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**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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Public Scoping Meeting: Evening Session

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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

7:00 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

(7:00 p.m.)

1  
2  
3 MR. CAMERON: If we could have everybody  
4 take their seat, we will get started with tonight's  
5 meeting. Well, good evening, everyone. My name is  
6 Chip Cameron. I work for the Executive Director for  
7 Operations at the United States Nuclear Regulatory  
8 Commission, which we're going to refer to as the NRC  
9 tonight. And I just want to welcome all of you to the  
10 meeting tonight.

11 And tonight we're going to talk about the  
12 NRC's Environmental Review process that's part of the  
13 NRC evaluation of applications that we receive to  
14 build and operate new reactors. And we have an  
15 application to do that for two new reactors at the  
16 Bellefonte site. And the application is from the  
17 Tennessee Valley Authority, TVA.

18 And it's my pleasure to serve as your  
19 facilitator for tonight's meeting. In that role, I'll  
20 try to make sure that all of you have a productive  
21 meeting tonight. I just wanted to talk about a couple  
22 of meeting process points so that you know what to  
23 expect tonight before we get into the substance of  
24 tonight's discussions.

25 And the first thing I'd like to talk about

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1 is meeting format and then something I wanted to tell  
2 you about the format for the meeting and just some  
3 brief ground rules to help us all have a productive  
4 meeting.

5 In terms of the format for the meeting,  
6 we're going to start off with some brief NRC  
7 presentations and that's to give you some background  
8 on the NRC evaluation process and most importantly on  
9 how you can participate in the NRC process. And then  
10 we'll go out to you for some things you might have  
11 about the NRC presentations.

12 The focus of this meeting is on the  
13 Environmental Review that the NRC conducts and we're  
14 going to spend most of our time on that. And this is  
15 called a Scoping Meeting. And that's a term that's  
16 used with the preparation of Environmental Impact  
17 Statements under the National Environmental Policy  
18 Act.

19 Basically we're going to move into the  
20 second part of the meeting after the background  
21 presentations and your questions. And that second  
22 part is to listen to all of you, to any of you who  
23 want to give us advice, recommendations on what the  
24 scope of the NRC environmental evaluation should be,  
25 what issues should we look at, what alternatives

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1 should we examine.

2           And the staff from the NRC is going to  
3 tell you that we're also taking written comments on  
4 those issues and they'll tell you the deadline for  
5 submitting that. But we wanted to be here with you  
6 personally tonight to meet you, to talk to you. And  
7 be assured that any comments you give us tonight will  
8 have the same weight as written comments that we  
9 receive.

10           And there are yellow cards out there if  
11 you want to speak, just fill out a yellow card and  
12 we'll put you on the list.

13           Now in terms of ground rules, when we get  
14 to -- I would ask you to hold any questions you have  
15 until the NRC speakers are done. Then we'll go out to  
16 you for questions. If you have a question, just wave  
17 me down and I'll bring you this microphone. And if  
18 you could just introduce yourself to us, we'll try to  
19 do our best to answer your question. And please  
20 during the question part, just focus on a question,  
21 rather than getting into a comment on the issues.  
22 Save that for the comment part of the meeting.

23           I would just ask you that only one person  
24 speak at a time so that we can give our full attention  
25 to whomever has the floor. And also so that our

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1 stenographer, sometimes they're called Court  
2 Reporters, but our stenographer, Stephen Anderson,  
3 here, he's taking a transcript and that will be  
4 available to anyone who wants to look at it. It's a  
5 public document. But we want to make sure that we get  
6 a clean transcript and that's why we only want one  
7 person speaking at a time.

8           When we get to the comment part of the  
9 meeting, we'd just ask you to try to be as brief as  
10 possible. I'm going to set a five-minute guideline  
11 for you so that we can make sure that everybody who  
12 wants to talk tonight can have that opportunity. And  
13 that will give you enough time to summarize your  
14 thoughts for us and for us to start thinking about the  
15 issues that you put before us. If you want to amplify  
16 on your comments tonight, please do so in the written  
17 comments that we're accepting.

18           And I guess a final point, sometimes  
19 especially in the South it's not necessary to say, but  
20 just please extend courtesy to everyone. You may hear  
21 opinions that you don't agree with, that differ from  
22 your opinions on these issues. But please extend  
23 courtesy and respect the right of the people who are  
24 giving those opinions.

25           Let me just introduce the NRC staff that

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1 are going to talk to you. First of all, we're going  
2 to go to Jim Lyons, and Jim is the Division Director  
3 Senior Manager. He's the Director of the Division of  
4 Site and Environmental -- and what's the rest of it?

5 MR. LYONS: Review.

6 MR. CAMERON: Review, okay. I'd like to  
7 test him on that. But Division of Site and  
8 Environmental Review. And it's in the NRC'S Office of  
9 New Reactors. And Jim is going to tell you a little  
10 bit about the NRC.

11 And then we're going to go to the  
12 substance of the presentation and we're going to hear  
13 from Mallecia Hood. And Mallecia is the Project  
14 Manager for the Environmental Review on the Bellefonte  
15 license application. And she is in Jim's division.

16 And I think Jim is going to introduce some  
17 other key NRC staff who are here tonight.

18 And I just would thank you, all of you,  
19 for being here tonight to help the NRC with this  
20 decision of the application from TVA. And I'm going  
21 to turn it over to Jim Lyons to start us off.

22 MR. LYONS: Thank you, Chip. This  
23 afternoon it was down a little lower and I was not  
24 speaking quite loud enough.

25 Thank you, Chip. I think your comments

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1 will help us make this meeting as successful as we can  
2 make it. Hopefully we've already had some valuable  
3 discussions with you out in the entrance area there  
4 during our Open House. And I hope that's helped you  
5 understand exactly why we're here and what sort of  
6 information we're trying to gather. But I'd like to  
7 also talk about that just a little while.

8 Also let me thank you all for coming, for  
9 taking the time out of your busy days, your evenings  
10 to come meet with us and share with us your comments.

11 As Chip said, my name is Jim Lyons. And  
12 my staff is responsible for managing the Environmental  
13 Review that has to be conducted before the NRC can  
14 make a decision on the application for new reactors to  
15 be built at the Bellefonte site.

16 We work closely with our Safety  
17 counterparts and in the Division of New Reactor  
18 Licensing, who manage the Safety Review and the  
19 overall schedule for the NRC.

20 Some of you may have participated in our  
21 public information meeting that we held last  
22 September, where we tried to share with you  
23 information about this process that we're now really  
24 into. In that meeting we told you about the  
25 opportunities that you would have to observe and

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1 participate in the work that the NRC is doing once we  
2 received an application for a new reactor here at the  
3 Bellefonte site. We discussed the licensing process,  
4 including the Safety Reviews, our inspections that we  
5 run, the formal hearings that will be available to  
6 you, as well as the Environmental Review, which is  
7 really the main purpose for why we're here.

8 In September we came to share with you  
9 information about what a Combined Construction Permit  
10 and Operating License is. And we call that -- we  
11 typically just call that a Combined License, or a  
12 C.O.L., and you'll hear both those terms later on  
13 tonight. We also talked about what you could expect  
14 as far as our role as the NRC is in reviewing the  
15 application and how you can get involved in the  
16 process.

17 At the Outreach Meeting, we stressed that  
18 this is your home and your community and the proposed  
19 project. If the NRC and all the other permitting  
20 agencies that would have to approve it approve it,  
21 that that project will have more effect on you than on  
22 anybody else.

23 As you'll hear from my staff tonight, the  
24 NRC received an application for a Combined License in  
25 October 2007. And then after we made the

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1 determination that the application could be docketed,  
2 we initiated a review of the application in January.

3 We're still in the early stages of the review. So  
4 much of our activity right now is still in gathering  
5 information that we need in order to do our review.

6 You will hear more about the Safety Review  
7 in the hearing process when Mallecia comes up. But I  
8 want to lead off this meeting by putting tonight's  
9 meeting into context for you.

10 So if we can go to the next slide? The  
11 purpose of this meeting is to give you the opportunity  
12 to share with us your comments on what you think we  
13 should consider as we do our Environmental Review.  
14 And the product of our Environmental Review will be an  
15 Environmental Impact Statement that we would issue.  
16 And that needs to be done before a decision can be  
17 made on the Bellefonte C.O.L. licensing decision.

18 You will hear that we already have a well-  
19 structured review process. And our review team is  
20 staffed by nationally and internationally known  
21 experts in all fields of environmental disciplines.  
22 Nevertheless, we don't live in your community. We  
23 want to have a better appreciation for the  
24 environmental values and the insights that you have.  
25 And we really want to hear about the environmental

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1 issues that are important to you.

2 Next slide. This meeting is with and for  
3 you. Other meetings that we may have in this area,  
4 especially in the safety arena, you'll be able to  
5 observe. But at this meeting it's your time to  
6 participate and to be active in the review.

7 That being said, this is not going to be  
8 the last opportunity you're going to have to meet with  
9 us and to interact with us. As we conduct our review  
10 and develop our Environmental Impact Statement, we'll  
11 be meeting with a number of agencies locally and at  
12 the state, tribal, and federal level to obtain  
13 information about the region and the potential effect  
14 of the project.

15 You will hear that later on in our review  
16 we will be coming back to your community and to  
17 explain the analyses that we've done and the  
18 preliminary conclusions that we have come to as part  
19 of our review. Then we'll ask you for your comments  
20 on what we'll provide you with at that meeting which  
21 is our Draft Environmental Impact Statement. It'd be  
22 draft in the sense that, until you have the  
23 opportunity to comment on it, we can't finalize it.  
24 So we'll be back here to listen to your comments, take  
25 your comments and address those in our Final

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1 Environmental Impact Statement.

2 So with that is kind of setting the stage  
3 for this meeting. Let me again thank you for allowing  
4 us to come into your community and for you taking this  
5 effort to meet with us and sharing your views on the  
6 potential environmental issues of this project.

7 We have a long way to go before the NRC  
8 completes its review and makes any decision on the  
9 proposed C.O.L. application.

10 Before we go any further, let me introduce  
11 Joe Sebrosky. Joe's the NRC's Lead Safety Project  
12 Manager for Bellefonte, and he's here to help support  
13 us. Also here in the front row is William (Butch)  
14 Burton. He's the Branch Chief that Mallecia works for  
15 in my division, and he's also here to help support.

16 So with those introductions, let me turn  
17 the meeting over to Mallecia as our next speaker. And  
18 again let me thank you for coming out and taking this  
19 time and taking the effort to share your information  
20 with us.

21 Mallecia.

22 MS. HOOD: Thank you, Jim. The Combined  
23 License is the combined construction permit and  
24 operating license with conditions issued by the NRC.  
25 It is an NRC decision that authorized an Applicant to

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1 construct and operate a nuclear power plant at a  
2 specific site, in this case Bellefonte, and to  
3 construct and operate that plant in accordance with  
4 the laws and regulations.

5 While there are a number of relevant laws  
6 and regulations, the Atomic Energy Act is the primary  
7 law under Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations  
8 is the key regulation that's applicable, as well as  
9 the National Environmental Policy Act.

10 The Environmental Policy Act helps us to  
11 review that the C.O.L. includes compliance with  
12 statutes like the National Historic Preservation Act,  
13 Endangered Species Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination  
14 Act, and other environmental laws and regulations.

15 TVA submitted the Combined License  
16 application on October 30th, 2007 for two AP 1000  
17 reactors to be built at the Bellefonte site. TVA  
18 proposes that these two new reactors, Units 3 and 4,  
19 be built adjacent to the existing Units 1 and 2, which  
20 are non-operational.

21 NRC regulations allow C.O.L. applications  
22 to reference what are called certified designs. These  
23 designs the NRC has reviewed and approved through a  
24 rule making. The AP 1000 reactor design was  
25 previously certified by the NRC through a rule making.

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1 The NRC is currently reviewing a proposal to certify  
2 a modified version of the AP 1000 design which again  
3 would be done through a rule making.

4 TVA, like some applicants, is interested  
5 in using this revised AP 1000 design and a C.O.L.  
6 application references that revised design in the  
7 event it gets certified. As a result, the NRC's  
8 schedule for making a final determination on that  
9 design will impact the schedule for reviewing the  
10 C.O.L.

11 So as this slide shows, there are three  
12 components to the staff's review. For the Bellefonte  
13 C.O.L., the staff is doing its site specific Safety  
14 Review of the design as it would be located at  
15 Bellefonte, as well as an analysis of the  
16 environmental impact of using that design at the site.

17 Meanwhile, the staff has reviewed the  
18 modified AP 1000 design to determine if it is  
19 appropriate for certification by rule making. The  
20 rule making process includes separate opportunities  
21 for the public notice and comment. In short, generic  
22 issues that are addressed by the design certification  
23 that are not unique to site in that design at  
24 Bellefonte are reviewed separately.

25 The NRC received a C.O.L. application, the

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1 Safety Review and Environmental Review are conducted  
2 in parallel. The Safety Review follows the orange  
3 path, while the Environmental Review follows the green  
4 path. The Safety Review complies with regulations to  
5 ensure the public health and safety. Major  
6 considerations of the Safety Review are the design of  
7 the facility and site's suitability.

8 I will discuss the hearing process and the  
9 Environmental Review process in more details in the  
10 upcoming slide.

11 This slide outlines some of the areas of  
12 the Safety Review. These areas include the design of  
13 the facility. Bellefonte plans to use the AP 1000  
14 reactor design. Site suitability. This describes how  
15 environmental factors affect the plant design, quality  
16 assurance, adequate physical security. We conduct  
17 this review in consultation with Homeland Security.  
18 Emergency Preparedness. We conduct this review in  
19 consultation with FEMA.

20 Operator training to ensure that the  
21 operators for the potential new units are trained in  
22 operating the units in a safe manner. Joe Sebrosky is  
23 the Lead Safety Project Manager. And he's also here  
24 to answer any Safety Review questions.

25 The primary purpose of this meeting is to

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1 go over the Environmental Review Process. The NRC's  
2 Environmental Review is guided by the National  
3 Environmental Policy Act. The National Environmental  
4 Policy Act requires federal agencies to use a  
5 systematic approach to consider the environmental  
6 impacts during the decision making proceedings. NEPA  
7 is a disclosure tool which involves the public. And  
8 as such, we will be gathering information and  
9 evaluating that information to determine what the  
10 environmental impact of constructing and operating  
11 Bellefonte Units 3 and 4 will be.

12 We will then document that information and  
13 invite the public participation to provide us your  
14 comments. In accordance with NEPA, an Environmental  
15 Impact Statement, which also referred to as the EIS,  
16 is required for any major federal action that has a  
17 potential to significantly affect the quality of the  
18 human environment.

19 And the Commission has decided to issue a  
20 Combined License is a major federal action.

21 As part of the NRC's Environmental Review,  
22 we plan to evaluate the environmental impact of  
23 constructing and operating of two new units at the  
24 Bellefonte site. We use a systematic decision making  
25 process through the Environmental Review. The

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1 Environmental Standard Review Plan NUREG-1555 provides  
2 guidance to the NRC staff on how to review the  
3 application and how to document our findings in our  
4 Environmental Impact Statement.

5           During the Environmental Review, we also  
6 provide opportunities for the public involvement  
7 during the scoping period and the comment period on  
8 the Draft EIS. We will clearly document our  
9 environmental findings in our Draft and Final EIS for  
10 Bellefonte project. And throughout this entire  
11 review, we will maintain an open and transparent  
12 review process.

13           This slide is a representation of the  
14 Environmental Review in more detail. TVA, the  
15 Applicant, submitted the Environmental Report to the  
16 Agency on October 30th, 2007. Once the application is  
17 submitted, the staff reviews it to ensure it meets our  
18 technical sufficiency guidance so we can make a  
19 decision whether to proceed in our review.

20           Once the decision has been made, NRC  
21 issues a Notice of Intent, which notifies the public  
22 of the Agency intentions to develop an Environmental  
23 Impact Statement and to conduct the Scoping process.  
24 The Notice of Intent for this action was issued in the  
25 Federal Register on February 21st, 2008. That Notice

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1 of Intent initiates a Scoping process during which we  
2 identify what the scope of the Environmental Review  
3 should be. This initiates the public comment period  
4 where you, the public, provide us with your written  
5 comments through April 25th.

6 This public meeting is also part of the  
7 Scoping process and we will also collect your comments  
8 here today because this meeting is being transcribed.

9 The NRC team has been at the site and in  
10 the site vicinity this week to begin its independent  
11 evaluation of the information provided by the  
12 Applicant in their Environmental Report to ensure that  
13 we understand the representations made by the  
14 Applicant and the technical basis for its position.

15 The NRC team is meeting with other  
16 organizations to develop independent sources of  
17 information to ensure that we have confidence in the  
18 accuracy and reliability of the information that will  
19 be used in the NRC's Environmental Impact Statement.

20 For some issues we may elect to do  
21 confirmatory analyses or calculations as part of our  
22 independent evaluation. For some issues the Agency  
23 may formally seek to obtain additional information,  
24 also referred to as RAIs, from the Applicant to ensure  
25 the record is complete. Reflecting on the information

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1 that we obtain as part of this audit and the comments  
2 that you share with us during the Scoping process, the  
3 NRC will then develop its Draft Environmental Impact  
4 Statement.

5           Once the staff has completed the Draft  
6 EIS, NRC will make it publicly available to allow the  
7 public to provide comments on the Draft EIS. The  
8 public will have 75 days to provide comments on the  
9 Draft EIS. In the spring 2009 time frame, NRC will  
10 have another public meeting to receive public comments  
11 on the Draft EIS and share the results of our review.

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

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

25           We don't live in this community. You know

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1 this environmental setting better than we do. And we  
2 want you to share with us any environmental concerns  
3 that should be considered before the Agency makes its  
4 determination. We are in the earliest stages of the  
5 review. And if you elect to share your insights  
6 related to environmental issues with us, we do believe  
7 that it will help to improve our efforts.

8 That is why we're here today to obtain  
9 insights from you, the public, about those issues that  
10 you think should be considered. If you want to  
11 reflect upon the discussion that we are presenting  
12 today, you will still have an opportunity to share  
13 your comments or provide additional comments to us  
14 through April 25th, 2008.

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

22 The staff gets information from a number  
23 of different sources. Obviously we get the starting  
24 point from the Applicant and from the Combined License  
25 Application received from the Applicant, TVA.

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

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

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

20 To prepare for the review, we have  
21 assembled a team of NRC staff with backgrounds in the  
22 scientific and technical disciplines that are required  
23 to do this review. In addition, we have contracted  
24 with the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, also  
25 known as PNNL, to assist us in this review.

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

11          You can submit your written comments on  
12          environmental reports submitted by the Applicant  
13          through April 25th, 2008. We do have copies of the  
14          Federal Register Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS  
15          and conduct Scoping on the table in the back of the  
16          room. The Notice describes how you, the public, can  
17          submit your Scoping comments.

18          Once the staff has completed Draft EIS,  
19          NRC will make it publicly available to allow the  
20          public to provide comments on the Draft EIS. The  
21          public will have 75 days to provide comments on the  
22          Draft EIS.

23          In the spring 2009 time frame, NRC will  
24          have another public meeting to share the results of  
25          our review and receive public comments on the Draft

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1 EIS. Once NRC evaluates your comments, the Agency  
2 expects to issue the Final Environmental Impact  
3 Statement in January 2010.

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

10 All oral comments received today will be  
11 transcribed and will be included in the Scoping  
12 Summary Report.

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

21 I would like to mention that our e-mail  
22 was rejecting outside e-mail until it was fixed on  
23 March 18th. I would also like to apologize for any  
24 inconvenience this may have caused. If you did  
25 receive a rejection e-mail, please resubmit your

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1 comments. Once again the e-mail address is  
2 bellefonte.coleis@nrc.gov, so we can review your  
3 comments.

4 Another opportunity you have for public  
5 involvement is in the hearing process. The public has  
6 60 days from February 8th, 2008 through April 8th,  
7 2008 to petition for leave to intervene in the hearing  
8 process. In order to file a Petition to Intervene,  
9 you must obtain a digital certificate approval in  
10 advance or a waiver for digital certificate  
11 requirement. Instructions for e-filing are on the NRC  
12 website and in the Hearing Notice. We do have copies  
13 of the Hearing Notice on display on our display table.

14 I would like to take this time to recap on  
15 some very important public involvement information.  
16 The Environmental Review Process and the public  
17 comment period on the Environmental Report will end on  
18 April 25th, 2008. You can participate in this Scoping  
19 Meeting and the meeting on the Draft EIS. The NRC web  
20 page for the Bellefonte project can help you stay  
21 informed on activities related to the project, such as  
22 access to the Draft and Final EIS that discusses all  
23 review results.

24 The opportunity for leave to intervene in  
25 the hearing process closes on April 8th, 2008. Please

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1 note, you must receive digital certificate approval  
2 before you can file a Petition to Intervene. The  
3 hearing covers both the safety and environmental  
4 issues. To obtain more information, you can visit the  
5 web page listed.

6 Here are the NRC's point of contact for  
7 the Bellefonte Combined License Application. In  
8 addition to myself, I have given you the name and  
9 number of Joe Sebrosky. Joe Sebrosky is our Lead  
10 Safety Project Manager. Joe has the overall  
11 responsibility of the project, as well as the Safety  
12 Review.

13 The application can be reviewed on the  
14 internet at our Electronic Reading Room at NRC's  
15 website which is nrc.gov. The Scottsboro Public  
16 Library has been kind enough to give us some shelf  
17 space for the Environmental Report and the Draft and  
18 Final EIS.

19 If you wish to be on our mailing list,  
20 make sure your name and address is provided to one of  
21 the NRC staff at the registration desk. This is one  
22 way of ensuring that you will be notified of upcoming  
23 meetings and ensuring that you will get a copy of the  
24 Draft and Final EIS.

25 I would like to take this time to thank

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1 you for coming out and sharing this moment and  
2 providing comments to us. And this concludes my  
3 presentation. Thank you.

4 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you very much,  
5 Mallecia.

6 Thank you, Jim.

7 We have some time for questions about the  
8 information that you just heard. Are there any  
9 questions on the process?

10 Yes. And please introduce yourself to us.

11 MS. HALL: I'm April Hall with the Alabama  
12 Rivers Alliance. Kind of a combined question.

13 MR. CAMERON: Sure, go ahead.

14 MS. HALL: Is it too late to get the  
15 digital certificate to file electronically? And can  
16 you all explain the differences in benefits between  
17 intervening and just commenting?

18 MR. CAMERON: Good question, April. Let's  
19 deal with the first one on the certificate. Are you  
20 going to do the --

21 MS. HOOD: I'm going to the first part of  
22 her question and then have someone else answer the  
23 second part of the question.

24 MR. CAMERSON: Okay. And take the first  
25 part.

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1 MS. HOOD: No, it's not too late for you  
2 to intervene. You have until midnight tonight to  
3 actually go home and file the process for you to  
4 intervene, to file to intervene. Now someone else  
5 will explain to you the process.

6 MR. CAMERON: Okay, we'll get a  
7 clarification for you.

8 MR. MOULDING: Hi, I'm Pat Moulding. I'm  
9 with the Office of the General Counsel with the NRC.  
10 Your question was about the digital certificate. If  
11 you look in the Hearing Notice, it suggests that you  
12 contact our Office of the Secretary at least five days  
13 in advance of the actual deadline for filing a  
14 Petition to Intervene because it can take a little  
15 while to set up the digital ID on your computer.

16 But you can call the Office of the  
17 Secretary just as soon as you can because we're kind  
18 of within that five-day period because Tuesday is the  
19 deadline for actually filing a petition. And the  
20 Office of the Secretary can explain to you the process  
21 for getting that digital certificate. Usually it can  
22 be done in less than a day, but we recommend that you  
23 contact them in advance just to make sure if there's  
24 any problem in getting that digital ID you have plenty  
25 of time to take care of that before the actual

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1 deadline for filing a petition.

2 MR. CAMERON: This question is related to  
3 the slide that Mallecia put up which talked about the  
4 various ways the public can participate. And one is -  
5 - just to reprise, this one was to participate in  
6 these public meetings and submitting written comments  
7 on the environmental issues. The second was the  
8 hearing -- thank you very much, Tomeka. The  
9 opportunity to intervene which deals with both safety  
10 and environmental issues.

11 And, Jim, could you just give everyone --

12 MR. SEBROSKY: Yeah, let me try to -- I've  
13 never thought this completely through, so I'll be kind  
14 of thinking as I go. But when you comment on the  
15 Environmental Report and environmental, you know, is  
16 part of the Scoping and comment on the Draft  
17 Environmental Impact Statement, that allows you to  
18 participate in a meaningful way as part of the  
19 Environmental Review.

20 In the Safety Review and in the  
21 Environmental Review, you can intervene with either  
22 arena. It's a formal process where you raise a  
23 contention specific issue that you want -- you don't  
24 feel has been addressed appropriately in the  
25 application. And so and that goes through an Atomic

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1 Safety Licensing Board hearing process.

2 First of all, the Board will determine if  
3 you have standing. That is if you have material --  
4 what's the right word? Material interest in the  
5 action and if your contention is acceptable to be  
6 admitted into the hearing process. And then if it is  
7 admitted into the hearing process, then it is  
8 adjudicated by a Board, a three-member Board of the  
9 Atomic Safety Licensing Panel that will then hear both  
10 sides of the dispute and make a decision.

11 And then that decision will be binding on  
12 -- well, that decision would then go forward to the  
13 Commission. And then if the Commission affirms that  
14 decision, then it's binding on the staff and the  
15 Applicant and all the parties of the hearing.

16 So comment period is -- comment process is  
17 more informal, if you would, in the sense that you can  
18 raise an issue. We will address that issue if it's  
19 within the scope of the Environmental Review and  
20 provide an answer in either our Draft Environmental  
21 Impact Statement if it's a Scoping issue. Or if it's  
22 a comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement,  
23 we'll address it in the Final Environmental Impact  
24 Statement.

25 MR. CAMERON: And I'm going to just ask

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1 Ann Hodgdon to just give a little bit more on what Jim  
2 called standing.

3 But, April, if you heard what Jim said, he  
4 used the terms informal and formal. And to put a  
5 little bit of a gloss on that, in the submission of  
6 comments on the Environmental Impact Statement, which  
7 he called informal, anybody can come in and submit a  
8 comment. All you need to do is put what your concerns  
9 are down in writing, send that in to the NRC. The NRC  
10 staff then evaluates how relevant and important that  
11 is to the Environmental Impact Statement. So that's  
12 informal.

13 Formal, the hearing process has  
14 requirements associated with it, such as standing, and  
15 you have to have a contention in. And we're going to  
16 have Ann Hodgdon from our Office of General Counsel  
17 talk more to that so that the hurdle -- there's  
18 requirements to get into the hearing process. I guess  
19 the benefit of being in the hearing process is that,  
20 if you're vindicated, then there will be a formal  
21 decision on that issue that the NRC and/or the  
22 licensee will have to comply with, depending on what  
23 it is.

24 Ann, can you just talk a little bit more  
25 about standing so that people understand what that

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1 means?

2 MS. HODGDON: Yes. Standing is what the  
3 Atomic Energy Act calls -- you have to show an  
4 interest in the application and the matter at hand  
5 that is protected by the Act. So that's spelled out,  
6 I believe, in the Notice of Hearing. And that's  
7 really all you need to know about that.

8 One of the ways that the Commission --  
9 interested persons would live within 50 miles of the  
10 plant. Those are just -- that's not in the Act, but  
11 according to decisions of the Commission in the past.

12 Having shown your interest, you must file  
13 a contention. Your petition has to file at least one  
14 contention that's admissible which shows -- in which  
15 you show that you have a genuine dispute with the  
16 Applicant on the material matter that's within the  
17 scope of the proceeding. So there's various ways to  
18 say that, but it just means that it has to relate to  
19 something that's within the scope of the application  
20 that is the proceeding and that -- well, that's about  
21 it. I don't want to get too legalistic. I think it's  
22 pretty well spelled out in the Notice of Hearing.

23 Do we have that back there?

24 MR. CAMERON: I think that there is  
25 something back here.

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1 I guess, April, I'm going to ask Ann and  
2 Pat perhaps to talk to you about that after the  
3 meeting in more detail if you need it. And I hope  
4 that we got across the sort of pros and cons of --  
5 and, of course, you can do both too. You don't need  
6 to choose between one or the other.

7 Is that -- so are we okay? All right.

8 MS. HODGDON: Yes. I just want one more  
9 point.

10 MR. CAMERON: Okay.

11 MS. HODGDON: And that is you've mentioned  
12 the word formal and informal a few times. Of course,  
13 the comment is informal, but the hearing, although  
14 it's more formal maybe than the comment, is what would  
15 be called informal in the --

16 MR. CAMERON: Now you're really, really --

17 MS. HODGDON: I'm just saying that we  
18 changed our regulations a couple of years ago so that  
19 they're less formal -- the hearings are less formal  
20 than they used to be. Is that okay?

21 MR. CAMERON: Yes, sure. These are what  
22 we call terms of art associated with the legal  
23 process.

24 MS. HODGDON: I didn't want to confuse  
25 anybody. But, yes, it is less formal than it was --

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1 MR. CAMERSON: Thank you for clarifying  
2 that.

3 MS. HODGDON: -- under the new rules. But  
4 more formal than comments.

5 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you very much.  
6 Thank you, Ann.

7 Other questions? Yes, Sara.

8 MS. BARCZAK: Thank you. Sara Barczak,  
9 Southern Alliance for Clean Energy. I could ask this  
10 as a question, but I'm just going to state it as a  
11 comment since it came up. We really appreciate the  
12 NRC having an Environmental Scoping Meeting. But  
13 given what just occurred, it's probably a good idea to  
14 have the Environmental Scoping Meeting not five days  
15 in advance of the deadline when you now need a digital  
16 ID that takes a five-day process. So it's just a  
17 suggestion for future.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Sara. That's a  
20 good point. When we were at the -- when we were here  
21 for the Public Information Meeting, we covered that.  
22 But still it's a good point. If we're back here  
23 again, we're covering it, we should do it a little bit  
24 more in advance. Thank you.

25 Yes, sir.

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1 MR. MCCLUNEY: I'm Ross McCluney. If  
2 someone happens to live just outside the 50 mile  
3 radius but they have what they believe is a very  
4 serious contention, can they still get standing even  
5 though they may be 55 or 60 miles out?

6 MR. CAMERON: Yeah, it's that 50 mile --  
7 in other words, Ann, is the 50 mile limit a guideline,  
8 or is it an absolute exclusion? That's an important  
9 point for people to understand.

10 MS. HODGDON: This is not written in the  
11 regulations. It's not a regulation. That's just a  
12 standard that boards use and seems reasonable in that  
13 there might be some possibility of being affected by  
14 something if the plant does if you're within 50 miles.  
15 But that's about 50. And the farther you are, then  
16 the less likely that the plant -- there's any  
17 possibility that of the plant's affecting you in any  
18 way.

19 That's good. And Patrick was going to add  
20 something.

21 MR. MOULDING: I don't disagree with what  
22 Ann said. In general we use the 50 mile proximity as  
23 a way of discussing standing. But through Commission  
24 cases, there's a lot of case law what standing means.  
25 And if you have other connections to the facility

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1 where your interest would be affected, I mean that's  
2 what Ann was talking about that standing is a  
3 discussion of your affected interest. It's not about  
4 your interests generally, but having an affected  
5 interest. And we've used the 50 mile distance as one  
6 way of judging that.

7 MR. CAMERON: And, Ross, basically don't  
8 be deterred if you're a few miles out if you think you  
9 have a good contention.

10 Anybody else before we go to public  
11 comments?

12 Yes, sir.

13 MR. JOHNSON: Ken Johnson from Scottsboro.  
14 I just have a question on your chart, Page 12, you  
15 talk about social services feeding into the  
16 Environmental Impact Statement. Could you explain why  
17 that is?

18 MR. CAMERON: Mallecia, do you want to  
19 start us off on that? And we can ask for  
20 amplification. This is the box over there that you  
21 have going into the EIS. Social services, I don't  
22 know if it has something to do with the socio-economic  
23 aspects. But go ahead.

24 MS. HOOD: Like I stated earlier, we do  
25 independent review of different agencies for the

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1 environmental justice for socio-economics. And we  
2 gather the information to make sure that no one is  
3 being affected by the proposed action. So that is why  
4 this is also mentioned. I could have someone else go  
5 further into detail if you like more detail?

6 MR. CAMERON: Anybody want to comment more  
7 on social services?

8 This is Barry Zalzman from the NRC staff.

9 MR. ZALCMAN: Thanks, Chip. Thanks,  
10 Mallecia.

11 The kinds of issues we consider in socio-  
12 economic space obviously include what selective  
13 communities could be impacted. And it could be low  
14 income communities, minority communities. Trying to  
15 understand what the character and nature of the  
16 community looks like around the facility is very  
17 important to us. Things like educational systems,  
18 transportation systems, all those make up the picture  
19 in socio-economic space and social services.

20 So we reach out through planning groups  
21 and those who have a clear understanding of the  
22 character of the community to better inform the  
23 Agency. We have issues like environmental justice  
24 that are very important to us as we consider impacts.

25

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1           So making sure that we get on-the-ground  
2 truthing of this information we actually reach out to  
3 some of socio-economic specialists who are actually  
4 out in the field meeting with these organizations to  
5 try and get that understanding.

6           MR. CAMERON: Great, thank you. And very  
7 good questions and very good comment about the time  
8 before the hearing.

9           Let's go to the public comment portion of  
10 the meeting. And the NRC staff is going to be  
11 listening to your comments and then we'll be taking  
12 those comments back to Headquarters and evaluating.  
13 So we won't be discussing them within the context of  
14 this meeting.

15           And we're going to go to Jim McCamy first.  
16 And Jim is from Congressman Bud Cramer's office and  
17 he's going to be the first person to address us.

18           MR. MCCAMY: Thank you. I am Jim McCamy.  
19 I'm District Director for Congressman Bud Cramer,  
20 Fifth Congressional District, here in North Alabama.  
21 And on behalf of the Congressman, he asked that I  
22 extend his appreciation first to NRC for proceeding  
23 with this process, to TVA for the application and  
24 pursuing the application, and as importantly to each  
25 of you that are here tonight for taking part in this

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1 process.

2 At the session earlier today I did enter a  
3 letter into the record from the Congressman that he  
4 asked me to read and he asked me to read it at both  
5 sessions. This particular letter is addressed to Mr.  
6 Dale Klein, the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory  
7 Commission.

8 "Dear Chairman Klein, I would like to  
9 welcome the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to the Fifth  
10 Congressional District of Alabama for its two Scoping  
11 Meetings. These meetings will allow the public to  
12 comment on the Environmental Impact Statement for  
13 Bellefonte Nuclear Plant.

14 "I am pleased that the NRC is taking the  
15 next step in reviewing the Tennessee Valley Authority  
16 and NuStart Energy Consortium's Combined Construction  
17 and Operating License application. I strongly support  
18 the application and it is my hope that the NRC will  
19 evaluate the EIS and complete the application process  
20 in a thorough and timely manner. "I believe  
21 that you will find that the citizens of Jackson County  
22 and Alabama continue to share strong support for  
23 nuclear energy and the future development of the  
24 Bellefonte facility. They understand the role that  
25 nuclear energy can play as a clean, safe, and reliable

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1 source of energy.

2 "Thank you for your time and consideration  
3 of NuStart and TVA's pursuit of a C.O.L. for a nuclear  
4 plant at Bellefonte. And I look forward to hearing of  
5 its success.

6 "Sincerely, Bud Cramer, Member of  
7 Congress."

8 Again that was entered into the record  
9 earlier today. Thank you.

10 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, thank you very  
11 much. And thank the Congressman again for us.

12 We're going to go to Keith Smith from the  
13 City of Scottsboro. Keith.

14 MR. SMITH: Thank you, sir. I am Keith  
15 Smith. I'm the President of the City Council for the  
16 City of Scottsboro. I have with me a letter signed by  
17 every member of the Scottsboro City Council. And I'd  
18 like to read that if I may.

19 "That we the members of the Scottsboro  
20 City Council would like to go on record as supporting  
21 the construction of Unit 3 and Unit 4 nuclear reactors  
22 at Bellefonte Nuclear Plant site in Jackson County,  
23 Alabama. The two main reasons for our support is the  
24 economic impact on our community and the ever  
25 increasing need for affordable energy.

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1 "When Bellefonte project first began years  
2 ago, the economy here was booming. The community as a  
3 whole supported this project during that time and we  
4 were growing by leaps and bounds. Even after the  
5 decision was made to close the project, many of the  
6 people who worked there chose to stay with us and let  
7 Scottsboro become their home.

8 "It is no secret that this area as well as  
9 the nation will have the need for additional energy  
10 resources in the near future. The construction of  
11 these two reactors will supply many of those needs,  
12 not only for us in this area but also for the country.

13  
14 "Our area has experienced a tremendous  
15 growth in recent years. And due to BRAC, the Base  
16 Realignment and Closure Procedure, that will be  
17 impacting our area for the next four years, we will  
18 continue to see that growth. This project will be an  
19 asset to our community and those endeavors."

20 This request is signed by and unanimously  
21 supported by every member of the Scottsboro City  
22 Council: myself as President of the City Council;  
23 Buddy Simmons, who is a Councilman; Matthew Hodges,  
24 who is a Councilman; Josephine Smith, who's a Council  
25 Lady; and Terry Thomas, who's a Councilman.

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1                   And I thank you, sir, for allowing me to  
2 speak.

3                   MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Keith. And thank  
4 the Council for submitting that information to us.

5                   We're going to go to Terry Couch, then  
6 Sheila Shepard. Then we're going to go to Louise  
7 Cornflow and then to Ann Harris. Those will be our  
8 next speakers.

9                   And this is Terry, Terry Couch.

10                  MR. COUCH: Good evening. My name is  
11 Terry Couch. I'm a member of the Jackson County  
12 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. And we as the  
13 Chamber of Commerce in Jackson County support the  
14 construction of the Bellefonte facility. I just want  
15 to talk a little bit about some of the facts and  
16 figures about nuclear power and different things. I  
17 did a little research today.

18                  As of 2007, in the United States there are  
19 104 reactors generating, licensed to operate,  
20 producing a total of 97,400 megawatts electricity,  
21 which this is only about 20 percent of the nation's  
22 total energy consumption. The United States is the  
23 world's largest supplier of commercial nuclear power.

24                  As of 2004, nuclear power provided 6.5  
25 percent of the world's energy and 15.7 percent of the

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1 world's electricity with the U.S. being the leader,  
2 France and Japan together accounting for 57 percent of  
3 nuclear generated electricity. As of 2007, the  
4 International Atomic Energy Agency reported that there  
5 are a total of 439 nuclear power reactors in the world  
6 operating in 31 countries.

7 Why did the U.S. opinion change about  
8 nuclear power? Well, we're all very familiar with  
9 Three Mile Island. This accident was the most  
10 significant accident in the history of America  
11 commercial nuclear power generating industry. The  
12 accident began on Wednesday, March 28th, 1979 and  
13 ultimately resulted in a partial core meltdown on Unit  
14 2 in the nuclear power plant.

15 The accident began when the plant's main  
16 feed water pumps in the secondary non-nuclear cooling  
17 system failed. Because water was no longer flowing to  
18 the secondary loop, the steam generators no longer  
19 removed heat from the reactor, thus causing it to melt  
20 down.

21 The scientific community has largely  
22 agreed on the effects of the Three Mile Island  
23 accident. The consensus is that no member of the  
24 public was injured by the accident. The average  
25 radiation dose to people living within 10 miles of the

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1 plant was 8 millirem and no more than 100 millirem to  
2 any single individual. Eight millirem is about equal  
3 to a chest X-ray and 100 millirem is about one third  
4 of the average background level of radiation received  
5 by U.S. residents in a year. Although 25,000 lived  
6 within five miles, eight kilometers, of the site at  
7 the time of the accident, no identifiable injuries due  
8 to radiation occurred.

9 Public opinion is now changing. The  
10 accident was followed by essentially 100 percent cease  
11 of nuclear construction in the United States. The  
12 impact of news stories about the accident was no doubt  
13 a factor. But other factors were the availability of  
14 cheap natural gas, which I'd like to talk a little bit  
15 more about; a transition away from manufacturing and  
16 toward importation of consumer products, which means  
17 imports, and I'd like to talk a little bit more about  
18 that; and federal policies that tolerated air  
19 pollution during the 1970s in the interest of keeping  
20 coal fire electricity cheap.

21 This accident also had a psychological  
22 effect on the nation. Before the accident 70 percent  
23 of the general public approved of nuclear power.  
24 After it, support of nuclear power across the country  
25 fell to below 50 percent, where it remained for

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1 decades.

2 Recently public support for nuclear power  
3 has been on the rise. And the George W. Bush  
4 administration has been particularly supportive of  
5 nuclear power, encouraging power companies to begin  
6 considering plans for the first new nuclear reactors  
7 in the United States in decades.

8 The results of a poll conducted in the  
9 United States February 2005 by Bisconte Research,  
10 Incorporated, according to the poll, 67 percent of  
11 Americans favor nuclear energy, while 26 oppose it.

12 Electricity is produced by fossil fuel,  
13 71.6 percent; hydro, 5.6 percent; nuclear, 20 percent;  
14 and others, 2.3. A fossil fuel power plant burns  
15 fossil fuels such as coal, natural gas, and oil to  
16 produce electricity.

17 As many of you know, coal is primarily  
18 carbon, along with assorted other elements, including  
19 sulphur. It is the largest single source of fuel for  
20 the generation of electricity worldwide, as well as  
21 the largest worldwide source of carbon dioxide  
22 emissions, slightly ahead of petroleum and about  
23 double that of natural gas.

24 In addition to that, the price of coal has  
25 gone up from around \$30 a ton in 2000 to around \$130 a

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1 ton in 2008. That's a 400 percent increase in the  
2 price over the last eight years.

3 As I mentioned earlier, in the '70s was  
4 cheap natural gas. The cost of natural gas in the  
5 1970s was under \$50 per 1,000 cubic meter. Natural  
6 gas today costs just under \$300 per 1,000 cubic meter.

7 There's over 600 percent increase in the cost of  
8 natural gas. In addition too, the United States  
9 imports over 100 billion cubic -- 120 billion cubic  
10 meters of natural gas annually.

11 So natural gas, coal, those fossil fuels  
12 are no longer inexpensive to use to produce cheap  
13 power. So enough about costs.

14 What about the environment? Global fossil  
15 carbon emissions. Since the early 1900s, the carbon  
16 emissions from fossil fuels has exponentially  
17 increased. And by no means I'm not against fossil  
18 fuel plants. I'm just stating the facts here.  
19 Petroleum just over 3 million metric tons of carbon  
20 per year. Coal just under 3 million metric tons of  
21 carbon per year. Natural gas at half that at about 15  
22 million metric tons of carbon per year. This totals  
23 over 8 million metric tons of carbon a year going into  
24 the environment. In addition, the combustion of  
25 fossil fuels contributes to acid rain, global warming,

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1 and air pollution.

2 The world's power demands are expected to  
3 rise 60 percent by 2030 with the worldwide total of  
4 active coal plants over 50,000 and rising, the  
5 International Energy Agency estimates that fossil  
6 fuels will still account for over 85 percent of energy  
7 marketed by 2030.

8 World organizations and international  
9 agencies like the IEA are concerned about the  
10 environmental impact of burning fossil fuels. Are  
11 you?

12 Why the need for nuclear power? The  
13 United States continues to grow. Again back to the  
14 Three Mile Island, which was in 1970, the 19th United  
15 States Census conducted by the Census Bureau  
16 determined that there was 203,302,031 registered  
17 residents in the population of the United States. The  
18 22nd Census, known as Census 2000, was conducted April  
19 1 of 2000. There was 281,421,906 residents. That's  
20 just under 40 percent increase in growth. With growth  
21 electricity is required.

22 Back to what I've talked about earlier  
23 about in the '70s it was -- we talked about cheap  
24 fossil fuels and importing goods. U.S.A imports  
25 nearly two million --

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1 MR. CAMERON: And, Terry, you've done a  
2 lot of homework obviously on this. And I just wanted  
3 to ask you if you could just sort of sum up.

4 MR. COUCH: I'll sum it up.

5 MR. CAMERON: All right, thank you very  
6 much.

7 MR. COUCH: Okay. U.S.A. imports two  
8 trillion worth of goods and services back in the '70s.  
9 We imported 200 billion. So that is pushing more  
10 jobs overseas.

11 I spoke to a gentleman in the back, and  
12 even with the building the nuclear plants, a lot of  
13 the components of nuclear plants are built overseas.  
14 We need to keep our jobs in the States. We have to  
15 support jobs on American soil from purchasing goods  
16 and services from other countries like China, Canada,  
17 Mexico, Japan, and Germany.

18 There's a lot of debate about nuclear  
19 power. There's a lot of debate about the radioactive  
20 waste and toxic waste. And I won't go into all that  
21 because that you could debate for days on that.

22 Like I said, when I was in college, I co-  
23 opped at the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, and I did get to  
24 work with NRC Commission. I got to work with many  
25 professionals there with TVA. And nuclear plants are

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1 not that complicated to operate. What's complicated  
2 about nuclear plants are the thousands and thousands  
3 of safety systems that are installed in those plants  
4 to protect the environment and protect the people in  
5 the community.

6 Again I'm in support of the Bellefonte  
7 Nuclear Plant. Thank you.

8 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much. Thank  
9 you, Terry.

10 Is there anything you want to submit for  
11 the record on that? Or we can put that in since you  
12 did a lot of work on it. Thank you.

13 And next we're going to go to Shelia  
14 Shepard. Is Shelia here?

15 And then we're going to go to Louise  
16 Cornflow and then Ann Harris.

17 MS. SHEPARD: My name is Shelia Shepard.  
18 I'm Vice President with the Jackson County Economic  
19 Development Authority. And I am here tonight  
20 representing the Jackson County EDA and the Industrial  
21 Development Board. These boards have unanimously  
22 passed resolutions encouraging the construction of the  
23 new power plant at Bellefonte and to encourage the NRC  
24 to grant the C.O.L. to TVA. There are several reasons  
25 that the boards have chosen to pass these resolutions

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1 and I'm going to go over just three or four of them  
2 very briefly.

3 One is that it will be the largest  
4 economic development project in Jackson County which  
5 would mean quality jobs for our people. There would  
6 be approximately 2,500 construction jobs and 800  
7 permanent jobs. Even though our unemployment rate is  
8 4.4 percent right now and we are doing well  
9 economically, there are approximately 7,000 who drive  
10 out of our county to the surrounding areas to work  
11 every day. These people would be glad to be able to  
12 find quality jobs where they could stay at home.

13 Secondly, we have a corps of worker across  
14 North Alabama and Tennessee who are very experienced  
15 in the construction field and in the actual operation  
16 of power plants. As a matter of fact, Jackson County  
17 is already within 75 to 125 miles of three operating  
18 plants as we speak.

19 Thirdly, North Alabama is one of the  
20 fastest growing areas in the state of Alabama. The  
21 land area only covers about 16 percent of the state,  
22 but this area has accounted for over 35 percent of the  
23 new jobs that have been created and investments in  
24 Alabama over the past several years. We need this  
25 base load of power generated by these two reactors to

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1 help sustain growth here. Low cost, reliable  
2 electricity is a huge factor in economic growth of our  
3 area.

4 And number four, our primary mission at  
5 the Economic Development Authority is to assist  
6 industries, both our existing industries and new  
7 industries that choose to locate in our area. We have  
8 a huge industrial base in our area. Even though  
9 nationwide manufacturing jobs have dropped off to  
10 eight or nine percent in several areas, here in North  
11 Alabama we are still at about 16 percent of our  
12 workforce is employed in manufacturing. So we must  
13 continue to provide a competitive, reliable source of  
14 electricity in order to retain these jobs and to stay  
15 competitive.

16 And then lastly, on a partially personal  
17 note, my husband is an Assistant Unit Operator at the  
18 Browns Ferry Plant in Athens working for TVA. This  
19 has -- since he's been gone to work there, it has  
20 enhanced our lifestyle, our quality of life very much.

21 He has a good paying job now. He is -- and we know  
22 based on his experience there that he has been highly  
23 trained and the safety standards that are involved.

24 So looking at all the economic issues I  
25 have raised, I would still not stand here and be in

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1 support of this if I did not feel it was safe. I know  
2 what vigorous training he went through. I know what  
3 the safety standards are there. And I can stand up  
4 here and say with confidence that I believe TVA and  
5 the NRC will provide a safe

6 environment for us to work in and for us to live in.

7 So I would like to submit a copy of my  
8 remarks. I also have a Resolution of Support from the  
9 Scottsboro Kiwanis Club. And I have a letter of  
10 support from the local businessmen and radiologists in  
11 our area.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much, Shelia.

14 And we're going to plug this overhead  
15 projector in for Louise Cornflow.

16 MS. CORNFLOW: My name is Louise Cornflow  
17 and I'm with the Bellefonte Efficiency and  
18 Sustainability Team, a chapter of the Blue Ridge  
19 Environmental Defense League. And just before I start  
20 reading my written comments, I just wanted to go over  
21 a couple of graphics. This is -- oh, dear. Here we  
22 are. This is the 50 mile perimeter. And this is from  
23 the TVA Environmental Report and so that shows the  
24 territory of everyone who is defined as having  
25 standing.

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1           This is what is called a wind rose and it  
2 shows the prevailing winds from the Bellefonte site.  
3 And you know that over time how the wind is blowing  
4 different ways. So if you put -- you really can't --  
5 but you get the sense -- well, I guess you can. There  
6 we go. Something -- where is Bellefonte? Right  
7 there. You can get a sense of if for the atmospheric  
8 releases the direction that the wind will be going.

9           And the other one I quickly wanted to show  
10 you is this drawing here, the Bellefonte site and  
11 downstream from that site is Scottsboro water intake.

12           This is a graph of how the construction  
13 crew will be coming in for this proposed site and  
14 it's divided by -- it's divided by job skills. And  
15 the top is the modular fabrication; the AP 1000 is a  
16 modular fabrication. So we're talking here about the  
17 Shaw group and the Toshiba group building this plant.

18           The indirect support would be the consultants and  
19 stuff, the contracting specialized consultants. The  
20 electrical engineers and specialized electrical people  
21 will come in and mechanical people will come in. And  
22 then at the bottom you have your civil and the folks  
23 that push the dirt around.

24           And this is over a period of a 72-month  
25 period which shows that the peak -- shows a peak over

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1 time. And so we're talking about folks coming into  
2 the community and then leaving.

3 And at a February Scottsboro Rotary Club  
4 Meeting, Gary Curtis, a Senior Project Manager for  
5 TVA's Nuclear Generation Development and Construction,  
6 said that one of the best parts of the five-year  
7 project was the 2,500 construction jobs and 800 full-  
8 time jobs that will come with the building of the two  
9 reactors.

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

11 "It's very exciting. To put it simply," he said.  
12 "Bellefonte just makes good economic sense. It's  
13 inexpensive for you."

14 And I'd just like to go over some of the  
15 effects, the costs for this boom town project on  
16 Jackson County and to help you decide if this is  
17 really inexpensive for you. So the proposed  
18 construction begins in 2013 with a peak phase of  
19 construction targeted for three years later. The  
20 estimated on-site construction workforce during the  
21 peak construction phase increases to 3,000. And then  
22 diminishes until completion of the construction phase.

23 The planned construction will increase  
24 traffic on local roads by 3,100 vehicles daily. TVA  
25 states County Road 33 and 113 and Bellefonte Road may

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1 need expansion. TVA does not offer to pay for these  
2 upgrades. This bill will be picked up by the  
3 taxpayers of Jackson County and the State of Alabama.

4 TVA expects at least half of the  
5 construction force, 1,500, will migrate into  
6 Scottsboro. So even though 3,000 people are going to  
7 be working here, TVA estimates that only 1,500 will  
8 actually be living in Jackson County. The other half  
9 will be living in some other county. Assuming they  
10 bring their families, TVA estimates that the county's  
11 population will increase by 6,000. They're saying  
12 basically that each family will have around four  
13 people in it. So 1,500 times four is 6,000. But  
14 remember this is a transient workforce that will  
15 migrate to the next construction site once finished  
16 here.

17 Be aware that TVA makes no promises about  
18 hiring local people for any position. In fact, in  
19 their Environmental Report they talk about the whole  
20 workforce as a migrant workforce. While the temporary  
21 population boom will increase new service jobs in the  
22 area, more retail, different services, it's critical  
23 to remember that the workers will leave when the work  
24 is done. And the economic boomlet will decline just  
25 like you experienced during the first round around

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1 Bellefonte.

2           Scottsboro and Jackson County will need to  
3 pay for an increase in police and fire protection to  
4 provide the same level of coverage you enjoy today.  
5 That will come out of your tax dollars. Certainly  
6 some individuals in the county will profit from the  
7 boom in temporary housing. Currently the county does  
8 not have enough housing for the peak construction  
9 phase. And after the construction phase, who will  
10 live in these vacant units? So we're talking about  
11 trailer parks.

12           TVA estimates that the 1,500 migrant  
13 workers will bring with them 1,080 school age  
14 children. That's the ones 1,500 times four; they'll  
15 have 1,080 school age children. How many portable  
16 classroom and teachers for them will the county have  
17 to buy for this temporary student influx?

18           TVA says in the long run the cost of  
19 providing education for additional students should be  
20 offset by the increase in local government revenues  
21 generated by the plant. So you're saying you're going  
22 to get a bonus for these in lieu of taxes type. But  
23 you're going to be spending it on providing the  
24 services for this boomlet for police, fire, schools,  
25 and roads. Thus the county will spend whatever extra

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1 tax money it gets to provide for the temporary  
2 services needed.

3 And then afterwards, you know who will be  
4 left holding the bag. You probably will have to  
5 borrow money especially for the portable buildings,  
6 school buildings, and so you'll have to pay for the  
7 debt for that.

8 MR. CAMERON: Louise, can I ask you to sum  
9 up?

10 MS. CORNFLOW: Yes. Finally after  
11 everyone is gone, Bellefonte will have 800 plant  
12 operators who may not all choose to live in the  
13 county. But should Bellefonte ever come online,  
14 Jackson County will now and forever pay the costs of  
15 constant vigilance over a radioactive contaminating  
16 and contaminated site. Five short years of an  
17 economic boomlet compared to a forever contaminated  
18 and contaminating site. How inexpensive is that?

19 Thank you.

20 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, thank you,  
21 Louise. And, Louise, not now, but perhaps after the  
22 meeting could we get the Court Reporter citation for  
23 those slides just so he can have it in the record and  
24 if people want to know where to find them they'll  
25 know?

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1 MS. CORNFLOW: Yes.

2 MR. CAMERON: Oh, beautiful. That's  
3 great. Thanks, thank you, Louise.

4 I think we're going to turn this off and  
5 then we're going to hear -- we're going to hear from  
6 Ann Harris and then we're going to go to James  
7 Sandlin, Sandra Morgan, and Zack Rad.

8 Ann Harris. Okay, good. Thank you, Ann.

9 MS. HARRIS: My name is Ann Harris. I  
10 live up in the state of Tennessee, up on the  
11 Cumberland Plateau. And I pay TVA rates every month  
12 for my light bill and some of my water bill. I'm  
13 looking at a document here from out front. It's got  
14 the picture of the eagle on it. Some of you may have  
15 picked it up; some may have not.

16 On the inside of that document there's a  
17 statement. It says, "Required Strict Site Access  
18 Controls For Personnel. The NRC has strengthened  
19 requirements and enhanced coordination."

20 NRC, I'm so sorry. The importance and the  
21 integrity of a security of program at a new plant is  
22 the process that should stand out in the EIS.

23 The security program at TVA has been run  
24 over and become road kill. Some things to be cleared  
25 up: nuclear access at all sites, lack of a formal to

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1 a comprehensive training program, improper clearances  
2 for behind security, using friends to challenge and  
3 breach security, chemical abuse and positions of  
4 authority --

5 MR. CAMERON: Ann, I just --

6 MS. HARRIS: I won't use any personal  
7 names.

8 MR. CAMERON: Okay, because we do take a  
9 broad range of comments at these meetings --

10 MS. HARRIS: I understand, but this is too  
11 important, Chip.

12 MR. CAMERON: -- witness.

13 No, I know that it's important and so keep  
14 going, but if this is going where I think it is --

15 MS. HARRIS: No, it won't.

16 MR. CAMERON: -- please, do not mention  
17 any personal names. There's another process for that.

18 MS. HARRIS: I understand that.

19 MR. CAMERON: Okay.

20 MS. HARRIS: Probably better than you.

21 MR. CAMERON: Probably. I would fully  
22 admit that.

23 MS. HARRIS: I want to know that this EIS  
24 will address the issue of Site Access Security. If  
25 not, the integrity of the EIS must be kept, and the

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1 only way is for the NRC and TVA both to be open and  
2 transparent with their efforts.

3 NRC, you want me to trust you. Now you'll  
4 have to work for that trust.

5 And until the NRC and TVA design and  
6 implement a secure access to reactor sites now  
7 operating, NRC, you should not go forward with this  
8 EIS. This EIS has to have an assessment and an  
9 analysis of a TVA Secure Program for people to access.

10 All of this information and what surrounds this was  
11 generated by 911.

12 Now the people that I have talked about  
13 here, I will not use their names and I won't use their  
14 positions. If you're familiar with TVA process and  
15 management style and management positions, you'll know  
16 exactly who these people are. I don't have to name  
17 them.

18 Jack Bailey knows who they are. He works  
19 for TVA. Everybody else here. Jim Chardos, you know  
20 who they are. We all know who they are, but the  
21 problem is nobody is doing anything about it.

22 And what has happened is that Region II  
23 and TVA both know that this is a major problem. And  
24 until it is addressed already, why should I trust TVA  
25 or the NRC to go forth with an EIS and tell me that

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1 they're going to implement a proper Environment Impact  
2 Statement that has a Security Program in it that will  
3 work and protect the people in my community and yours?

4 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you, Ann.

5 We're going to go to James Sandlin and I  
6 think its Sandra -- is there a Sandra Morgan here, or  
7 is it Sandra Kurtz again?

8 You signed up. Okay, great. Sandra  
9 Kurtz. So we're going to go to James Sandlin, Sandra  
10 Kurtz, and then we're going to hear from Mr. Jack  
11 Bailey about the TVA vision for this application.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. SANDLIN: Thank you. I'm Jimmy  
14 Sandlin and I'm the General Manager of Scottsboro  
15 Electric Power Board. We're one of the 158 power  
16 distributors in the TVA area.

17 Scottsboro is a medium-size distributor of TVA power.

18 We have approximately 8300 electric customers and we  
19 have system demand of 75 megawatts.

20 Over the past 15 years the price of  
21 wholesale power that we purchase from TVA has  
22 increased 50 percent from about four cents to six  
23 cents. Of course, we ultimately have to pass that on  
24 to our customers. These increases are certainly not  
25 atypical as most electric utilities have seen

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1 significant increases in their wholesale power.

2 Since the passage of the 1992 Energy  
3 Policy Act, the deregulation of energy was supposed to  
4 have fostered competition and brought more choice and  
5 lower prices for consumers. In fact, the 1992 Energy  
6 Policy Act will go down in history as a colossal  
7 economic failure for the American consumer.

8 In addition to the additional price  
9 increases we've seen for electricity, others have also  
10 mentioned the increase in cost of natural gas which  
11 has quadrupled in price. And we all are seeing  
12 increases in costs of petroleum products that our  
13 economy uses everyday.

14 Now I know we're not here to debate energy  
15 policy. But I think it is important to reference past  
16 failures of energy policies and look to the future to  
17 make sound economical, environment, and efficient  
18 decisions as we go about providing energy for the  
19 North Alabama Region of the Tennessee Valley.

20 TVA's proposal to construct two new  
21 pressurized water reactors at the Bellefonte site is a  
22 good proposal and deserves careful and prudent  
23 consideration by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

24 From a power supply point of view, TVA  
25 currently does not have enough capacity to meet all

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1 its needs. To meet the entire system demand, TVA has  
2 to rely on off-system purchases that now have grown to  
3 about 1.5 billion dollars per year. That's money  
4 that's leaving the Valley and will never return.

5 In 2007, these off-system purchases  
6 accounted for about 12 percent of TVA's needs and at  
7 times equaled 20 percent of TVA's peak load.

8 TVA needs more low-cost power supply and  
9 construction of the new units at Bellefonte will help  
10 tremendously. Even with the Energy Efficiency  
11 Programs and demand management, TVA will experience  
12 load growth greater than one and a half percent a  
13 year.

14 In North Alabama 600 new electric  
15 customers are added each month by the distributors of  
16 TVA power. Energy use in North Alabama alone grew by  
17 six percent in 2006 and has averaged more than two  
18 percent a year over the last 10 years.

19 With the military complex at Redstone  
20 Arsenal increasing its size due to the Base  
21 Realignment and Closure Act, known as BRAC, Huntsville  
22 and all of North Alabama will continue to grow at a  
23 faster rate than the rest of the South.

24 Nuclear power is the best option for our  
25 nation to address global warming, energy independence,

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1 and the cost of energy to the ultimate consumer.  
2 Nuclear power is non-polluting, allows us to create  
3 and use energy right here in the United States, and  
4 can be generated for less than one and a half cents  
5 per kilowatt hour.

6           However, I do want to encourage the NRC  
7 and all operators of nuclear power plants, including  
8 TVA, to work collectively in solving the nuclear waste  
9 problem. Reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel is used  
10 throughout the world and should be pursued on a  
11 national basis or in a federal program so that the  
12 unused portion of the fuel can be reused without  
13 having to be stored permanently.

14           I support the Bellefonte Project and  
15 encourage Nuclear Regulatory Commission to proceed  
16 thoroughly and quickly in processing TVA's application  
17 for this project.

18           I appreciate the opportunity to provide  
19 these comments.

20           MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Mr. Sandlin

21           We do have Sandra Kurtz. And I think we  
22 also -- I think I called Zack Rad.

23           Yeah, come on up. I'm just trying to sort  
24 things out. Zack Rad and then we're going to hear  
25 from Mr. Bailey. And then we're going to go on with

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1 some other people.

2 Yes, Sandra?

3 MS. KURTZ: Thank you for this opportunity  
4 to speak. I am Sandy Kurtz and I live in Chattanooga,  
5 Tennessee. I am within that 50 mile perimeter and I  
6 live downwind of, as we saw on that wind rose, the  
7 prevailing winds if Bellefonte were operating. And I  
8 also live downwind from Sequoyah, Watts Bar, and --  
9 well, not Browns Ferry so much. But on some days that  
10 would happen.

11 Notwithstanding a radioactive accident or  
12 a terrorist attack with the resulting effects of the  
13 release of high doses of radiation that that would  
14 bring in the surrounding population, Chernobyl comes  
15 to mind even though I know this is a different design  
16 and a different way of operating. There are other  
17 health impacts that are not addressed in this  
18 licensing application. Even if a terrible never  
19 happens, I'd like to see those addressed.

20 First, for example, on a daily basis there  
21 is radiation coming out of nuclear plants and into the  
22 water and the air. But there is also something that's  
23 not spoken about that does give off carbon dioxide  
24 emissions, greenhouse gases, and that is the mining,  
25 the transportation, and the use of nuclear fuel and

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1 the production thereof. The radiation as it's  
2 processed and delivered to the nuclear power plant  
3 before it ever gets to the containment building.

4 Further, low radiation waste requires  
5 removal and transportation or adequate storage on-  
6 site. All of these are energy intense as well and  
7 use fossil fuels to get them there. So you still have  
8 this greenhouse gas emissions.

9 Information as to what methods are used  
10 and any associated health impacts are measurement of a  
11 carbon footprint are not in the licensing application  
12 and I'd like to see that looked into.

13 Then there is concern about the water  
14 usage, temperature, and availability. For example, we  
15 know that these two proposed nuclear reactors will  
16 require 71 million gallons of water per day to cool  
17 them in order to stay in operation. And you think,  
18 well, that water, it's used to cool and then it goes  
19 back into the river. But I have learned that only a  
20 third of it goes back into the river and the rest is  
21 evaporated away. So there is a significant loss of  
22 that water.

23 And given all of the other pressures and  
24 the other uses of water, I think this is a serious  
25 problem just as to how much water is going to be left

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1 in the reservoir after all is said and done given the  
2 uses of the other nuclear plants and Widow's Creek  
3 Fossil Fuel Plant -- Steam Plant as well.

4 Climate change scientists indicate that  
5 there will be ongoing water shortages, such as those  
6 that caused Browns Ferry and Sequoyah Nuclear Plants  
7 to shut down this past summer.

8 If we are dependent on additional nuclear  
9 power that adds to the massive amounts of water  
10 already drawn from the Tennessee River System it  
11 places stress on the availability of drinking water  
12 supplied by the existing public water systems, not to  
13 mention the health of the aquatic eco-systems already  
14 under severe pressure.

15 If in the future we come to depend on  
16 nuclear power plants that shut down in the summer,  
17 power availability will be reduced leading to  
18 extensive loss of air conditioning. Our elderly will  
19 be the most likely to die due to heat stress. You may  
20 think that is far-fetched, but in fact, I am  
21 describing a scenario that actually happened during a  
22 recent summer drought in Western Europe.

23 Clearly nuclear power is not a future  
24 survival technology. Solar power, wind power,  
25 conservation, demand side management and energy

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1 efficiency all put together are a survival technology.

2 As part of this licensing application, I  
3 urge NRC to ask for a more comprehensive study of the  
4 cumulative health impacts that may derive from the  
5 addition of two nuclear reactors in the Tennessee  
6 Valley.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. CAMERON: Thank you very much, Sandra.

9 Is Zack Rad -- Zack, why don't come on up?

10 And then we're going to go to Jack Bailey.

11 MR. RAD: Good evening. My name is  
12 Zachary Rad. I'm a member of the North American Young  
13 Generation in Nuclear. And I am here in support of  
14 TVA's Combined Construction and Operating License for  
15 the Bellefonte Unit 3 and 4.

16 I'm also an advocate of the broader use of  
17 nuclear power as a portion of our nation's future  
18 energy portfolio. And I say a portion because there's  
19 a lot of good things about a lot of technologies out  
20 there.

21 A little background, I first operated a  
22 nuclear power plant when I was 19 years old in the  
23 United States Navy. My wife, on the other hand, she  
24 didn't get the opportunity to operate a nuclear power  
25 plant until she was 21. And it's through this

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1 experience and through both of our formal education  
2 and training that we've been provided with profound  
3 insight into both the benefits and risks of nuclear  
4 power.

5 So in that light, I'd like to share with  
6 you, this community, that my wife and I along with my  
7 three year old daughter and one year old son live  
8 within two miles of an operating nuclear power plant.

9 And that's a testament to my confidence in the safe  
10 design, construction, and operation of commercial  
11 nuclear power plants today.

12 My second point is a little more high  
13 level social point. I think it's important that  
14 everyone in our community, all of our citizens of the  
15 United States, learn as much as we can about all of  
16 the available energy technologies so that we can make  
17 an informed decision. So I encourage everyone to take  
18 what they learn here tonight and use that as a  
19 starting point. Think it through and research for  
20 yourself all of the options that are available and use  
21 that to help our leaders make informed decisions about  
22 energy policy.

23 Thank you for your time.

24 MR. CAMERON: Zackary, thank you, thank  
25 you very much.

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1 Jack, Jack Bailey.

2 MR. BAILEY: I spoke this afternoon, so  
3 I'll try to keep it short tonight. I know we have  
4 some new people tonight. I am Jack Bailey. I am the  
5 Vice President of Nuclear Generation Development. So  
6 the Bellefonte Project and the Combined Operating  
7 License Development is under my area of  
8 responsibility. Obviously I am an advocate of the  
9 project.

10 Three of the main points I want to make.  
11 First of all, I want to welcome those tonight that  
12 took the time out to come from the community and also  
13 those that have been here all day. I know it's been a  
14 long day and we have gotten some good ideas put on the  
15 table here. And I know that the process that the NRC  
16 uses will make sure that those items that they need to  
17 address will certainly be addressed in the  
18 Environmental Impact Statement work they do.

19 We of TVA are in the position of having to  
20 meet the obligation of energy demand in the Valley.  
21 And we try to do that with the best options and  
22 availability of choices we can make at the time the  
23 decisions need to be made. And we try to do that by  
24 bringing in the input from our customers.

25 Most of you know that we serve

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1 distributors. They have the in-use customers that  
2 they sell their power to. And we heard from one of  
3 them earlier. And so ultimately we have to try to  
4 meet the needs of both them and the energy demand in  
5 the Valley itself.

6 Today there are not as many choices as we  
7 would like to have. Certainly solar is on the rise.  
8 We heard earlier this afternoon wind can generate  
9 electricity. But when it comes to large amounts of  
10 power that have to be used or generated to meet the  
11 needs of the Valley, there are probably only three  
12 real choices today. One is gas. The other is coal.  
13 And the other is nuclear. And right now nuclear seems  
14 to have more environmental benefits than those other  
15 two choices do to us.

16 However, there are other issues than just  
17 the environmental side of it, and we have to take all  
18 of those in consideration when we make a choice.

19 Second issue is we haven't made the  
20 decision yet to build a plant at Bellefonte. So  
21 everybody should recognize that a key part of the  
22 decision we will eventually have to make is knowing  
23 that we can successfully get a Combined Operating  
24 License to build and operate that plant.

25 The environmental impact work that's going

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1 into the work that we're here to talk about tonight is  
2 one part of that as we heard. So as we make progress,  
3 it gives TVA the option though of being able to build  
4 a nuclear power plant if it is the right decision we  
5 need to make at the time we need to make the decision.

6 We don't need to make it yet because we  
7 are developing other generation right now in the  
8 Valley that's helping meet the need over the next five  
9 years. That turns out to be gas and another nuclear  
10 project up at Watts Bar Unit 2 that we're completing  
11 which was partially completed in the past.

12 Third issue is we do a lot of work under  
13 the name of NuStart. In fact, the application that  
14 the NRC is reviewing is TVA's application, but it was  
15 developed for us by NuStart Energy. All right.

16 We are a member of NuStart. There's 10  
17 utilities part of that. We formed that several years  
18 ago so that we could demonstrate this new licensing  
19 process that you all are listening to portions of  
20 tonight. And we could then successfully do a license  
21 and also complete the engineering design for two  
22 advanced reactor designs. The AP1000 that you see  
23 pictures of out there is one of those two designs.  
24 And Bellefonte is the site selected to try to  
25 demonstrate that license application at. So that's

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1 what we've been doing.

2 NuStart, it's important to know, is only  
3 in the game to do the licensing work and to complete  
4 the design of the reactors. They have no function or  
5 role in actually making the decision on whether to  
6 construct the plant or not. That is TVA's sole  
7 decision alone. It's one that, as I said, we have not  
8 made yet. We'll make sometime in the future.

9 One last concluding comment and I don't  
10 try to react to too much of what I hear. I thought  
11 Louise's comment, Louise's comments on what impacts  
12 the community or what you take into account and  
13 thinking about, as Zack said, and are hearing about.  
14 But we do have some real examples that you can go get  
15 real information on to find out how big an impact that  
16 might be after the peak of the project is over.

17 We just finished the Browns Ferry One  
18 Project just down the highway that a lot of you are  
19 familiar with. We had 2,500 construction workers  
20 working at that site during that project. And now  
21 they're gone and we're left with workers that remain  
22 in the plant.

23 We're up at Watts Bar and there's going to  
24 be 2,000 construction workers working up there. So  
25 you'll have real communities that are local to you

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1 that share some of the same values and needs you do  
2 that you certainly reach out and find out what those  
3 impacts actually are.

4           Anyway, welcome again for coming and I  
5 thank you for taking the time to be here.

6           MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you, Jack.

7           We're going to go to M.P. Holloway, Kate  
8 Houseton, Diane Darrigo, and Garry Morgan. And then  
9 we will continue with the rest of the people.

10          Kate?

11          MS. HOUSETON: My name is Kate Houseton.  
12 I'm with the Clean and Safe Energy Coalition,  
13 otherwise known as CASE Energy. We're a grass roots  
14 organization that brings together individuals and  
15 organizations in support of nuclear.

16          We have a table out there with information  
17 in case anybody is interested.

18          I would just like to make a broad comment  
19 on nuclear energy and on this process. The NRC's  
20 regulatory process for new reactors, part of which is  
21 happening here tonight, is vital to insuring that  
22 nuclear energy continues to provide clean, affordable  
23 electricity in this country.

24          I for one enjoy the benefits of  
25 electricity. I like my lights on. I like my air

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1 conditioning. I like my cell phone charger, my garage  
2 door opener, and I like my refrigerator to be running  
3 when I want it to be running. And I'm not the only  
4 one. The demand for electricity in this country is on  
5 the rise and it's expected to increase 25 percent by  
6 2030.

7 The United States must continue to provide  
8 the electricity that all of us with all of our gadgets  
9 and technologies demand. And we must responsibly plan  
10 now to provide enough base load power, base load power  
11 for the future.

12 It's nuclear plants like Bellefonte that  
13 will help this country meet its demand for energy  
14 while also being kind to the environment since nuclear  
15 produces none of the airborne emissions associated  
16 with poor air quality, smog, and climate change.

17 Nuclear energy already provides essential  
18 highly skilled and well-paying jobs to Alabama, as  
19 well as valuable tax revenue that is beneficial to the  
20 local communities in the short-term as well as the  
21 long-term.

22 We need to preserve benefits like these  
23 for future generations. And the C.O.L. process, which  
24 helps streamline efforts and includes all of this  
25 valuable input from the public, helps to insure that

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1 we are planning responsibly for the future in terms of  
2 both meeting energy demands and how we are affecting  
3 the environment with energy production to meet that  
4 demand.

5 The bottom line is that nuclear safely and  
6 efficiently provides base load power which we need  
7 without producing any of the emissions that we don't.

8 I applaud TVA for moving ahead with the  
9 Bellefonte Project. Thank you very much.

10 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Kate.

11 I'm sorry. I did call M.P. Holloway.  
12 M.P., are you here?

13 Okay, we're going to go to Diane, Diane  
14 Darrigo. And then to Garry Morgan.

15 MS. DARRIGO: I'm Diane Darrigo with  
16 Nuclear Information and Resource Service. We're a  
17 non-profit, public interest group based nationally in  
18 D.C. area. We oppose nuclear power for economic,  
19 safety, environmental, democracy reasons.

20 The thing that I really want to share that  
21 I think is most important and I think that the  
22 Environmental Impact Statement needs to address and  
23 that the license application does not fully address is  
24 that nuclear power generates radioactive waste that is  
25 hazardous for literally millions of years and it needs

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1 to be isolated from the environment for a long, long  
2 time. And that the requirements for disposal are not  
3 really adequate for some of the material and that  
4 there is no permanent repository for either high-level  
5 radioactive waste or for the so-called low-level  
6 radioactive waste that would be generated by these  
7 facilities.

8 In fact, at the end of June of this year  
9 those reactors that are operating around the country  
10 will have nowhere to send their so-called low-level  
11 radioactive waste unless they are in a few of the  
12 states that do have access to some operating dumps.

13 All of the dumps that have been built --  
14 that have been operated for so-called low-level  
15 radioactive waste are or have leaked. And it was  
16 mentioned earlier that reprocessing of the high-level  
17 waste through irradiated fuel is something that could  
18 be considered.

19 The only commercial reprocessing of  
20 irradiated fuel in this country that did take place  
21 was a miserable failure and at one place, that is, one  
22 site that is a combination of reprocessing waste and  
23 so-called low-level radioactive waste, the projected  
24 clean-up cost for that site is in the five to ten  
25 billion dollar range.

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1 Now this number is not reflected in the  
2 cost projection for these two reactors, but these two  
3 Reactors don't have anywhere to send their waste.  
4 Thus, we'll have to store it potentially indefinitely  
5 on this site.

6 The reactor itself will become waste.  
7 Radioactivity permeates the concrete. It decays into  
8 long lasting radionuclides that are very biologically  
9 active.

10 The Government would like to redefine that  
11 waste to allow it to not be considered radioactive  
12 enough to care for and release it. But the goal  
13 should be to isolate it from the environment and that  
14 entire reactor itself then becomes waste in addition  
15 to the waste that's generated from the splitting of  
16 the uranium atoms.

17 So as far as the Environmental Impact  
18 Statement, it needs to admit and face the costs of  
19 managing radioactive waste indefinitely. It needs to  
20 look at the risks and hazards from routine radioactive  
21 releases -- this was mentioned earlier -- into the air  
22 and water and the environment. And to look at the  
23 multiple costs of that when you have waste as well as  
24 an operating reactor indefinitely at the site.

25 And then I would also mention on the high-

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1 level radioactive waste that there's hope by the  
2 nuclear industry that the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste  
3 Site in Nevada would open. That is a somewhat  
4 unlikely possibility. But even if it were to open,  
5 there's not enough room at that reactor for all the  
6 waste that will be generated by the current generation  
7 of reactors that are operating. And so even if that  
8 dump were to open, there's no where to send the  
9 irradiated fuel.

10 And we're talking about intensely  
11 radioactive material that needs to be monitored and  
12 actively controlled for a very long time. You're not  
13 going to want this kind of stuff sitting on the shores  
14 of the river. And you're not going to want the  
15 routine releases into the river.

16 So the NRC has historically, traditionally  
17 minimizes the health effects of radiation. The  
18 reality is that there is no safe dose, as was  
19 mentioned by several speakers beforehand. And it's  
20 quite difficult when you've got an agency and a  
21 promoter that don't really believe that the hazards  
22 are significant making a determination as to what  
23 health effects will be. So it's something that those  
24 who will be affected that will be exposed need to  
25 demand that be done more realistically.

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1           And I wanted to respond to one earlier  
2 statement that there were no health effects from Three  
3 Mile Island that's simply not true. The doses that  
4 were mentioned were doses that were calculated that  
5 were assumed to have been given to the people in the  
6 community when that accident took place.

7           But those doses were calculated before  
8 anybody knew that the core had melted. And that's a  
9 big difference. The core actually melted. It means  
10 that the doses could have been much, much higher.  
11 However, those dose calculations were never changed  
12 after that realization. So the numbers that are given  
13 for how much was released from that facility are  
14 clearly underestimated.

15           Further, the legal cases that took place  
16 at that location around Three Mile Island for  
17 compensation for people were largely dismissed because  
18 those dose numbers were used against the people who  
19 were injured to say that you could not have received a  
20 dose that was high enough to injure you because these  
21 dose numbers are the ones that were given off and that  
22 couldn't have been enough to cause the health effects  
23 that you're experiencing.

24           So the legal system was also rigged and  
25 Dr. Steven Wing has done research on both the effects

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1 around Three Mile Island and of workers at Oak Ridge  
2 and has pointed out that there is significant health  
3 effects in both of those situations. And he  
4 criticizes the legal system for ignoring those and  
5 making it impossible to provide justice to the people  
6 that were affected.

7 So the EIS needs to consider the waste.  
8 The EIS needs to consider the routine releases. The  
9 public needs to protect itself and not rely on the  
10 expert estimates.

11 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you, thank you,  
12 Diane.

13 Now we have our own rock star, Garry  
14 Morgan. Garry.

15 MR. MORGAN: Some of you all as you came  
16 in probably wondered why all these rocks were doing  
17 out there. I'm fixing to show you about -- tell you  
18 about the rocks.

19 My name is Garry Morgan. I'm a resident  
20 of Scottsboro and I live about four and a half miles  
21 from the nuclear power plant from Bellefonte.

22 Earlier today I talked about karst terrain  
23 and sinkholes. And what I'd like to talk about now is  
24 another subject related to the karst terrain and what  
25 I believe is unstable ground out where the current

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1 plant is. And of course, we're fixing to build two  
2 more plants in that ground. It is a sinkhole area.  
3 And there are several -- and this is what these rocks  
4 are about -- is about the sinkholes and how the  
5 sinkholes come about.

6 Out in that area not only is it karst  
7 terrain or sinkhole terrain, there's also a minor  
8 seismic fault which runs basically north and south  
9 directly east of the plant. And that is, I believe,  
10 that's part of the Brevard Fault System. And that's  
11 east of the nuclear plant is a ridge called River  
12 Ridge.

13 And on that ridge we have certain rocks  
14 and stuff kind of like this. This is chert. And they  
15 have some slate rocks. We also have hard limestone  
16 rocks and we also have a little bit below River Ridge  
17 into the karst terrain, where the nuclear plant will  
18 be located, some rocks that are limestone. But  
19 they're not hard like this limestone here.

20 These rocks -- and I'll demonstrate for  
21 you. (Uses hands to show how rocks crumble.) They  
22 come apart and the reason they come apart is because  
23 they are dried out. This is what we have when we have  
24 drought.

25 Now I did not notice in the C.O.L. that

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1 the TVA submitted in their application where there's  
2 any mention about the seismic problem with this area.

3 In my original statement that I submitted, there is a  
4 insert in there, an enclosure, concerning seismic  
5 activity along River Ridge and along the river. It is  
6 -- like I said, it is a minor fault line.

7 But if some of you all that's from this  
8 area will remember about four years ago, we had a 4.9.

9 It woke me up in the middle of the night, actually it  
10 was early in the morning. I heard the boom and felt  
11 the shake and saw the dishes rattle off the area. So  
12 it is an earthquake active area.

13 And I would ask that the NRC consider  
14 this, consider these rocks, and the terrain that we  
15 have in this area when they review the Application. I  
16 do not believe it is a stable area. And as I'm asking  
17 that the NRC look at this very carefully in the TVA's  
18 application.

19 Thank you, Chip. And I appreciate it,  
20 being able to speak.

21 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Garry.

22 We have four speakers left, and the first  
23 one is going to be Sara Barczak, then Ross McCluney,  
24 then Jeannie Hacker-Cerulean, and then R.D. Flowers.

25 This is Sara Barczak.

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1 MS. BARCZAK: It's tough to follow that  
2 visual there, so please stay awake.

3 My name is Sara Barczak and I'm the Safe  
4 Energy Director with Southern Alliance for Clean  
5 Energies. We're a regional, non-profit organization  
6 with members here in Alabama, throughout the TVA  
7 region, and across the Southeast who are concerned  
8 about the impact energy choices have on our health,  
9 economy, and environment.

10 Thank you for holding the meetings to  
11 address the environmental-scoping issues. We really  
12 appreciate the NRC taking the time to do so.

13 And just a reminder -- this came up this  
14 afternoon, but every tax payer is subsidizing this  
15 process. The U.S. taxpayer is subsidizing this  
16 application process because we put money forward to  
17 NuStart to do that. And then in addition, we've got a  
18 lot of subsidies going to the development of this  
19 power plant.

20 I stated comments earlier today and these  
21 are all new except for one repeat, so I'll stay in the  
22 time limit. Just as a side note from what was stated  
23 earlier, in addition Three Mile Island maybe you don't  
24 agree with the health statistics, but you probably  
25 care about pocket books and TMI was a full scale loss

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1 for the sole insurer, ANI. It was a \$700 million  
2 loss. You can find that out by looking at ANI's  
3 website and reading about it. Seven hundred million  
4 dollar loss for Three Mile Island, but apparently  
5 nothing happened.

6 Renewable energy -- we have serious  
7 concerns about TVA's push to build two new reactors  
8 here at the Bellefonte site. Renewable energy  
9 technology is like bio-energy, solar and winds, which  
10 are not likely to be targeted by terrorists nor have  
11 the capacity in terms of accidents to kill thousands  
12 of people or permanently contaminate large land areas  
13 -- should not be ignored by TVA.

14 Energy efficiency measures also pose no  
15 health or safety risks to the public and the TVA  
16 region has significant resources to tap in this arena.

17 TVA has excellent wind resources within its service  
18 area. TVA should be encouraged to invest more in  
19 developing this clean, safe energy resource instead of  
20 spending billions more dollars on Bellefonte, on top  
21 of the four billion dollars we've already spent at  
22 Bellefonte that has never produced a single kilowatt  
23 hour of electricity.

24 There is also potential for bio-energy  
25 production in Alabama and TVA's service territory.

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1 Clean forms of bio-energy can represent a homegrown  
2 energy source that can provide local jobs to rural  
3 areas that would also support farmers and the region's  
4 economy while helping expand clean energy  
5 technologies.

6 The use of solar technologies and other  
7 clean energy choices were summarily dismissed in the  
8 application. The Draft EIS must include a more  
9 thorough analysis of energy alternatives.

10 The high cost of nuclear power plants will  
11 likely lead to cost overruns and rate increases. This  
12 is not mentioned in the application. The price for  
13 new reactors such as Westinghouse's AP 1000 design  
14 that TVA intends to use has skyrocketed. For example,  
15 utilities in Florida pursuing the same reactor design  
16 have stated cost to the Florida Public Service  
17 Commission just recently of 6 to 8.5 billion dollars  
18 per reactor, nearly tripling their estimates from just  
19 one year ago.

20 Further, TVA remains very close to  
21 exceeding its Congressionally mandated debt ceiling of  
22 \$30 billion. Yet there is no mention of TVA's debt  
23 ceiling in the application. The NRC must evaluate  
24 this in the Draft EIS.

25 In terms of water, there is only one part

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1 of my water thing I'm going to repeat from this  
2 morning. According to TVA's application, the two  
3 Bellefonte reactors will withdraw over 71 million  
4 gallons of water per day from the Tennessee River via  
5 the Gunter'sville Reservoir and consume or lose over 46  
6 million gallons per day returning only about one  
7 third. This represents more water consumption than  
8 all public water systems in the Gunter'sville Watershed  
9 combined, combined. The plants will be competing with  
10 other important water users in Alabama and the region.

11 The NRC needs to address this in the Draft EIS.

12 As the NRC is aware, TVA already operates  
13 the two Sequoyah reactors about 10 miles from  
14 Chattanooga, the Watts Bar reactor with plans to build  
15 one more, as Jack Bailey stated, and three reactors at  
16 the Browns Ferry Plant, which is downstream of  
17 Bellefonte all along the Tennessee River.

18 Nowhere in the application does it discuss  
19 the cumulative impact of having possibly nine reactors  
20 operating on one river basin, let alone all of the  
21 other industrial facilities and municipal users in the  
22 basin. Nor does it discuss the cumulative impacts to  
23 the Chattanooga area that will be within 50 miles of  
24 six nuclear reactors. The NRC must address these  
25 cumulative impacts to water resources and human health

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1 in the Draft EIS.

2 Another problem with water discharge from  
3 nuclear power plants is its temperature. This water  
4 is warmer than the water into which it is discharged  
5 and the resulting "thermal plumes" cause stress on  
6 aquatic life which can include commercially important  
7 fish and shellfish.

8 For instance, nuclear power plants  
9 aggravate the problem of low dissolved oxygen levels  
10 through its heated discharge to lakes and rivers. The  
11 State of Tennessee voiced concerns to the NRC about  
12 this impact on mussel beds downstream from the  
13 Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, which suffered from even lower  
14 oxygen levels as it is also downstream from the Watts  
15 Bar Nuclear Plant.

16 What about the impacts even further  
17 downstream, such as the Bellefonte location? There is  
18 no mention of this in the application.

19 In terms of global warming, nuclear power  
20 plants and other power plants, coal plants as well,  
21 are vulnerable to the effects of heat and drought.  
22 Drought conditions forced Browns Ferry Reactors to  
23 shut down due to high temperatures in the Tennessee  
24 River. That plant is downstream of the proposed  
25 Bellefonte reactors, yet there is no discussion in the

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1 application of the impact Bellefonte operation may  
2 have on the ability for Browns Ferry to operate. The  
3 NRC must evaluate this in the Draft EIS.

4 The predicted effects of global warming in  
5 the region, such as summer heat waves or droughts,  
6 could negatively impact the ability for the proposed  
7 reactors at Bellefonte to generate electricity under  
8 those conditions if the Tennessee River is impacted.  
9 This deficiency was demonstrated by the 2006 summer  
10 heat wave when nuclear power plants across Europe and,  
11 yes, even in France, had to shut down because the  
12 water temperatures were too high. This happened in  
13 the TVA region.

14 Beginning in the summer of 2006, extreme  
15 heat forced TVA to interrupt power to some industrial  
16 customers for the first time since 2003. TVA also had  
17 to lower levels in its Tennessee River reservoirs to  
18 generate power and provide cooling water for plants.  
19 The application has no mention of the predicted  
20 impacts of global warming in terms of temperature and  
21 drought on the Tennessee River and how that could  
22 impact the operation of Bellefonte reactors. The NRC  
23 should evaluate these concerns in the Draft EIS.

24 Lastly, we would like to comment on the  
25 difficulty with reviewing the application. Though we

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1 appreciate having the resources available online, and  
2 we truly do, it is a very cumbersome process to do so.

3 Regular citizens and policy makers do not have the  
4 time to wade through these thousands of pages that  
5 have to be downloaded, at times individually. Some  
6 pages in this thing are more than 13 megabytes, which  
7 takes a long time.

8 I would guess that many people in this  
9 room have not even looked at one page of the  
10 application, and I cannot blame them given the  
11 frustration it has caused me.

12 Further, the tables and figures and even  
13 acronyms have to be downloaded separately even though  
14 they are mentioned within the chapters numerous times.

15 This is very time consuming.

16 During my review, I also noticed a few  
17 errors in the numbering of figures. Where topographic  
18 maps were supposed to be, only wind rose maps emerged.

19 Fundamentally we believe this application  
20 is not complete and should never have been accepted by  
21 the NRC. It is frustrating that taxpayer dollars have  
22 been wasted on this document and that time and effort  
23 on the part of public citizens has also been wasted  
24 reviewing this document since it really does not seem  
25 to be complete.

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1 We request that the NRC asks TVA or rather  
2 NuStart -- you have quite a bit to do this -- to  
3 revise and resubmit their application.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. CAMERON: Thank you, Sara.

6 And we're next going to go to Ross  
7 McCluney and then to Jeannie and Mr. Flowers.

8 This is Ross McCluney.

9 MR. MCCLUNEY: My name is Dr. Ross  
10 McCluney. I'm a physicist and I live in Chattanooga,  
11 Tennessee about 41 miles from the Bellefonte plant.

12 This is on backwards, I think. Oh well,  
13 that's good enough.

14 And I was asked to give this presentation  
15 on behalf of the Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club.

16 Stephen Sundheim is the Energy Chair of the Chapter  
17 and I'm a member of the Tennessee Chapter. So we  
18 prepared this statement together.

19 Our primary objections to new nuclear  
20 generating capacities at the Bellefonte site are based  
21 on concerns over several special and unique  
22 environmental impacts of nuclear power in the areas of  
23 water, thermal pollution, and nuclear radiation  
24 hazards. Especially those connected to the dangers of  
25 earthquake damage and the resulting release of

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1 radioactive waste and fuel stored at the site and  
2 accidental and terrorist releases of radioactive  
3 material transported off the site.

4 A lot of attention has been paid to  
5 protecting the fuel in the nuclear reactor. And we  
6 fear that not enough has been looked at the whole  
7 cycle from creation of the nuclear fuel to disposal of  
8 the waste and the susceptibilities outside the  
9 containment, thus leaving outside of the plant  
10 security a susceptibility to a variety of problems.

11 We are particularly concerned about the  
12 nation's lack of an acceptable plan for long-lived  
13 radioactive waste disposal and TVA's insufficient  
14 safeguards against the terrorists' attacks that I  
15 mentioned.

16 The need for new generating capacity also  
17 has not really been established. Energy usage has  
18 already been trending down in most of the TVA's  
19 service region. Peak demand may be going up, but a  
20 substantial percentage of this peak demand can be  
21 handled by demand side management. So we think TVA  
22 should take a closer look at this and develop plans  
23 for energy efficiency to meet all new demands and  
24 reduce existing energy use by its customers.

25 Nationally the overall median achievable

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1 potential for electricity savings by this means is 1.2  
2 percent annually. Utilities in other parts of the  
3 country have implemented plans for energy efficiency  
4 and demand management efforts are being implemented to  
5 meet all new demand and reduce existing energy use.  
6 Through energy efficiency TVA can avoid construction  
7 of this power plant.

8 It is technically and economically  
9 feasible for TVA customers to reduce their electricity  
10 by at least 21 percent over a 10 to 15 year period if  
11 given appropriate financial incentives.

12 Even if TVA really did need new  
13 capacities, there are alternative means of obtaining  
14 that that are safer, cheaper, bring new power  
15 production online much faster than nuclear reactors.  
16 And they're inherently more benign environmentally.  
17 We refer to a variety of solar and other renewable  
18 energy options which are safer, quicker to construct,  
19 and well-matched to summertime AC driven peak loads.

20 We believe that a re-analysis of this --  
21 of the real cost of nuclear option should be performed  
22 and it should take into account all costs, including  
23 subsidies, mining of the ore, processing the fuel,  
24 transportation of fuel, waste and other construction  
25 materials, legal and insurance fees, the cost of

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1 operation -- direct and indirect -- that means  
2 taxpayer born, waste disposal, inflation, securing the  
3 plant from both accidental and terrorist radiation  
4 leaks, and fuel cost increases due to the rising  
5 scarcity of uranium.

6 A more in-depth analysis should be  
7 performed of how power needs could be met without the  
8 Bellefonte plant, using energy efficiency investments,  
9 energy conservation, and investments in renewable  
10 energy supplies.

11 The nation and the TVA region are on the  
12 cusp of a change in energy policy. There will be  
13 incentives for using less energy, for employing more  
14 energy efficiency, for building and operating green.  
15 New infrastructure will be developed that allows needs  
16 to be met with less travel, more efficient  
17 distribution systems, localized power, less  
18 transmission, and all of this with greater energy  
19 security and lower threats of terrorist attacks. TVA  
20 planning should include these changes in its planning  
21 studies.

22 Environmentally speaking nuclear is a bad  
23 move risk wise. The utilities economics are not  
24 viable. Its finances should be evaluated in the  
25 absence of heavy government subsidies.

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1           We consider nuclear unnecessary and  
2 foolhardy. Its safety, risk factors, waste handling,  
3 environmental impacts, and cost are all questionable  
4 at best. We actually think it is a poor investment  
5 and evidenced by Wall Street's unwillingness to back  
6 it without huge government guarantees and subsidies.  
7 On cost alone, the nuclear options seem implausible.

8           Thank you.

9           MR. CAMERON: Okay. Thank you very much.

10          All right, Jeannie, Jeannie Hacker --

11          MS. HACKER-CERULEAN: Cerulean. Hi, I'm  
12 Jeannie Hacker-Cerulean. I'm also from Chattanooga,  
13 Tennessee and that's just over Little River Canyon  
14 from here. One of the ten purest rivers in the world,  
15 17 miles on top of that beautiful mountain.

16          When I drive from Asheville through that  
17 Cherokee Forest and I come into Chattanooga and I see  
18 those big towers, my heart quails. My physics teacher  
19 in Austin, Texas taught me about half lifes and how  
20 long. And when I lived in New Mexico they put it in  
21 the Carlsbad Salt Mines. And we would see those  
22 trucks coming through and everybody just watched those  
23 trucks coming through. And there it goes into a hole  
24 in the ground in New Mexico. Nevada is also taking  
25 some of it. When they quit, it's going to cost a lot

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1 of money to put it somewhere.

2 So I'm a real believer in sustainability.

3 I know that there's some sort of new category of  
4 people called Bright Greens. They're like green  
5 nerds. You know, these green nerds just -- Google  
6 just went solar, so the richest man in the world is  
7 building solar panels in China.

8 I think that we are ready for a change.  
9 And I know that building -- when you build like a  
10 southwest face, when you stop the energy leaving your  
11 house, when you buy energy efficient appliances, you  
12 don't need more energy.

13 In the '70s when they went through that  
14 crisis, the energy crisis, if anybody remembers, we  
15 said, "Oh no, we're going to need all this fuel." And  
16 you said, "Why don't we slow down to 55?" And it  
17 turned out we didn't need more because people  
18 conserved.

19 And I know that the Southeast region, you  
20 know, we get cold winters. We get hot summers. I  
21 have a sweater and I can take off this jacket and I'm  
22 cooler. So I just encourage us all to have fun with  
23 this. I'd like to see ten proposals on the table of  
24 what are green collar jobs for this region. What are  
25 some good green collar jobs putting that kind of

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1 insulation and making their houses work. You know,  
2 what is like -- I'd like to know what is the  
3 Chattanooga house? I know what the house is out in  
4 the mid-west, but I'd like to know what is that energy  
5 efficient house that we can build so that we don't  
6 need more energy.

7 Thanks.

8 MR. CAMERON: Thank you. Thank you,  
9 Jeannie.

10 And R. D. Flowers, and then we're going to  
11 go to Tom Moss.

12 R. D. Flowers and guest.

13 MR. FLOWERS: It's not my guest; this is  
14 my daughter, okay. This is Bee -- Casey Beatrice  
15 Josephine Clementa Flowers.

16 Okay, and we live in Chattanooga. You saw  
17 Louise Cornflow's wind rose. The fatter tubes are  
18 where the wind blows mostly, okay? And the fatter  
19 tubes blow mostly toward me and my daughter, okay.  
20 Chattanooga, in other words. We're well within the 50  
21 mile ring of that thing. And I'm concerned about our  
22 safety.

23 So even though there is no critical  
24 accident at a plant like this, it is harmful day in,  
25 day out, year by year in every aspect of its life.

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1 It's harmful economically, also, but I'm talking  
2 mostly radiation and chemicals.

3 The people say that there's nobody killed  
4 by Three Mile Island. Well, and they say there was  
5 very little radiation. Well, there's other things  
6 which have been pointed out that was wrong with the  
7 radiation measurements. But another main thing wrong  
8 with those measurements is they always only want to  
9 talk about direct gamma because that's the radiation  
10 people always think about.

11 But that's not what is most dangerous  
12 about these plants. What's most dangerous is the  
13 alpha and beta that, you know, for the most part can't  
14 go through a piece of paper. But they don't go  
15 through a piece of paper because they dump their  
16 energy quickly. And if they're inside your body which  
17 is not as easy to measure just how much gamma  
18 radiation is coming from a particular point. You can  
19 do a just little physics and geometry and deal with  
20 that pretty easy.

21 But you can't so easily measure whether  
22 this particular radioactive chemical gets mistaken by  
23 the body for something else that it needs. Like  
24 strontium gets mistaken for calcium taken into your  
25 body where it's far less than a piece of paper away

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1 from your cells, okay.

2 As a matter of fact, there's a tremendous  
3 increase in cancer deaths from -- in the area of Three  
4 Mile Island. There's nobody that I know of that was  
5 killed by direct gamma radiation at the time of the  
6 accident.

7 I go to UTC. I went back to school after  
8 many years. I go to UTC in Chattanooga and I can tell  
9 you that there is a great feeding frenzy of greed  
10 going on now among some of people in the same  
11 buildings. I am a computer science major. A lot of  
12 the engineers there are just -- see dollar signs in  
13 front of their eyes.

14 A lot of the people talking to you at  
15 these and other similar meetings are people that work  
16 for the agencies that are selling these plants. They  
17 want to make a lot of money from building these plants  
18 no matter what happens to them later.

19 I use to live near -- like five blocks  
20 from the Twin Towers in Knoxville, Tennessee, where at  
21 that time, they held just about all of their board  
22 meetings. I think they started moving around after  
23 that. But I would see several things on the agenda at  
24 the same thing, at the same time. I would see mainly  
25 three kinds of items that I noticed.

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1 Three kinds of items: rates going up.  
2 They're increasing the rates. They were borrowing  
3 money \$500 million at a time from the Federal  
4 Refinancing Bank. I think that's become a little bit  
5 more difficult now, but I'm still sure they have a lot  
6 of access to money. And the other element was they  
7 put out little budget things about where money was  
8 going. And a whole bunch of the money was going to  
9 pay interest on money they had already borrowed, okay.

10 And you just connect the lines. They didn't want the  
11 lines connected, but some of us tried to get them  
12 connected.

13 They're asking for a Combined Construction  
14 and Operating License and that's very important. They  
15 won't come back and say, okay, we build it. People  
16 get to see whether it really should be operated or  
17 anything like this.

18 This is basically it, folks. And it's  
19 being rushed through on the front end just like  
20 they've done dams and stuff like this. They did it  
21 with Sequoyah. They did it with the Tellico Dam. TVA  
22 always does this. They get it all front loaded and  
23 get things into a big train that becomes very  
24 difficult to stop further down the road. Now is the  
25 time to stop this train or at least to slow it down

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1 before it gets rushing to find out what's really going  
2 on here.

3 They haven't done their environmental and  
4 safety study. They -- the NRC says they missed  
5 several pieces of it. They didn't adequately deal  
6 with the earthquakes or the possibility of  
7 earthquakes, the geology. They didn't deal with the  
8 realistic projections on the water flow.

9 Think what's going on here, folks. When  
10 they brought Sequoyah in, that was supposed to make a  
11 huge boom in everything and tons and tons and tons of  
12 jobs. You know, Chattanooga is ten miles from  
13 Sequoyah. I grew up a few miles the other side of  
14 Sequoyah. Also not real far from Watts Bar. And I know  
15 that it didn't -- there was no boom that was made.

16 It's an incomplete document. And what  
17 needs to happen now is the NRC needs to tell TVA you  
18 must wait until you can have a less incomplete and you  
19 do it right. This stuff matters.

20 Oh, yeah, talking about TVA and incomplete  
21 environmental things and shoddy things, there used to  
22 be in Dayton, Tennessee a few miles north of here.  
23 It's not really that far. I guess maybe 60 miles, 70  
24 miles from here. There was no bridge across the  
25 river. There was a ferry. It's not there now, but it

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1 was operating until relatively recent, maybe ten years  
2 ago or something.

3 But anyway, there was a ferry, not a big  
4 super modern ferry and everything. You got a boat  
5 with an engine -- you got a sort of barge thing with  
6 an engine and cars would drive onto it and it would go  
7 across the Tennessee River and then it would come back  
8 and all of this. Just during the daytime, just during  
9 the week, okay.

10 Now here's the thing. On the banks or  
11 very near the bank of that river -- I swear this is  
12 true -- and as far as I know that person has never  
13 been prosecuted or sued or even fired for that, the  
14 people that approved that. There was a sign on that  
15 river which could take, you know, a maximum of  
16 something like five cars an hour across the river.  
17 There was a sign that said, "Sequoyah Evacuation  
18 Route." That's the kind of people you're dealing with.

19 MR. CAMERON: Mr. Flowers, can I ask you  
20 to just sort of sum up for us.

21 MR. FLOWERS: Yes, I will sum up.

22 MR. CAMERON: Thank you.

23 MR. FLOWERS: They always go into the  
24 communities that are having the hardest time  
25 financially and sell them big pieces of goods. Other

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1 related industries do also.

2 This industry is dangerous. It barely  
3 produces more energy than it takes to mine it,  
4 transport it, and do the whole thing and at very much  
5 high cost in money and safety.

6 Also if you make nuclear power plants  
7 anywhere on earth, you will not -- this is a maturity  
8 thing, folks -- we just have to learn to accept this  
9 inconvenient fact.

10 If you accept nuclear power plants  
11 anywhere on earth, you will not deal with nuclear  
12 proliferation because you have given up your only  
13 choke point. The only thing that you can surveil  
14 (sic) effectively, such as from space, is the  
15 enrichment of uranium. You can't do it with mixed  
16 oxide fuels that have plutonium in them because that's  
17 a -- that can be done and hidden. You can not, so far  
18 at least, enrich uranium to make power and hide it  
19 from effective surveillance. Anything else in the  
20 process of making bombs you can hide.

21 MR. CAMERON: Okay, thank you.

22 And we're going to go to -- this is our  
23 final speaker.

24 MR. MOSS: Thank you, Chip.

25 I have some comments from my friend, Lynn

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1 Leach and Gurley, which I think I will just put into  
2 the record because it's late.

3 This afternoon I spoke about water  
4 consumption and the unstable nature of the local  
5 geology and I would like to add one more concern. A  
6 number of people who are in support of the TVA  
7 proposal have acknowledged that climate change and  
8 global warming is an issue here. And some claim that  
9 nuclear power can be used to mitigate the effects of  
10 climate change.

11 There's a big problem with that view.  
12 Just as the unstable karst terrain should be a concern  
13 when considering site suitability, the extreme  
14 weather, floods, droughts, and other climate effects  
15 brought on by the increasing levels of carbon in our  
16 atmosphere should be a concern. In fact, we don't  
17 know what the effects of climate change and global  
18 warming will be. Historical climate data does not  
19 apply, as we are traveling into new territory.

20 Now you might say that this is sort of a  
21 broad concern. This would affect the siting no matter  
22 where you put it. And this is true. The effects of  
23 unstable terrain or unstable weather on a nuclear  
24 plant could be disastrous. Let me point out that no  
25 public health danger is likely or even possible when

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1 solar, wind power plants are damaged and no effects --  
2 no known effects of severe weather can exist on  
3 conservation techniques.

4 Nuclear power is not a sustainable option  
5 no matter where you site it.

6 Thank you.

7 MR. CAMERON: And that brings us to the  
8 close of tonight's meeting. The NRC staff will be  
9 here after the meeting.

10 And I'm going to ask our Senior Manager,  
11 Jim Lyons, to close the meeting out for us.

12 MR. LYONS: Thank you, Chip.

13 Once again I'd like to thank everybody who  
14 came out tonight, everybody who spoke. I appreciate  
15 all the comments we got. And a lot of them we will be  
16 able to use as we move forward.

17 I want to thank everyone for being  
18 respectful of all the speakers. I think we had a very  
19 good meeting. The county, the city of Scottsboro has  
20 been a very gracious host to us as we've -- our team  
21 has been here since Sunday, a lot of them, as we have  
22 been doing our work here.

23 I just want to remind you of three things.

24 One is the hearing deadline is next week. To  
25 reinforce that if you want to get that certificate,

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1 the electronic certificate, you need to get your  
2 request in right away.

3 The other is that the comment period for  
4 the Scoping Review that we're doing ends April 25th.  
5 And so please if you have additional comments or if  
6 you talk to your friends and neighbors and they have  
7 comments and they want to get them to us, please have  
8 them provide them to us by April 25th.

9 And finally is that in about a year from  
10 now we'll be back to present the findings that we have  
11 come up with through our analysis and our preliminary  
12 conclusions.

13 You'll have another opportunity to see  
14 those -- we'll actually issue the Draft Environmental  
15 Impact Statement before we come out. During that 75-  
16 day comment period that Mallecia was talking about, we  
17 will be back out here to talk to you. But we will  
18 give you a little bit of time to look at our Impact  
19 Statement before we do that.

20 So with that, I do again appreciate you  
21 being here. Please drive safely. And we'll see you  
22 around the -- at least in the next year.

23 So thank you.

24 (Whereupon, this meeting was concluded at  
25 9:25 p.m.)

**NEAL R. GROSS**

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