating the possibility of this horror?

3 Did they think of themselves as potential  
4 terrorists? Did they have any knowledge of  
5 alternatives? Did they know about sustainable energy  
6 generation and energy conservation? Did they care?  
7 What could have motivated them?

8 But of course, he knew the history. And  
9 he knew that what motivated the energy company was  
10 profit and, of course, providing energy. And what  
11 motivated the community of Scottsboro was the need,  
12 the real need, for jobs.

13 Maybe he thought the people back in 2008  
14 could not have envisioned the advances in technology  
15 that decentralized energy generation in this century  
16 and created a whole new economy of sustainable energy  
17 production.

18 So now we're reaping the harvest of  
19 illness and death from the seeds of good intentions  
20 and short-sightedness sowed by our leaders back in  
21 2008. We thought we were safe.

22 In an alternative vision, it's a fine  
23 spring day like today in Scottsboro in the year of  
24 2060. John is walking to the café for lunch. A  
25 stranger stops him. He asks, "Can you tell me how to

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1 find the world headquarters of Global Solar?"

2 "Sure," John says. "That company and a  
3 whole bunch of other manufacturers of solar and wind  
4 technology have been driving our economy since we  
5 rejected the nuclear option. The headquarters is in  
6 the green park right over there. It's that  
7 transparent building made of solar crystals. All  
8 those buildings around it are companies that use the  
9 by-products of the process that makes -- and they  
10 make all kinds of other things."

11 "Yes," the stranger said. "I've read  
12 about the prosperity of Scottsboro and how it is the  
13 sustainable energy capital of the South. I'm from a  
14 global solar factory in India. I'm here for training  
15 in the latest sustainable technology. Do you know  
16 how all this got started?"

17 "Well, yes," John says. "It was in 2011  
18 on September 11 when TVA, that's the Tennessee Valley  
19 Authority, opened a business incubator and research  
20 lab for renewable energy businesses."

21 "That TVA must have had some visionary  
22 leadership," the stranger says. "And thanks for the  
23 directions."

24 "You are welcome," says John. "And, yes,  
25 TVA has been great for Scottsboro."

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1 Year 2060.

2 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much, Mr.  
3 Bille.

4 We're going to go to Yolande Gottfried,  
5 then Tom Moss, and Bill Reynolds.

6 This is Yolande.

7 MS. GOTTFRIED: Thank you. My name is  
8 Yolande McCurdy Gottfried. I live in Franklin  
9 County, Tennessee outside of Sewanee. So that's just  
10 over the Alabama border here and well within the area  
11 of impact of this proposed plant, about 40 miles from  
12 the site.

13 I've lived there for about 26 years. I'm  
14 a member of the Duck River Electric Membership  
15 Corporation, which buys its electricity from TVA.  
16 And we participate in their TVA's Green Power Switch  
17 to help pay for and promote the uses of alternative  
18 energy production.

19 I'm speaking in opposition to building  
20 these units at this -- and these plants in this place  
21 at this time. I'm not speaking just from a knee jerk  
22 not-in-my-backyard position. Because I think that if  
23 nuclear plants were necessary and if they were the  
24 best solution to an energy need, then they would have  
25 to be in somebody's backyard. And I should not

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1 exempt myself.

2           Except that particularly in this area, we  
3 have already a number of nuclear plants in our  
4 backyards: the three units at Browns Ferry, the two  
5 at Sequoyah, which I believe are the closest. And so  
6 I would like to say in the words of the old camp  
7 song, "Don't chuck your muck in my backyard. My  
8 backyard's full."

9           I was speaking to a TVA representative in  
10 the back here. And he said this issue had not been  
11 brought up, the concentration of nuclear power plants  
12 in this area.

13           I'm also not speaking just from an  
14 absolute across-the-board opposition to nuclear  
15 power, although I think that's a very defensible  
16 position. I think we need to continue the calm  
17 discussion of that as a possible part of the solution  
18 to energy needs in our nation.

19           But the costs and risk that people have  
20 been presenting are so great that we need to take a  
21 very strong look at alternatives first before we  
22 would go in that direction. And I am concerned.

23           I have a little bit of knowledge of  
24 knowing what it's like to have plants in your  
25 backyard because every time I fly home to

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1 Pennsylvania to visit my family, I fly over Three  
2 Mile Island. And I see their four towers like the  
3 towers out here. And I remember 1979, when my family  
4 had their bags packed, sitting at the door waiting  
5 for the call to evacuate, which thank goodness did  
6 not come.

7 But I'm concerned that we are not looking  
8 at the situation creatively. I am concerned that  
9 these plants are being proposed because it's what we  
10 know how to do. It's available. And all you have to  
11 do is buy it.

12 For example, in our area, Sir John  
13 Templeton of the Templeton Fund built a library,  
14 cutting down trees and in my view ruining the view  
15 scape because he could. He had the money, and he did  
16 it. It's not being used as a library. It'll  
17 probably never be used as a library. But there it  
18 is.

19 I think that TVA is proceeding with a  
20 business-as-usual mentality because that's what they  
21 know how to do. That's what we know how to do as a  
22 nation.

23 But we can -- business is not as usual.  
24 We're dealing with extensive climate change. We're  
25 dealing with peak oil. We're dealing with the

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1 possible recession -- or maybe a recession.

2 Not to mention the drought in this area  
3 which has been mentioned. In Sewanee where I live,  
4 we've looked at the national drought maps over the  
5 summer. That big dark red spot of exceptional  
6 drought was sitting right over our area here all  
7 summer. And we're going to take this amount of water  
8 which has been referred to out of our rivers at this  
9 time? There's no guarantee that this drought is  
10 over.

11 Power plants, in spite of what has been  
12 said here tonight, are not built to provide jobs and  
13 taxes for the local area in which they're built.  
14 They're built to meet energy needs. And I believe  
15 that the energy needs that TVA is projecting, if they  
16 in fact they exist -- and there seems to be all kinds  
17 of discussion of those statistics -- can be met  
18 through energy efficiency, through demand side  
19 management and through looking at alternative energy  
20 as various other people have said.

21 This is being looked at in other regions  
22 of the country. And I'm concerned that if we go  
23 ahead with this plan, then we're going to be in our  
24 area here a day late and a dollar short when it comes  
25 to the end of the time and the plant is built and no

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1 doubt huge cost overruns have been concerned. You  
2 know it always is. And other countries have gone  
3 ahead with looking at alternative means.

4 So why should we be a guinea pig for  
5 these new units which I understand have not actually  
6 been installed anywhere yet?

7 Why should we end up with huge cost  
8 overruns for a technology that might be obsolete by  
9 the time it goes online with advances in alternative  
10 technology?

11 And do we want TVA which operates as an  
12 unregulated monopoly with limited Congressional  
13 oversight and no public involvement in its decision  
14 making to be in control of all of this?

15 So that's why we need you, the Nuclear  
16 Regulatory Commission, to review the adequacy of the  
17 TVA's claims that the Bellefonte units are needed  
18 because I personally don't trust TVA to represent my  
19 interests in this question. And I certainly hope  
20 that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you very much,  
23 Yolande.

24 Tom Moss.

25 MR. MOSS: Hey. My name is Tom Moss.

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1 And I live in Huntsville, Alabama, about 37 miles  
2 from the Bellefonte reactor. I'm a long time caver  
3 and a past Director of the Alabama Cave Survey.

4 I'm opposed to the construction of the  
5 two new reactors at Bellefonte on several grounds.  
6 But I'd like to speak to -- on two topics about  
7 safety and site suitability and about water  
8 conservation.

9 The proposed construction site is in a  
10 limestone area where the massive beds of the Bangor,  
11 Monteagle, and Tuscumbia limestone contain many  
12 caves. There are over 4,200 known caves in Alabama.

13 And Jackson County contains 1,854 as of last year  
14 caves, which is more cave entrances in any county in  
15 Alabama or indeed any county in the United States.

16 Most of the caves in this area are not  
17 charted. They are unknown. Many of them are voids  
18 without entrances which exist below the water table.

19 When the water table drops, these voids become  
20 filled with air. The ceiling is no longer supported  
21 by the water. The ceiling collapses. And this is  
22 one way that sinkholes form.

23 As everyone who lives around here knows,  
24 sinkholes have been known to open up and swallow  
25 houses and cars. God help us if one undermines the

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1 foundations of a nuclear reactor. That was a safety  
2 and site suitability concern.

3 Here's another concern about water  
4 consumption. And I have a personal interest in this  
5 because I live downstream. TVA proposes building a  
6 thirsty monster which will consume as much water from  
7 the Tennessee River as the people who live along it  
8 take from the river now.

9 Yes, the amount of water taken from the  
10 river will double. And I'm not talking about the hot  
11 water that is returned to the river to wreck the  
12 ecology. I'm talking about the river water that is  
13 lost.

14 Maybe TVA doesn't know it. But we're in  
15 exceptional drought conditions here in the Tennessee  
16 Valley. We've been in a drought for years.  
17 Communities are considering new water treatment  
18 plants that will take additional water from the  
19 Tennessee River. Millions of thirsty residents of  
20 Atlanta have their eyes on that water too.

21 Building a nuclear power plant that will  
22 consume millions of gallons of water every day is  
23 just not sustainable. There are safer, more  
24 healthier ways of generating power.

25 Thank you for considering these important

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1 concerns.

2 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much, Tom.

3 And this is Bill Reynolds.

4 MR. REYNOLDS: I feel great appreciation  
5 to the NRC staff. If there was such a competition in  
6 the Olympics, you would get gold medals for  
7 listening. I hope you can listen at least another  
8 about a minute and a half.

9 I live in Chattanooga, approximately 44  
10 miles, air miles, from TVA's Bellefonte site. I and  
11 my family have lived in Chattanooga over 34 years.  
12 We like it there. We're expecting to stay. Our son  
13 was born there, and he likes it there too and plans  
14 to stay.

15 The wind we get in Chattanooga comes  
16 mostly out of the southwest, often very nearly in a  
17 straight line from the Bellefonte site. Having  
18 nuclear reactors there concerns me an awful lot  
19 because I know that nuclear reactors leak  
20 radioactivity into the environment even under daily  
21 normal operating conditions. I do not want my  
22 hometown to be subjected to a rise in levels of  
23 carcinogenic radioactivity.

24 I know that a lot of effort goes into  
25 designing and building nuclear reactors to reduce as

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1 much as possible the amount of radioactivity they  
2 leak. But I also know there has never been so far a  
3 reactor that kept every bit of its radioactivity from  
4 leaking out. And I'm not making this up. There's  
5 plenty of evidence that shows that nuclear reactors  
6 do leak radioactivity under normal operating  
7 conditions.

8 Dr. Helen Condocott is one of the world's  
9 top leading medical experts regarding causative  
10 effects of radioactivity on human diseases. She  
11 writes, "Neutogenic radioactive materials will  
12 migrate to and concentrate -- that is meaning build  
13 up -- more and more to higher levels in specific  
14 bodily organs. Iodine 131, radioactive isotope of  
15 iodine, builds up in the thyroid. Cesium 137 builds  
16 up in brain and muscle. Strontium 90 in bone. And  
17 plutonium 239 builds up in lung, liver, bone, fetus,  
18 and testicle."

19 She also writes about how these  
20 radioactive atomic isotopes eventually cause cancers  
21 in the human body. I am especially concerned about  
22 the cancer causing effects of radioactivity in the  
23 last two of the body organs Dr. Callicott wrote in  
24 this list, that is fetuses and testicles, because I  
25 and my wife are hoping our son and his wife will be

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1 ready to start a new family in just a few years. We  
2 want those grandchildren to be perfectly healthy and  
3 not have any cancer or other deformities or physical  
4 impairments.

5 For those reasons, I do not want the  
6 proposed Bellefonte nuclear plant licensed or built  
7 unless the Westinghouse Company, TVA, and NRC can  
8 come up with convincingly absolutely fail-safe  
9 technology that would keep absolutely every bit of  
10 radioactivity from leaking into the environment so  
11 that it would significantly reduce the risk that I  
12 would end up with physically deformed or fatally ill  
13 grandchildren.

14 Thank you.

15 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, very much, Bill.

16 We're going to go to Henry Lodge and Hal  
17 Harbin, Glenda Hodges, and George Kitchens now. So,  
18 Henry Lodge -- Henry, are you still here?

19 Hal Harbin?

20 Glenda, Glenda Hodges?

21 Hi, Glenda.

22 MS. HODGES: I am Glenda Hodges. And I  
23 am not speaking for any organization or group. I'm  
24 speaking strictly as a individual from Jackson  
25 County. I have spent my entire life here. I'd like

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1 to commend the TVA for submitting an application for  
2 the two new reactors.

3 And also I feel that with the checks and  
4 balances that we have in place, the NRC, the TVA, and  
5 the research they do and public input that we can be  
6 provided with a safe nuclear facility, environmental  
7 safe.

8 And I feel that that will help Jackson  
9 County provide the power that is needed for  
10 businesses. It will bring in new businesses. And I  
11 think it is very important that we proceed with that.

12 And thank you for your efforts.

13 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much,  
14 Glenda.

15 George Kitchens, Ralph Timberlake, and  
16 Jon Plumlee?

17 Is this George?

18 Hi, George.

19 MR. KITCHENS: Good afternoon, my name is  
20 George Kitchens. I'm the General Manager and CEO of  
21 Joe Wheeler Electric Membership Corporation in  
22 Trinity, Alabama.

23 This afternoon, however, I want to speak  
24 to you on behalf of the North Alabama Public Power  
25 Association. Let me stress the words "public power."

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1 That means that we're owned in our case at my co-op  
2 by our members, the customers that we serve. Our  
3 group is made up of 17 municipal electric  
4 organizations and eight electric co-ops. We are all  
5 not-for-profit organizations just as TVA is. There  
6 is no profit motivation in serving you, the public.  
7 We serve you to keep your lights on at reasonable  
8 rates.

9 Our group includes several members that  
10 are in the immediate vicinity of the Bellefonte site:  
11 North Alabama EC, Scottsboro Power Board, Sand  
12 Mountain Electric Cooperative, and Marshall-Dekalb  
13 Electric Cooperative.

14 And I need to let you know also that I'm  
15 also involved in the boards of several other  
16 organizations. The North Alabama Industrial  
17 Development Association as its Board Chairman. It's  
18 a regional economic develop organization that works  
19 to help counties all across North Alabama attract and  
20 retain good jobs in the area.

21 I also am a Board Member of the Morgan  
22 County Economic Development Association and the  
23 Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce.

24 And as an aside, I am also a member of  
25 the Tennessee Valley Regional Resources Stewardship

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1 Council. Our group meets routinely with TVA staff to  
2 discuss matters that I think many of you in the room  
3 appear to be very concerned about, such as water  
4 quality, artifacts along the river, air quality, and  
5 those sorts of things.

6 From my brief period of service on that  
7 board, I can tell you TVA tries very hard to be a  
8 good steward of the environment in this region. I  
9 can tell you that last summer -- several of you had  
10 mentioned droughts -- TVA reduced power output at  
11 several of its power plants, nuclear and fossil, to  
12 maintain water quality in the Tennessee River. They  
13 do try to do a good job.

14 Reliable, reasonably priced electricity  
15 is the lifeblood of this country's economy and also  
16 of North Alabama. All of the distributors and the  
17 communities that we serve have come to rely on this  
18 very reliable, reasonably priced source of energy to  
19 make our economy strong and vibrant. As a result,  
20 North Alabama has very competitive power rates, low  
21 unemployment, and we're growing.

22 TVA's proposal to build a new nuclear  
23 plant at the Bellefonte site is essential to the  
24 continuation of our diverse power supply at  
25 reasonable prices. Nuclear power is clean in that it

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1 produces no airborne emissions or greenhouse gases.  
2 And as has been proven by TVA over the years, it's  
3 safe.

4 At this time I'm not going to read all  
5 the preamble of this, but the North Alabama Public  
6 Power Association has done a resolution in support of  
7 this process.

8 "Now therefore, be it resolved by the  
9 North Alabama Public Power Association Board of  
10 Directors that we support the licensing of  
11 construction and operation of the Bellefonte Nuclear  
12 Plant in Hollywood, Alabama to:

13 "Number one, allow TVA to meet the growth  
14 needs of North Alabama and the Tennessee Valley by  
15 providing low cost, reliable power.

16 "Number two, rejuvenate nuclear power as  
17 a viable option to meet the nation's power needs.

18 "And three, acknowledge that nuclear  
19 power is a part of the solution to reduce electric  
20 power's impact on climate change.

21 "This resolution was approved and adopted  
22 by the North Alabama Public Power Association, March  
23 28, 2008."

24 And a copy is going to be furnished to  
25 the NRC and the TVA Board.

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1 Thank you.

2 MR. CAMERON: Great. Thank you, George.  
3 Thank you to the Association also.

4 Ralph Timberlake?

5 MR. TIMBERLAKE: Good evening. My name  
6 is Ralph Timberlake. I reside at 2117 Acton Drive,  
7 Huntsville, Alabama. I was born and reared in  
8 Jackson County. I went to school here both in  
9 Stevenson and in Scottsboro.

10 I come here to talk about the  
11 misinformation that Tennessee Valley Authority has  
12 given out about its job potential. I and the rest of  
13 my family was forced to leave the area in which we  
14 grew up in because of the lack of honesty in dealing  
15 with us in getting jobs and opportunities at the  
16 Bellefonte Plant.

17 I personally because I was wounded in  
18 serving my country in Vietnam was denied a job at TVA  
19 for no just reason 30 something years ago. I would  
20 have to leave my own hometown, the place where I grew  
21 up at. And all I've heard all these glowing terms  
22 about how wonderful jobs economics would be. That  
23 cannot be sustained in my personal view by the  
24 friends and relatives I know here in the Jackson  
25 County area. Most of my friends and relatives still

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1 suffer the scourge of poverty to which we grew up  
2 with and the lack of honesty to dealing with such a  
3 monopoly as TVA.

4 As a veteran I should have been given the  
5 opportunity to which I offered up the ultimate, my  
6 life, in a foreign country on behalf of this great  
7 nation. But yet such despicable people that ran TVA  
8 at that time refused to honor. I have sat here and  
9 I've waited 30 years for an opportunity to come back  
10 and address the egregious action that this community  
11 took place. I've heard all these glory and  
12 resolution presented by these illustrious people of  
13 trust in our government. But where were they at when  
14 TVA was doing its dirt?

15 The question is now, as TVA will allow  
16 this dangerous nuclear generation of power to be  
17 built here. They're making this request. What will  
18 they do to protect us? How would they do when there  
19 are melt down like Three Mile Island? How is the  
20 health in this area dealt with?

21 I personally have suffered all kinds of  
22 health and so has my family because of the lack of  
23 viable health care facilities in this area. Health  
24 care and living in such a pristine area as Jackson  
25 County is need to be addressed. I hope we would not

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1 make the same mistake that some countries -- I mean  
2 some communities have made in the past of trading our  
3 safety of ourself and our posterity for a few bucks  
4 for right now.

5 I heard someone say it so eloquently  
6 awhile ago. Yes, there are few people who will  
7 benefit from these short-termly from the Bellefonte  
8 Nuclear Plant. But for the most part, they will  
9 leave.

10 Like I said, in the 30 years I have  
11 observed the building of Bellefonte, there has been  
12 very few people of my friends that I know personally  
13 that has made any significant progress above their  
14 poverty level. They and their children are still in  
15 the same positions of poverty that they were when we  
16 was growing up. They're still on some type of  
17 government assistance. They're not sustaining  
18 themselves. This is what we have been told that this  
19 would do for us would make us self-sufficient.

20 But I beg to differ. I believe that Bellefonte  
21 will add to our problem, the tragedies, such as  
22 sickness of us, sickness of our children. And I  
23 particularly enjoyed the story that the gentleman did  
24 in reference to 2060. Because as I said, TVA has  
25 not proven itself to be a good steward. They have

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1 taken advantage of our desperate need because we are  
2 poor. And because we are needy in this area, they  
3 have victimized us.

4 Please stand up to them and these  
5 business people who only want to make profit and care  
6 little, if anything, about our welfare.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you, Ralph.

9 And Jon Plumlee. Jon?

10 MR. PLUMLEE: Hi, my name is Jon Plumlee.

11 And I come from Tennessee. I live in Knoxville.

12 And I work with  
13 campuses all across the state of Tennessee. And I  
14 wanted to fill you in on a little bit of what's going  
15 on out there.

16 Campuses all across the state, students  
17 of those campuses, are starting to vote to increase  
18 their tuition to support green power projects and  
19 energy efficiency projects and to assure that a  
20 portion of their electricity does not come from  
21 nuclear and coal power.

22 Over 150,000 students have voted in  
23 support of these initiatives which raise over \$2  
24 million annually to ensure that their electricity  
25 does not come from coal and nuclear power. Those

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1 campuses include Sewanee and UT Chattanooga which are  
2 in the 50-mile radius of this proposed Bellefonte  
3 facility.

4 I hope that this trend continues and  
5 starts to trickle down to some of the Alabama  
6 universities as well.

7 This past semester, I took a course at  
8 Cleveland State Community College, where I'm getting  
9 certified to install solar panels. This is a great  
10 course. I ran the numbers. And I found that with  
11 the costs that have already been spent at Bellefonte,  
12 the proposed cost for the reactors and the cost of  
13 the uranium fuel, you could install 2,200 megawatts  
14 of solar for the same cost or a lot less.

15 So I think this is definitely a  
16 financially viable option to install solar instead of  
17 nuclear. And it will bring jobs and economic  
18 prosperity to the community as well.

19 I find it unfortunate that TVA has not  
20 looked at other alternatives to the Bellefonte  
21 proposal in their Application Process. I see that  
22 there are four alternatives that are possible,  
23 including wind power, solar power, bio-mass, and  
24 energy efficiency.

25 Now I'll talk a little bit about the

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1 environmental concerns I have with Bellefonte. The  
2 first being the thermal discharge from the nuclear  
3 facilities on the Tennessee River. It's basic  
4 knowledge that the aquatic plant and animal life that  
5 is in the river is used to living in a certain degree  
6 and a certain temperature. And any increase in this  
7 temperature will harm that life in the river system.

8 It's come to my attention that under  
9 normal operating conditions, radioactivity is  
10 released from these nuclear facilities. That's put  
11 into the water. That's put into the air. That's  
12 dangerous. It causes cancer. It's no good.

13 I think the most important concern is  
14 that the Bellefonte facility is within an area that  
15 is in extreme drought. With the facilities releasing  
16 or using over 70 million gallons of water a day with  
17 over 40 million gallons going into the atmosphere,  
18 this cannot be good for the people within the area or  
19 the environment. And this fact alone should be  
20 enough to stop the feasibility of this project.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much, Jon.

23 And these are our last four speakers for  
24 the afternoon. We're going to go to Jack Bailey,  
25 Ragini Kapadia, Tony Smith, and Roger Graham.

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1 This is Jack Bailey.

2 MR. BAILEY: As I mentioned earlier, I'm  
3 Jack Bailey. I'm the Vice President of Nuclear  
4 Generation Development for TVA. Certainly I  
5 appreciate Bellefonte community people that took the  
6 time to come out here today and express their  
7 opinions and also the opinions of others that came  
8 out to talk to us today.

9 We always learn something that we need to  
10 pay closer attention to. I'm not going to try to do  
11 a point counter point on things. I don't think  
12 that's the purpose. I do have three things, though,  
13 that I want to make sure the community does  
14 understand still in terms of where we are in this  
15 process.

16 First of all, the demand of energy in the  
17 Valley is growing. It has been growing ever since  
18 TVA was created. And it's continuing to grow. There  
19 seems to be some doubt about whether that was  
20 happening or not. I came here 10 years ago. And at  
21 the time we had a peak load of 26,000 to 27,000  
22 megawatts. Those folks that pay attention to that  
23 know that today we have a peak load of 32,000 to  
24 33,000 megawatts. That's a lot of megawatt growth in  
25 just 10 years.

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1           The purpose of TVA, of course, is to  
2 continue to meet that obligation for demand in the  
3 Valley. So whether it's growing at one percent or  
4 two percent or three percent, whatever it turns out  
5 to be, we have to do our best to forecast that and  
6 make sure that there's sufficient power in this  
7 Valley when we get there.

8           Now recently our strategic plan has added  
9 new emphasis on trying to come up with programs that  
10 would ensure that we use that power efficiently as we  
11 go forward: trying to conserve power, trying to use  
12 peak demand shaving, trying to do other things to  
13 help us manage the growth of that power.

14           But our forecast and those forecasts of  
15 other people that do forecasts besides TVA all say  
16 we're going to need more power in the future. So the  
17 real question is where do we get that power from  
18 that's reliable and low-cost and can meet the needs  
19 of the Valley.

20           Let me make a couple of points here. We  
21 have looked at -- in terms of nuclear, we include the  
22 environmental impacts of nuclear as the forefront of  
23 our thinking. We don't just go out there and say we  
24 want to build a nuclear power plant. And in fact, a  
25 lot of the environmental benefits of nuclear have

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1 grown in recent years in terms of the need to offset  
2 the emissions we get from other generation sources.

3 It doesn't mean that's the only thing  
4 we're looking at though. TVA continues to look at  
5 wind and solar, gas, as you know. But in terms of a  
6 readiness today, to be able to meet the needs of  
7 power that we have over the next 10, 15, 20 years, we  
8 don't have a lot of those things that are mature  
9 enough, as was implied by some of the comments we've  
10 got, or cheap enough or mature enough right now to  
11 meet the needs without drastically raising rates of  
12 the people in the Valley.

13 It doesn't mean that we're not going to  
14 keep looking at it in trying ways to factor it in.  
15 For example, the interesting thing I wasn't always in  
16 charge of nuclear. I built or I helped build the  
17 wind project that TVA has up near Knoxville right  
18 now. And so we were doing that a few years ago when  
19 there wasn't a lot of that going on in the Valley or  
20 in the Southeast.

21 It turns out though, you can go to one of  
22 those meetings as we were trying to build wind, and  
23 we would have just as many people coming and  
24 complaining about having to build wind as a source of  
25 generation as we would have people coming to talk

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1 about nuclear power.

2           They're different people. But everybody  
3 has their own interests and their own needs on what  
4 they think is important. So the value of this  
5 process though is to hear those comments from  
6 everybody. And there are those that would talk  
7 against wind or maybe even talk against solar as much  
8 as those that would talk against nuclear and those  
9 that would talk in favor of all those sources.

10           If I go next to talking about I guess  
11 where we are with NuStart. A lot of people get  
12 confused. This is an application that we have  
13 jointly submitted with a consortium called NuStart,  
14 which TVA helped form. The value of NuStart is that  
15 we get to share resources with others in the industry  
16 as we do this license application for the Bellefonte  
17 site.

18           So we have people working for 10 other  
19 utilities that help us review and identify problems  
20 with that application too. So it's not just TVA on  
21 its own trying to do this.

22           The other thing that's important to  
23 recognize is as we go forward and look at new plants,  
24 these plants are standardized. So an AP 1000 plant  
25 that's built at Bellefonte is the same as Southern

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1 Company might be looking for at Vogtle or the same as  
2 Progress might be looking for at the North Carolina  
3 area or Florida.

4 So you've got all those communities  
5 looking at whether they think this is a good idea for  
6 their communities also. The net effect of all that  
7 is, with problems that are identified anywhere in  
8 that process, we get the opportunity to address them.

9 And we have to address them because the NRC hears  
10 those issues also. And they have to make sure that  
11 they're addressed as part of all those applications.

12 So that's a value that's not TVA and  
13 something that's not getting any review here locally  
14 in your community. It's a matter of fact that  
15 everybody in other parts of the country are looking  
16 at this and are having an opportunity to provide  
17 input into what the overall process is like.

18 Let me see. I would say on the water.  
19 We've heard a lot about it. We have looked at how  
20 much water is withdrawn for these units. Even though  
21 it is a lot in gallons per minute, it's equivalent to  
22 about point two percent of the water that flows past  
23 the plant. That's not a large amount of water in  
24 terms of the Tennessee River and what flows by there.

25 Doesn't mean that we're not doing

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1 everything we can to look for ways to reduce that  
2 even further. And I think as we go forward and build  
3 plants, this plant or other plants, we'll continue to  
4 look for ways to minimize the use of water if we can.

5 The other thing we talked -- I've heard a  
6 lot about drought. Well, these plants are being  
7 designed for 40 to 60 years. There will be droughts  
8 and there will be non-droughts. And there'll be  
9 droughts again in that process. And the NRC as part  
10 of their process is looking at bounding conditions  
11 for a lot of the things that they have to evaluate.  
12 And we're looking at that also in ours.

13 So we don't look at what the factors are  
14 at any one point in time. We try to look at what  
15 worse case would be over a long period of time in  
16 many of these evaluations.

17 All right, again thank those for coming.

18 I've been coming down to the community for a long  
19 time interacting on Bellefonte. I think we're making  
20 good progress there. But there's still a long way to  
21 go.

22 TVA has not made a decision yet to build  
23 a plant there. Last point I want to make. We  
24 certainly are laying the groundwork to be able to  
25 make that decision if it is the right decision first

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1 in the future. And getting a Combined License is the  
2 first step and the most important step. By doing  
3 that, we're allowed -- we allow ourselves to have the  
4 option to build a plant without having to go an  
5 additional four years through a process to do it.

6 But until we get ready to make that  
7 decision and look at the results of what's happening  
8 in this license process as well as the info we get  
9 from the community, we won't make that decision. So  
10 we're still a ways away from that.

11 Thank you very much.

12 MR. CAMERON: Thank you. Thank you,  
13 Jack.

14 Ragini?

15 MS. KAPADIA: Hi, I'm Ragini Kapadia.  
16 I'm with the Energy Action Coalition. We're a  
17 coalition of organizations in over 600 campuses  
18 across the country and Canada. And we are working on  
19 campuses starting investment in clean energy. Shift  
20 away from coal and nuclear and other dirty forms of  
21 energy. Both our money and our support and just on  
22 April 1st we had about 100 actions internationally to  
23 stop energy from coal and nuclear.

24 I want to talk a little bit about myself.

25 I grew up in Netters, Pennsylvania. And from my

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1 high school, I could see the cooling towers for Three  
2 Mile Island. And in the area surrounding Three Mile  
3 Island, it has some of the highest rates of radon in  
4 the country. And also interestingly there's an  
5 increase of lung cancer in that area.

6 And this is where I'm from. They  
7 evacuated the schools I went to in 1979 out of fear  
8 and panic of a meltdown. My sixth grade science  
9 teacher was on the cover of Time magazine with a  
10 school bus load of students because they were forced  
11 to leave due to the nuclear accident. And it was an  
12 accident. And it was the most serious nuclear  
13 accident we've had in this country.

14 So we can all understand the need for  
15 clean and affordable energy. But there's nothing  
16 clean and there's nothing affordable about nuclear  
17 energy. And though it may not be releasing emissions  
18 in the air, it's poisoning the communities that we're  
19 in. It's breaking down the building blocks of our  
20 body. And there's absolutely nothing clean about  
21 that.

22 And we've already spent over four billion  
23 dollars for the TVA Bellefonte project. And we  
24 haven't even gotten a single kilowatt of energy. And  
25 from what I've read, each additional reactor would

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1 cost about at least six billion dollars more.

2 And so people have been talking a lot about  
3 local economic gains. There are jobs to be created.

4 And some of them have been disputed, and I must say  
5 really validly.

6 But I think we haven't really talked a  
7 lot about what opportunities are at hand if we shift  
8 to clean energy sources and energy efficiency. The  
9 cleanest and cheapest energy we have is the energy we  
10 don't use. And by investing in energy efficiency, we  
11 can offset a lot of our demand, up to about 30  
12 percent nationally. And we wouldn't have to build a  
13 new generation plant for this area.

14 But what about the jobs? Well, we  
15 desperately need these good, family sustaining  
16 manufacturing jobs. And according to report by the  
17 Apollo Alliance, for every million dollars you invest  
18 in energy efficiency projects, you get 21.5 jobs out  
19 of every million dollars. So imagine what we could  
20 have done with the four billion dollars we invested  
21 in this plant already and how many jobs could have  
22 already been created for this area.

23 And so I think it's really clear.  
24 There's a better way and we deserve more. And we  
25 shouldn't accept nuclear. And we shouldn't accept

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1 coal. And we shouldn't accept natural gas.

2 And that's it. Thank you.

3 MR. CAMERON: Thank you. Thank you very  
4 much.

5 Tony, Tony Smith?

6 And how about Roger? Roger Graham?

7 Okay, I just want to thank you from a  
8 Facilitator's point of view for comments on a broad  
9 range of issues very specific and for following the  
10 ground rules.

11 And I'm going to turn it over to our  
12 Senior Manager, Jim Lyons, to close this meeting on.

13 MR. LYONS: Thank you, Chip. I  
14 appreciate everyone who came today and came to talk.

15 Those of you that stayed and listened the whole  
16 time, I really appreciate that. We're here; we're  
17 listening. And we want to hear all these comments  
18 also.

19 Two reminders. First of all, if you want  
20 to be involved in the hearing process, the deadline  
21 is April 8th. So unless the Commission acts on the  
22 motion that BREDL has put in before that time, that  
23 is the deadline to enter into the hearing process.

24 The other one, from our standpoint, from  
25 the comments that we want to get for the Scoping

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1 process so that we can do a thorough job of  
2 evaluating the environmental impacts, April 25th is  
3 the deadline for providing your comments to us.

4 So with that, again thank you very much  
5 for coming. Drive safely. And I hope to see you  
6 again when we're back here for the Draft  
7 Environmental Impact Statement.

8 (Whereupon this meeting was concluded at  
9 4:20 p.m.)

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