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Environmental Scoping Meeting

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING PROCESS
VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION
UNITS 2 AND 3
COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION
PUBLIC MEETING

+ + + + +
Tuesday,
January 27th, 2009

+ + + + +
Winnsboro, South Carolina

The Public Meeting was held at 7:00 p.m., at the
Fairfield Central High School, 836 U.S. Highway 3221
Bypass, Winnsboro, South Carolina, Chet Poslusny,
Facilitator, presiding.

APPEARANCES:

- WILLIAM "BUTCH" BURTON - NRC
- PATRICIA VOKOUN - NRC
- DEBORAH JACKSON - NRC
- RAVINDRA JOSHI - NRC
- BARRY ZALCMAN - NRC

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

7:00 p.m.

FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: On behalf of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the NRC, I would like to welcome you to this environmental scoping meeting, related to this combined license application, for the Virgil Summer Nuclear Units 2 and 3.

My name is Chet Poslusny, I'm going to serve as your facilitator tonight, try to run the meeting effectively. And, hopefully, everybody who has come will find it to be productive.

A couple of administrative items. We are going to run this meeting until 10, try to get everybody on and signed up. We have had people sign up on line, and as late as this evening.

We will try to get everybody up here to provide their comments. But, after that point, we will try to clean up, but you can still talk with the Staff, feel free to talk with the Staff one on one, as you did during the open house. We entertained that.

Cell phones, let's make sure we shut those off, that would be great, I did mine. A couple of ground rules. Be aware that this meeting is being transcribed.

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1 We need a record of the comments that come
2 in tonight. So when you choose to speak, or when I
3 call you up here, make sure you state your name very
4 clearly, and in case our transcriber has a problem, he
5 will let us know that we need to speak louder. And
6 hopefully that won't be a problem.

7 We expect, tonight, to hear some very
8 strong feelings about the proposed plants, either pro
9 or against. And we expect that we will all listen
10 attentively, because every comment is a good one. And
11 let only one person speak at a time, let's give them
12 that courtesy, and it will be a very productive
13 meeting as well.

14 Let me talk a little bit about the meeting
15 structure. The first part of the meeting will include
16 two of our staff speaking about the process that is
17 being followed right now, with the applications that
18 have been sent to the NRC.

19 So we will explain to you what is going on
20 in our reviews, and how you will participate in this
21 process, either tonight or in other venues.

22 I'm going to follow that, I'd like you to
23 hold your questions. We are going to have a few
24 minute question period, maybe five or ten minutes, on
25 the processes that we talked about, to help clarify

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1 what we talked about, to make sure you understand
2 that.

3 At that point we will begin the second
4 part of the meeting, which is the most important part,
5 where we will -- I will call up people who have signed
6 up tonight, and we will listen to your comments,
7 relative to our environmental review.

8 And I'd like you to keep those comments to
9 about three to five minutes, so we can all get up here
10 and provide those comments, since quite a few have
11 signed up.

12 With that I did want to emphasize, we are
13 collecting comments tonight. But, as you will hear in
14 a couple of moments, any additional comments that come
15 in, either by mail, or electronically, will be
16 considered equally, and will have the same weight in
17 our process.

18 We must read, understand, and entertain
19 all of those, and put them into the process. So if
20 you don't feel like speaking tonight, you want to send
21 something in, or if you learn something tonight, that
22 you want to write in about, please do that, and we
23 will give you those addresses later.

24 One more advertisement. We do have a
25 second meeting that will be held, at the same time,

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1 tomorrow night, at the McCrorey-Liston Elementary
2 School, that is in Blair. So you may want to attend
3 then, as well, or tell your friends to come. That
4 will be fine as well.

5 With that I would like to introduce our
6 speakers for this evening. Mr. William Burton, who is
7 the chief of one of the environmental branches. Ms.
8 Patricia Vokoun, she is the environmental project
9 manager. The senior manager today is Deborah
10 Jackson. And Patricia's boss is Brian Whited.

11 And we also have other representative of
12 the NRC offices, including the resident inspector,
13 here tonight.

14 So let us begin with our presentations.
15 And, again, please hold your questions until they are
16 done. And with that we will start with Butch.

17 MR. BURTON: First I wanted to welcome
18 you. I'm very happy to be here, since when I left
19 Washington at 5:30, it was snow and sleet. So I'm
20 very happy to be here.

21 And I'm very pleased to see so many folks
22 taking the time to come out. First of all, one thing
23 that I always try to clarify, with folks, if you
24 noticed Chet called me Butch. That is what I prefer
25 to go by. I always tell folks William was my grand-

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1 daddy.

2 I wanted to briefly go -- Pat is going to
3 do the lion's share of the presentation. I just have
4 a few high level opening comments.

5 The first one is, why are we here this
6 evening? And there are five primary reasons why we
7 are here. First, and foremost, we are here to listen
8 to you.

9 As part of our effort to try and put
10 together a technically accurate and robust
11 Environmental Impact Statement, it is very important
12 that we get the best information possible.

13 And what we realized, from our experience,
14 is that people who live in the area of the federal
15 action, are people many times most informed, and
16 understand most what is going on.

17 And is important that we, as the Staff,
18 get that information. So that is the primary reason
19 that we are here today.

20 One of the things I tell folks is that up
21 in Washington there is a very popular clothing store.

22 And in their commercials they have a tag line, and
23 they say, an educated consumer is our best customer.

24 And I think that really aptly describes
25 the outcome that we are trying to get with the review.

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1 The more that you understand the details of the
2 review, the details of the application, what the NRC
3 does, how you can participate, the better chance that
4 we are going to come out with a good quality product.

5 Second reason; we are here to discuss the
6 review process. Again, what we do, how we do it, why
7 we do it, and how you can participate.

8 We have certain legal obligations under
9 the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA, to
10 assess the environmental impacts of a federal action,
11 and Pat will explain what is involved with that.

12 We will talk a little bit about the
13 tentative review schedule for the work that we are
14 going to be doing. And, again, as I already
15 mentioned, very important how you can participate in
16 the process.

17 This is actually our second time down with
18 regard to the project. We were, actually, here in
19 August of '07, which was our first outreach effort.
20 And I just wanted to get a quick show of hands, people
21 who were here for that.

22 Okay, okay, a few, good. Welcome back.
23 Obviously, for the rest of you, this may be your first
24 opportunity to hear about what is going on, and our
25 approach to doing business.

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1 So hopefully this will be educational for
2 you. And there will be an opportunity, if you have
3 questions, for us to answer them. And we brought many
4 of our technical experts. Not all, but many of them,
5 hopefully to answer some of the questions that you may
6 have.

7 Next slide. This is my last one. I just
8 wanted to talk a little bit about the process and who
9 some of the key stakeholders are. And, as you can
10 see, we have broken up folks into three broad columns
11 and categories.

12 I'm actually going to start with the third
13 column, with the Applicant, South Carolina Electric
14 and Gas submitted an application proposing to build
15 and operate two additional units at the current Summer
16 site.

17 That is the beginning of our process.
18 Going to the first column, talking about the NRC, and
19 there are different entities within the agency, who
20 play a role in what we do.

21 First are the Commissioners, a five member
22 commission. They are the ones who, ultimately, say
23 yeah or nay with regard to issuing a license. So,
24 obviously, they play a major role.

25 There is the Staff, of which some of us

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1 are represented today. We do a lot of the heavy
2 lifting in terms of looking into the nuts and bolts of
3 the application, and confirming, whether or not on the
4 safety side, that this can be built and operated
5 safely.

6 And, on the environmental side, to
7 identify, assess, and document, the environmental
8 impacts of building and operating the plant.

9 There is the Atomic Safety and Licensing
10 Board. This is a group of technical experts that
11 review and assess the Staff's work, both safety and
12 environmental, and they weigh in as to the adequacy of
13 our review, and provide recommendations to the
14 Commission.

15 The last one is the Advisory Committee on
16 Reactor Safeguards, ACRS. This is a group similarly
17 constructed like the hearing board, but their primary
18 responsibility is to review the work of the Staff on
19 the safety side.

20 But these are all entities within the
21 agency, all who play a very important role in making
22 sure that, again, we are doing our jobs, and doing
23 them correctly.

24 Middle column, other stakeholders, who are
25 as important, if not more important than the other

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1 folks involved. Members of the community, as I said
2 before, you all live here, you all know what the
3 situation on the ground is, in a way that we may not.

4 And so it is important that we are able to
5 solicit your feedback. And tonight is our first
6 effort to do that.

7 There are public interest groups, there
8 are organizations who have been involved with nuclear
9 power, some for quite a few years, and who have very
10 definite views about nuclear power, about the process.

11 It is important for us, as an agency, as
12 well as the general public, to hear their views. They
13 do not come to these positions lightly, and it is
14 important that you hear what some of them have to say.

15 Some in support of nuclear, some not in
16 support. And it is important to hear all sides.

17 Other federal agencies, getting a license
18 from the NRC is just one step in a very long process.

19 To get an operating license from the NRC is not --
20 does not necessarily mean that this will be built.

21 There are other licenses and permits that
22 an Applicant has to get, and we work with some of the
23 other federal agencies, like the Army Corps of
24 Engineers, FEMA, to try and coordinate that work, and
25 make sure that all of the information is reviewed, and

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1 available for public consumption.

2 Also, similarly, State, Tribal
3 organizations are involved. Similarly, with permits
4 that they issue. And local officials. For many of
5 you, in the general public, that may be the first
6 entity that you turn to, your local official, your
7 mayor, folks on your city or county government. They
8 also play a major role.

9 They have, again, valuable insights that
10 we can use, that is also important that we share with
11 them, the same thing I said before, who we are, what
12 we do, how we do it, and why we do it.

13 So, together, all of these entities, the
14 goal is the same, to make sure that we fulfill our
15 mission, the NRC's mission of protecting public health
16 and safety. That is what this is all about.

17 And, again, you play a very important role
18 in that. An educated consumer is our best customer.
19 So that is pretty much my part of the review -- the
20 presentation, I'm sorry, I'm thinking review.

21 I'm going to turn it over to Pat who will
22 give you more detail on some of the steps in the
23 review and licensing process.

24 MS. VOKOUN: Thank you, Butch, and thank
25 you all for coming here this evening and participating

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1 in this public scoping meeting.

2 My name is Pat Vokoun, and I'm the NRC
3 Environmental Project manager for the Virgil C. Summer
4 Nuclear Station, Units 2 and 3, combined license
5 application.

6 I will start my presentation by briefly
7 discussing the laws and regulations that apply to the
8 NRC's reviews of combined license applications and, in
9 particular, to the environmental reviews.

10 In general the NRC regulates civilian uses
11 of nuclear materials to protect the public health and
12 safety, and the environment.

13 The NRC's regulatory and licensing
14 functions, including those for new nuclear reactors,
15 were established under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954.

16 The National Environmental Policy Act,
17 which I will sometimes refer to as NEPA, during this
18 presentation, established national environmental
19 policy for the protection, maintenance, and
20 enhancement of the environment; and it provides a
21 means for federal agencies to carry out that goal.

22 For the NRC's licensing of new reactors,
23 this is through the development of an Environmental
24 Impact Statement, an EIS. The NRC implements NEPA in
25 a manner consistent with our licensing and regulatory

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1 functions, the requirements and procedures for which
2 are specified in the NRC's regulations, included in
3 Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 51.

4 In addition, 10 CFR Part 52, governs the
5 issuance of combined licenses. Next slide. The NRC's
6 environmental review also includes compliance with
7 other statutes, such as the National Historic
8 Preservation Act, the Endangered Species Act, Fish and
9 Wildlife Coordination Act, and many other federal,
10 state, and local environmental laws and regulations.

11 The Applicant, South Carolina Electric and
12 Gas Company, SCE&G, is seeking a combined license for
13 two new reactors, the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear
14 Station, Units 2 and 3, at its existing Summer site in
15 Fairfield County.

16 During this presentation, I will sometimes
17 be referring to this facility as the Summer project.
18 It is an NRC decision that authorizes an Applicant to
19 construct and operate a nuclear power plant, at a
20 specific site, in accordance with applicable federal
21 laws and regulations.

22 The Summer combined licenses, if issued by
23 the NRC, would allow for the construction and
24 operation of these plants, with conditions. South
25 Carolina Electric and Gas Company submitted its

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1 combined license application, by letter dated March
2 27th, 2008 for two Westinghouse AP1000 advanced light
3 water reactors.

4 This application includes an environmental
5 report, which the NRC will review as part of the
6 licensing process. Next slide.

7 NRC regulations allow combined license
8 applications to reference certified designs, or
9 designs that are docketed, and under review by the
10 NRC, but not yet certified.

11 The Westinghouse AP1000 advanced light
12 water reactors design, referenced by the South
13 Carolina Electric and Gas Company, for use at the
14 Summer site, has not yet been certified, but is
15 currently under review by the NRC staff.

16 This design, if acceptable, will be
17 certified by rulemaking. In addition, as part of its
18 Summer combined license application review, the NRC
19 staff conducts both a site specific safety review of
20 the AP1000 design, in relation to its proposed
21 location, at the Summer site, and an environmental
22 review and analysis of the potential impacts of
23 constructing and operating the proposed Summer
24 facilities at the Summer site.

25 Next slide. The combined license

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1 application review process begins when an application
2 has been accepted, and docketed, by the NRC. The
3 safety and environmental reviews I discussed, earlier,
4 are then begun and are conducted in parallel.

5 The safety review follows the top path
6 shown on the slide. The environmental review follows
7 the bottom path. The safety review focuses on the
8 public health and safety in relation to the proposed
9 facility, and ends with issuance of a final Safety
10 Evaluation Report.

11 The environmental review focuses on a
12 proposed plant's potential construction and
13 operational impacts on the environment, and ends with
14 issuance of a Final Environmental Impact Statement.

15 Both of these reviews feed into the NRC's
16 hearing process, which follows the middle path shown
17 on this slide. The hearing process factors in the
18 results of both reviews, and leads to the final step
19 in the license application review process, the
20 Commission's decision on whether or not to grant the
21 license. Next slide.

22 As I mentioned, earlier, the NRC's
23 environmental review is guided by the National
24 Environmental Policy Act, also known as NEPA.

25 NEPA requires federal agencies to use a

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1 systematic approach to consider environmental impacts
2 associated with major federal actions that have the
3 potential to significantly affect the human
4 environment.

5 This approach involves input from the
6 public, and requires an Environmental Impact
7 Statement. The NRC has determined that issuance of a
8 combined license for a nuclear reactor facility would
9 be a major federal action.

10 As such the Staff will develop an
11 Environmental Impact Statement before the Commission
12 takes final action on the South Carolina Electric and
13 Gas Company's application. Next slide.

14 As part of the NRC's environmental review,
15 the Staff will evaluate the potential environmental
16 impacts of construction and operation of the new
17 AP1000 facilities at the Summer site.

18 The NRC's regulations for implementing
19 NEPA are in Title 10 of the Code of Federal
20 Regulations, Part 51.

21 In addition, the NRC's environmental
22 standard review plan, NUREG 1555, and other documents,
23 provide guidance to the NRC's staff, on how to conduct
24 the environmental review, and how to document our
25 findings in an Environmental Impact Statement.

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1 These regulations and guidance documents
2 can be found on NRC's website. The NRC's
3 environmental review provides opportunities for public
4 involvement.

5 The first opportunity is during the
6 scoping period, which is why we are here today. After
7 our environmental findings are clearly documented in
8 the draft environmental impact statement, for the
9 Summer project, you will have an opportunity to
10 comment on this draft EIS.

11 Throughout this entire review the NRC
12 staff will maintain an open and transparent review
13 process. Next slide.

14 When a combined license application is
15 received, the NRC staff first reviews it to ensure
16 that it meets our completeness and technical
17 sufficiency guidance.

18 If acceptable, the application is
19 docketed, and we proceed with both the environmental
20 and safety reviews. The three white ovals, on this
21 slide, identify periods at which you are invited to
22 participate in the review process.

23 To start the environmental review, the NRC
24 publishes a Notice of Intent, in the Federal Register.
25 This notice informs the public of our intention to

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1 prepare an Environmental Impact Statement, and conduct
2 the Scoping Process.

3 I will be referring to the Environmental
4 Impact Statement as an EIS, during much of the
5 remainder of this presentation. The Scoping Process
6 includes a public comment period.

7 This public meeting is part of that
8 process. We will collect your comments today, and
9 document them, in the meeting transcript. You can
10 also provide written comments, through the end of the
11 scoping period.

12 After analyzing all the information
13 gathered, we develop a draft EIS, and issue it for
14 public comment. At that time we hold another public
15 meeting, such as the one, such as this one, to present
16 the results of our review, and invite your comments on
17 the draft EIS.

18 After evaluating your comments, the NRC
19 staff may decide to modify the draft EIS, we then
20 issue the final EIS. The final EIS, and the results
21 of the safety review, are used as inputs to the NRC's
22 hearing process, the final result of which is a
23 decision, by the Commission, on the application. Next
24 slide.

25 You are the ones who are most familiar

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1 with this area. The NRC staff have come here, today,
2 so that you can share with us those environmental
3 issues, and values, that you believe are important to
4 your community.

5 We will consider this information in
6 preparing the Summer EIS. In addition to providing
7 comments and information, here today, you have the
8 opportunity to continue to share your comments, or
9 provide additional information to us, through March
10 6th, 2009, as I will discuss later.

11 We will include all comments received in
12 our Scoping Summary Report, which we expect to be
13 available on the NRC website, in the June 2009 time
14 frame.

15 Comments applicable to the environmental
16 review will be considered in the NRC's staff
17 development of the draft EIS. Next slide.

18 Many different sources of information will
19 be used, by the NRC, to develop the EIS for the Summer
20 project. This EIS will be an independent evaluation
21 of the effects of the proposed plant, on the
22 environment, and local community.

23 So although the Staff starts with the
24 Applicant's environmental reports, and the combined
25 license application, we investigate other possible

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1 sources of information.

2 Additional information, for preparing the
3 EIS, is gathered during the site audit, and other data
4 collection activities. For example, at the site
5 audit, the NRC staff visits the project's site, and
6 vicinity, and meet with the Applicant's
7 representatives to begin the NRC's independent
8 evaluation of the information provided in the
9 Applicant's environmental report.

10 This scoping meeting represents one point
11 at which the NRC staff will gather comments, and
12 information, from the public. We will also conduct
13 the site audit, and we will communicate with federal,
14 tribal, state, and local agencies, to gain information
15 and insights. Next slide.

16 As shown, on this slide, a multi-
17 disciplinary team of NRC staff, with backgrounds in a
18 variety of relevant, scientific, and technical
19 disciplines, has been assembled to conduct the Summer
20 environmental review.

21 In addition, the NRC has contracted with
22 Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, to assist us in
23 preparing the EIS. The NRC, and contractor staff,
24 have expertise on wide ranging topics, related to
25 environmental issues, and nuclear power. Next slide.

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1 The NRC's review of the environmental
2 report has started, and the Notice of Intent to
3 prepare an EIS, and conduct scoping, was published on
4 January 5th, 2009.

5 Again, you can provide your oral and
6 written comments, for the scoping process today, and
7 your written comments, through March 6th, 2009.

8 We have copies of the Federal Register
9 Notice of Intent, here on our registration table.
10 This notice describes how you, the public, can submit
11 your scoping comments.

12 The NRC staff expects to complete the
13 draft EIS in 2010, at which time we will make it
14 publicly available to allow you to provide comments.
15 Also in 2010 we will have another public meeting to
16 show the results of our environmental review, and to
17 receive your comments on the draft EIS.

18 Your comments will be evaluated, and
19 addressed, for the final EIS. The agency expects to
20 issue the final EIS in 2011. The NRC's schedule for
21 the Summer combined license application review has not
22 yet been finalized, so the milestone dates shown here
23 are estimated.

24 The NRC website, www.nrc.gov and,
25 specifically, the project specific Summer webpage,

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1 will provide that information when it becomes
2 available. Next slide.

3 Here are the NRC's points of contact for
4 the Summer combined license application. In addition
5 to myself, I have provided the phone number of Mr.
6 Ravi Joshi, who is the project manager for the safety
7 review.

8 Ravi is here with us today. Ravi? The
9 Summer application can be viewed on the internet at
10 our electronic reading room, linked to the NRC's
11 website.

12 In addition the NRC recently established a
13 telephone and email help desk to assist interested
14 parties accessing documents, through the agency's
15 electronic filing system.

16 The help desk can be reached, toll free,
17 at 1-800-397-4209, or by email at
18 pdr.resource@nrc.gov. Also the Fairfield County
19 library has been kind enough to provide shelf space
20 for the environmental report, and for the draft and
21 final EIS.

22 Ms. McMasters is the person to talk to at
23 the library about that. If you want to be on our
24 mailing list please make sure your name and address is
25 provided to one of the NRC's staff at our registration

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1 table.

2 They can provide you with a card for this
3 purpose. This is one way of ensuring that you will be
4 notified of upcoming meetings, and that you will
5 receive copies of the draft and final EIS. Next
6 slide.

7 Your scoping comments regarding the NRC's
8 Summer environmental review can be provided to us,
9 today, at this meeting. Your comments can also be
10 sent to us by mail, or email, through March 6th, 2009.

11 Details are provided on this slide, which
12 is included in the copy of the slide presentation, and
13 in the Federal Register Notice of Intent, that you can
14 obtain at our registration table.

15 This concludes our slide presentation.
16 Thank you, again, for participating in this meeting,
17 and in the scoping process.

18 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you,
19 Patricia, thank you Butch. The Staff has provided
20 quite a bit of information on the processes. There is
21 a lot of activity going on, as you can see, and will
22 go on, in this process.

23 We want to know if you have any questions,
24 over the next few minutes, on how we are doing that
25 job, or how you can participate during these

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1 processes.

2 So if you have any questions please raise
3 your hand, and we will let you ask them. Yes, sir?
4 Please state your name.

5 MR. SNYDER: Eugene F. Snyder, I live in
6 Fairfield County. The units that are being built, 2
7 and 3, are they identical to unit 1, or only similar?

8 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Good question.
9 Butch, do you want to take that?

10 MR. BURTON: The answer is no. They are
11 different. One of the things that some of you may not
12 realize, is that we have a current operating fleet.
13 Most of it was built over the last 30 years, or so.

14 This next generation of nuclear plants
15 that people are submitting applications for, are the
16 culmination of lessons learned from the building and
17 operating of the current fleet.

18 So what we have done, and Patricia
19 mentioned Part 52 of our regulations, is that we have
20 developed a new way of reviewing the plants. We have
21 new designs that are being reviewed and certified.

22 And so the next generation of plants that
23 are being built, are going to be different in many
24 ways, than the current operating fleet. Specifically
25 the plants that are being proposed for Summer, the

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1 design is what is called AP1000, advanced passive 1000
2 megawatt.

3 It takes advantage of, basically, passive
4 technology, where you don't have to use as much, as
5 many pumps and valves, and active components. They
6 really propose to take advantage of gravity to cool
7 the core, and cool the containment, and things like
8 that.

9 There are a lot of benefits to that, at
10 least according to the industry, in terms of saving of
11 time, money, resources, things like that. So many of
12 the new reactor designs are going to be different than
13 what you may be familiar with for the previous
14 generation plants.

15 Does that answer your question? Okay.

16 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Any
17 other questions on the process, the review process, or
18 how you can participate?

19 (No response.)

20 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Okay, seeing no --
21 yes, sir?

22 MR. HENDRIX: My name is Clifton Hendrix,
23 I live ten miles above V.C. Summer. The old plants
24 would refuel every 18 months. How often are you going
25 to refuel these?

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1 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Do we, does anyone
2 know what the refueling period is for the new design?

3 MR. BURTON: I don't want to hog all the
4 answering time, because we have a lot of experts here.

5 Yes, right now we've got to the point where we have
6 moved from 12 month refuelings, to now we are at about
7 18 months.

8 And one of the proposed benefits is that
9 you will be able to run even longer. I have heard
10 some proposals that with the new designs you may be
11 able to run as long as 24 months. I have heard that.

12 That is more on the safety side, so I'm
13 not as familiar. But I believe that one of the
14 proposed benefits to the new designs is to have longer
15 running plants.

16 But you are right, right now I think most
17 of the industry is running about 18 months between
18 refuelings.

19 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: I can take your
20 name and I will get that answer to you. Maybe not
21 tonight, but probably tomorrow.

22 Any other questions before we start the
23 scoping portion of the meeting? I'm looking, I see no
24 hands. I see one. You can step up here if you would
25 like.

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1 MS. GREENLAW: Pam Greenlaw. I'm an SCE&G
2 rate payer. And my question is what is meant by
3 community? Is this a boundary, or is this within the
4 jurisdiction of SCE&G?

5 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Relative to
6 providing comments in the scoping?

7 MS. GREENLAW: Correct.

8 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Okay.

9 MS. GREENLAW: Thank you.

10 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Barry, do you want
11 to get that? The question was, what does the NRC
12 consider to be the community for scoping comments?

13 MS. GREENLAW: Correct, thank you.

14 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Okay.

15 MR. ZALCMAN: Thank you. Barry Zalcman,
16 staff.

17 Scoping comments we invite the public
18 wherever they are. That means community in the close
19 vicinity of the facility, that means the community at
20 large, the region, that means the entire state, that
21 means the entire country.

22 We will take comments wherever they are.
23 There is no limit on good quality comments. We will
24 be happy to receive them.

25 There is value in reaching out to the

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1 community, though, in that you are our experts in the
2 ground. You have insights about this community that
3 we don't have.

4 We have experts that we will bring to the
5 program. But as you look at these kind of issues, and
6 environmental space, there is something that you know,
7 that we don't know. And we are asking you to share
8 that with us.

9 So the community is the community at
10 large, it is the entire public. And while we come to
11 this community, which is the closest where the
12 facility is likely to be, if the Commission passes
13 judgement favorably. There is no limit on distance,
14 though.

15 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Could you step up
16 to that mike? State your name first.

17 MR. MASON: Corry Mason. I was wondering
18 25, 30 years ago, when they built V.C. Summer --

19 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Closer to the mike,
20 please.

21 MR. MASON: Twenty-five or 30 years ago,
22 when they built V.C. Summer, it seems like it was a
23 false contract, because they said it would close down
24 in 25 years. And that didn't happen.

25 And I'm wondering why they said it would

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1 close down in 25 years? You would assume if a plant
2 would run for 25 years is because it is like a car, it
3 might have been a good old car, but eventually it is
4 going to break down.

5 And then they reinstated the license for
6 what, twenty more years? And I'm just wondering, to
7 me that just seems like a false contract. I waited
8 for that plant to shut down, and now I'm getting two
9 more, and I live downwind from them.

10 And I'm not real happy about that, I don't
11 like being lied to.

12 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: This is more of a
13 comment, but a question. But, Barry, would you like
14 to --

15 MR. MASON: The question is why didn't it
16 close down after 25 years?

17 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Okay.

18 MR. ZALCMAN: Let me first describe the
19 licensing process that we followed during the initial
20 licensing. It is slightly different than what we have
21 now. We had a construction permit, we had an
22 operating license.

23 To begin with, that license was issued for
24 40 years. It wasn't 25 years. The duration was not
25 based upon engineering limitations, it was principally

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1 related to anti-trust type issues.

2 The operation of the facility, today, the
3 performance that we have seen on the part of the
4 industry, has been very favorable in recent years. If
5 you look at a license, such as your own driver's
6 license, it is granted for a fixed period of time.

7 What happens the day after that five year
8 limit; are you entitled to renew your license? I have
9 to go down that path because the fact of the matter is
10 that these plants are not unsafe at 40 years and one
11 day. It is just that they have a fixed license.

12 You will continue to operate the systems.
13 Automobiles, for example, you will continue to
14 operate automobiles, and they will continue to operate
15 as long as you maintain them in a proper fashion.

16 So the preventive maintenance programs
17 that exist at these facilities, where they change out
18 moving parts on a routine basis, if you individually
19 maintained your vehicle, in that same fashion, it
20 would go considerably greater, in terms of duration,
21 in terms of mileage, than if you allowed it to degrade
22 and fail over some period of time.

23 The reality is we have safety systems in
24 place, we have inspection programs in place, we have
25 continuing investments on the part of these license

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1 holders, to preserve the value of that power plant. It
2 operates in a safe fashion, consistent with the Atomic
3 Energy Act.

4 It is a commitment that we have to make
5 sure that that plant operates safely. That is our
6 role, that is our responsibility under the Atomic
7 Energy Act.

8 And if they can't operate that facility in
9 an economic fashion, they will make a business
10 decision, at which time they should shut down the
11 facility, and enter into decommissioning.

12 The process is in place, they have a 40
13 year license. They sought, and gained, renewal of
14 that license for yet another 20 years, because they
15 can adequately manage the effects of aging, that they
16 continue to operate that plant safely.

17 That is our role as a regulatory agency,
18 to make sure that they meet the safety goals, they
19 meet the safety requirements, and they meet the
20 security requirements.

21 That licensing action has taken place, so
22 they will continue to operate the facility until such
23 time as they decide that it is no longer economically
24 feasible to operate that plant.

25 Now we have another request, before the

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1 agency, we don't pass judgement on that until we
2 complete both our safety and environmental reviews.

3 In terms of questioning the Applicant on
4 their motives, their business plans, they have to get
5 approval not just from the NRC, they also have to get
6 approvals from the state.

7 There are different mechanisms in place,
8 and there are different forms, that are available to
9 you, to get engaged. What we have done is provided
10 one arena, and that is this environmental review, to
11 share your concerns on the environmental issues.

12 If you have concerns on licensing, or
13 relicensing of the facility, there was provided
14 another opportunity, several years ago, to get
15 involved in that process as well.

16 So I understand your concern, your
17 apprehension. You thought you entered into one
18 understanding. The original licensing period was for
19 40 years, it was not for 25.

20 There is a mechanism, authorized under the
21 Atomic Energy Act, that allows for relicensing of
22 these facilities, and they elected to do something
23 like that.

24 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Next
25 question? Any more?

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1 (No response.)

2 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: I think we need to
3 move on to the second portion of the meeting, the most
4 important to us, where we gather inputs to the scoping
5 process, and I have had folks that have signed up
6 before the meeting, and I have them on the list.

7 Some of them aren't here, but I will still
8 read those names, so bear with me on that. Let's
9 start first, and let me remind you, we would like to
10 keep the comments to about three to five minutes, if
11 you can, so everyone can come up and provide them.

12 And don't be afraid to provide them in
13 writing, if you don't have enough time in five
14 minutes. That is the other alternative, it is just as
15 acceptable, and just as valuable to us.

16 So let us begin with Charles McDow. State
17 your name, and that should be on.

18 MR. MCDOW: My name is Charlie McDow, and
19 I'm the district administrator for Congressman John
20 Spratt. And I'm here, today, to submit a letter from
21 the entire South Carolina Congressional Delegation.

22 And the letter is in strong support of
23 development of new nuclear energy facilities, within
24 the State of South Carolina. And this letter is
25 signed by Lindsey Graham, United States Senator;

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1 Gresham Barrett, Member of Congress; Bob Inglis,
2 member of Congress; John Spratt, member of Congress;
3 Henry Brown, member of Congress; Joe Wilson, member of
4 Congress; and James Clyburn, member of Congress, and
5 Jim DeMint, United States Senate.

6 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. We will
7 take that and put it on the record. We appreciate it.

8 The second person is David Ferguson.

9 MR. FERGUSON: My name is David Ferguson,
10 and I'm a County Council Member here in Fairfield
11 County, and I represent District Five.

12 The points that I would like to make, here
13 tonight, are where would Fairfield County be without
14 the V.C. Summer plant, where we would be in the
15 future, were it not for this type of energy to be
16 performed here in our county.

17 Coming from the school system, I will
18 address that one first. Thirty years ago, thirty-five
19 years ago, when V.C. Summer first came online, we were
20 getting all our entire money from the federal
21 government.

22 Most of those things have since fell by
23 the wayside, or at least diminished in value by a
24 great deal. We have the pleasure, now, of being able
25 to educate our children at the expense of nuclear

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1 energy, here in our county, to the tune of about 20
2 million dollars a year.

3 About 66 percent of that goes into the
4 educating our children here in Fairfield county. It
5 also goes into buying trucks, and the other things
6 that our county is mandated, those services are
7 mandated to offer.

8 And in comparison, we did a comparison
9 three years ago, if you took our county, number-wise
10 and size-wise, and you compared it to the counties who
11 do not have such a project in their county, we have 48
12 road policemen on our county force.

13 The biggest force we were able to find
14 with a population the same as ours, was 27, which is
15 about half. We have six EMS stations, which two of
16 them is almost right across the street from this
17 plant, and one right up the road from it.

18 Most of the counties our size have either
19 none, or one. Fire stations are the same way,
20 libraries are the same way, and I could go on and on.

21 The thing is, when V.C. Summer first came to
22 Fairfield County they did not have a history, they did
23 not have a record.

24 They do have a record. They have ran a
25 very safe plant in Fairfield County. It has been well

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1 monitored. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has
2 folks out there that see the state, have folks out
3 there to see that it is going to be operated in a
4 certain manner.

5 And it has been a safe neighbor for
6 Fairfield County. It has been wonderful to provide
7 funding for our children, for our elderly, for
8 recreation, for all of the emergency services that we
9 have in Fairfield County.

10 And I, for one, along with the entire
11 County Council, we signed a resolution last night,
12 emphasize that we were for this project. I would like
13 to go on record as saying I, for one, as a past
14 educator, appreciate the fact that our children can be
15 educated in this county, and not have to go after the
16 taxpayers any worse than we do.

17 And I thank you for letting me comment.

18 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thanks. Next is
19 Dr. Sonny White.

20 DR. WHITE: Good evening, my name is Sonny
21 White, I serve as president of the Midlands Technical
22 College. Midlands Technical College is the main
23 workforce educator serving Fairfield, Lexington, and
24 Richland Counties, here in the Midlands of South
25 Carolina.

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1 One of our main other jobs is to support
2 the economic development of the region that we serve,
3 those three counties. And, believe me, in our region
4 today, and in the State of South Carolina, in order to
5 support economic development, we need a source of
6 sustainable long-term energy.

7 We believe, enthusiastically, at the
8 College, that nuclear needs to be a part of that.
9 And, in that respect, our job is to educate a skilled
10 workforce, in order to make these two projects go
11 forward.

12 At the present time we are working with
13 three important partners in this process. The Shell
14 Group, who will actually construct these units, the
15 South Carolina Electric and Gas, who will operate and
16 maintain these units; and also the Westinghouse
17 Company, who will supply the two AP100 units.

18 And, importantly, for our region here in
19 South Carolina, the Westinghouse plant in Richland
20 County, South Carolina, which produces now, and will
21 produce all of the nuclear fuel, the nuclear rods for
22 those particular two plants.

23 In that regard we are working with the
24 house Shell Group, who will construct those companies.
25 We are looking at more than 3,000 skilled craft

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1 workers, required over ten years, to build those
2 plants.

3 We are looking at welders, electricians,
4 iron workers, carpenters. In addition to that,
5 millwrights, and so on and so forth, to make that
6 happen.

7 We have a partnership with them now, we
8 are working in concert with them to develop the
9 programs, and make that happen.

10 With South Carolina Electric and Gas, they
11 have asked us to develop a nuclear operator training
12 program. And they, by sitting on our advisory
13 committee, by giving input into the curriculum, we are
14 now developing that nuclear operator training program,
15 so that you have environmental and safe programs, in
16 terms of the ability to run those facilities long
17 term.

18 And we really do appreciate the working
19 relationship that we have, and the partnership we have
20 with South Carolina Electric & Gas, in order to
21 develop those programs, and have the advisory council
22 go out and recruit the people, and get the right kind
23 of people into those particular programs.

24 And then, thirdly, we are presently
25 starting to work with the Westinghouse Company. We

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1 work with them, extensively, over the years. But now
2 we work with them even more, as they will need to ramp
3 up to supply more of the nuclear fuel.

4 Here in Fairfield County, along with Mr.
5 Ferguson, and Mr. Brown, who chair the County Council,
6 we have been able to get a new training facility. We
7 just got a million dollars from the State of South
8 Carolina Department of Commerce, to build a quick jobs
9 training center, where we will be able to provide the
10 training, help provide some of that training in the
11 skilled craft area.

12 And, also, start to develop students who
13 can take those courses to become nuclear operators.
14 So we look forward to that particular partnership.

15 It is very important that we continue to
16 work in partnership. We are enthusiastic because our
17 main job is to supply the skilled work force that can
18 run this, environmentally in a safe fashion, that will
19 provide nuclear energy for economic development in
20 South Carolina. Thank you.

21 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Next Ben C. Rusche.

22 MR. RUSCHE: Thank you. My name is Ben
23 Rusche. I chair the South Carolina Governor's Nuclear
24 Advisory Council.

25 Many of you may not realize that such a

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1 body exists. The Council was established by the
2 legislature near the end of the last century, during
3 Governor Hodges' administration.

4 John Stucker served as the Chair when
5 Governor Sanford was elected, and I was appointed
6 Chair of the Council. The Council consists of nine
7 members, seven appointed by the Governor, and two
8 appointed by members of the legislature, one by the
9 President of the Senate, and one by the Speaker of the
10 House.

11 The Council meets regularly, once a
12 quarter. Meetings are held in Columbia, generally at
13 the Gressette building in the Capitol complex, at 1
14 p.m., on the second Thursday of the month.

15 Occasionally the Council meets at specific
16 sites, for particular reviews. Meetings are open to
17 the public, and consist of about two hours of
18 technical presentations related to major nuclear
19 activities in the state.

20 I suspect that many recognize that the
21 earliest nuclear activity, in South Carolina, was
22 initiated south of Aiken in 1951. This federal site
23 was established by Congress, and the Department of
24 Energy, primarily to strengthen the nation's nuclear
25 weapons activity and national defense.

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1 The site was named the Savannah River
2 Site, because of its location along the river. The
3 site occupies about 200 square miles bordering on the
4 Savannah River.

5 Out of this background has grown the
6 commercial nuclear power industry, producing electric
7 power from atomic energy. Most of you here recognize
8 that the value of electric energy, produced by
9 commercial nuclear power, and how it has grown over
10 the last 50 or 60 years, with South Carolina leading
11 the nation.

12 There are about 120 commercial units now
13 in operation nation-wide. There are now three
14 commercial nuclear power sites in South Carolina,
15 producing electric power for use in the Carolinas,
16 including notably the Virgil Summer site, which we are
17 discussing here tonight, with unit 1 operating, and a
18 second unit under construction.

19 Elsewhere, in South Carolina, Duke Power
20 operates a three unit site at Seneca, and a two unit
21 site at Catawba, making a total of six units operating
22 in South Carolina.

23 South Carolina ranks high in nuclear
24 electric production. Tonight we are here celebrating
25 progress at the Virgil Summer site, in preparation for

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1 the adding of additional units at the power site.

2 The Governor's Nuclear Advisory Council
3 appreciates the opportunity to participate in this
4 progressive state, and to join in recognizing the
5 progress being made at the Virgil Summer site in South
6 Carolina as they add new additional capacity.

7 South Carolina is, indeed, fortunate to
8 have the far-sightedness and capability to add
9 additional capacity to power progress in our state.
10 The Governor's Nuclear Advisory Council is pleased to
11 join in the celebration. Thank you, sir.

12 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Next,
13 is Ruth Thomas here? I didn't see her sign up, but
14 thought I would try. Ruth Thomas?

15 (No response.)

16 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: David Brown?

17 MR. BROWN: I'm David Brown, Chairman of
18 the Fairfield County Council. I'm here on behalf of
19 the Fairfield County Council.

20 Last night, in our regular meeting, we
21 passed a Resolution in support of nuclear power in
22 Fairfield County, at the V.C. Summer Nuclear Plant.

23 And I would like to give this Resolution
24 to you to post with the record. I'm going to post it
25 right now.

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1 Whereas nuclear power has proved to be a
2 reliable and low-cost source of energy, providing base
3 load electricity 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and
4 whereas nuclear power has proven to be a safe energy
5 alternative for 52 percent of the energy generated in
6 the United States coming from nuclear power plants.

7 And, whereas, nuclear power is clean and
8 sustainable, accounting for 71 percent of the nation's
9 clean air electricity generation; and whereas nuclear
10 power allows us to lessen our reliance on other forms
11 of generation, resulting in significant reductions in
12 CO2 levels in our state; and whereas nuclear power
13 promotes economic development of a viable and reliable
14 source of energy as well, as through the creation of
15 much needed jobs and tax revenues.

16 Now, therefore, be it resolved by the
17 Fairfield County Council, that we support the
18 development of two new nuclear energy facilities at
19 the V.C. Summer Nuclear Plant in Fairfield County.

20 And we want to thank V.C. Summer for
21 picking Fairfield County to expand their operations.
22 Thank you.

23 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thanks. We will
24 put that on the record. Next is Theresa Powers.

25 MS. POWERS: I'm Theresa Powers, I'm the

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1 Economic Development Director for Newberry County.
2 I'm here tonight representing not only the economic
3 development interest of Newberry County, but also
4 Newberry County Council.

5 At their last meeting, on January 21st,
6 Newberry County Council unanimously passed a
7 resolution supporting the development of nuclear power
8 facilities in the State of South Carolina.

9 In this resolution they recognize nuclear
10 power as a safe, reliable, and low cost energy source.
11 They noted that nuclear power is clean and
12 sustainable, and can lessen our reliance on other
13 forms of power generation, thus reducing CO2 levels.

14 The Council also recognized the positive
15 impact these facilities will have in terms of job
16 creation, and tax revenue.

17 From the economic development perspective
18 at least 25 percent of Newberry County's labor force
19 is employed in manufacturing. Manufacturing is, and
20 will continue to be, a vital component of Newberry
21 County's economy.

22 As we all know, manufacturing needs power.
23 The continued availability of reliable, economical
24 energy is critical to maintaining Newberry County's
25 current industrial base, and to attracting new

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1 industry to our county.

2 If we are going to continue to meet the
3 needs of our existing power requirements, and have the
4 ability to meet the needs of new growth and
5 development, we must invest in new power generation
6 facilities.

7 The proposed units at V.C. Summer will go
8 a long way towards ensuring that Newberry County has
9 the energy it needs now, and in the future, and that
10 the power will be provided in a safe and reliable
11 manner.

12 As an economic developer, it is also
13 important to me that nuclear power is clean, and
14 generates electricity virtually emissions-free,
15 maintaining Newberry County's attainment status with
16 respect to air quality.

17 It is also critical to our future growth
18 and development, and ability to attract industry.
19 Nuclear power supports this objective.

20 Finally, as someone who works to bring
21 jobs and investments to the area, I would be remiss
22 not to recognize the positive impact that the V.C.
23 Summer Nuclear Station has on the Newberry and
24 regional economy.

25 Nuclear plants are substantial

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1 contributors to the tax base, which supports the
2 region both directly and indirectly. A significant
3 number of Newberry County residents are currently
4 employed at the plant.

5 The two proposed units would only add more
6 much needed, high paying, job opportunities for the
7 citizens of Newberry County, and the surrounding area.

8 Because of its positive, long-term, impact
9 on the economy, because it is clean and sustainable,
10 and because of the ability to meet the increasing
11 power demands in a reliable, efficient, and proven
12 manner, Newberry County supports nuclear power in the
13 additional units at the V.C. Summer facility.

14 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Next is
15 Michael Berg.

16 MR. BERG: I'd like to thank the NRC for
17 giving us the opportunity to speak tonight. My name
18 is Michael Berg, I'm the President of the Board of the
19 Carolina Peace Resource Center.

20 I was participating last summer in the
21 Listening Project, which our organization did with the
22 Southern Energy Network, in Jenkinsville, listening to
23 people's experience with the nuclear power plant right
24 at their doorsteps.

25 And, of course, as you would imagine,

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1 people had a variety of views about the plant. But a
2 lot of people concerned about cancer rates, about the
3 effects of radiation. And many people there are not
4 employed by the plant, and a lot of people were under
5 the idea that, you know, they weren't real happy about
6 the possibility of more reactors.

7 But people are going to do what they are
8 going to do, and you can't fight it. And I hope that
9 today, and tomorrow, there will be a lot of people
10 from the Jenkinsville area, of course the people most
11 affected by these proposals, who will be speaking.

12 I do not support the creation of these two
13 new reactors. I think there is a lot of problems with
14 the expansion of nuclear power, such as that we still
15 don't know what to do with the waste.

16 Yucca Mountain does not look like it is
17 going to be on line. And the waste is dangerous for
18 around 300,000 years. The Roman Empire lasted about
19 1,000 years. It is not clear that the United States
20 of America, our modern technologically advanced
21 civilization will last infinitely, into the thousands
22 and thousands of years.

23 And it is not right to bequeath future
24 generations this kind of burden, so that we can have
25 power right now. We need to find another way to do

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1 it.

2 And there is also the issue of water
3 depletion. We have been in a drought, in South
4 Carolina, and especially in this area, along the Broad
5 River, for several years now.

6 There is the one nuclear reactor, Duke
7 Power is proposing two new nuclear reactors upriver.
8 And in addition to these two, that are proposed, that
9 would be five nuclear reactors all being cooled by the
10 water from the Broad River and the reservoir.

11 Now, if there is not enough water to
12 sufficiently cool the plants, then all that -- you
13 can't generate the energy, and it is a real issue of
14 what will happen to these rivers with so many power
15 plants.

16 And I think this needs to be addressed.
17 And I also see that we are at the -- we are kind of at
18 the cusp of finding ways to create greater efficiency
19 in grids, greater insulation, use of renewable energy.

20 These technologies are being developed.
21 And, hopefully, there will be more development into
22 that. And as these possibilities get cheaper, SC&G
23 wants to commit the ratepayer in South Carolina to
24 invest in a nuclear power plant, that once we go down
25 the path, and we invest billions, after billions of

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1 dollars, cannot be reversed without just wasting the
2 entire sum.

3 And I think that we can create jobs by
4 investing in different sources of energy, and greater
5 efficiency, insulation, renewables, and jobs that can
6 be spread throughout the state.

7 And jobs that, hopefully, would not cost
8 the ratepayer the great amounts that SC&G wants to
9 charge the ratepayer, much likely much more so.

10 So I don't think that this is not a
11 proposal I support. And I don't think that -- and I
12 live in Columbia, that needs to be stated, about 25
13 miles from the plant.

14 I don't think that this area should be the
15 area to be the first, in the country, and I believe in
16 the world, to create an AP1000 reactors, or two new
17 ones. Thank you.

18 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Next is
19 Kamau Marcharia. Mr. Marcharia?

20 MR. MARCHARIA: Yes, good evening. I
21 would like to thank the NRC for holding this public
22 meeting. I'm Councilman Kamau Marcharia, I live in
23 the Fourth District, I live approximately four miles
24 from the nuclear power plant.

25 And I have had meetings in Western

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1 Fairfield, and Shelton, Stone, Buckhead, Blair,
2 Monticello, the Dawkins community, Jenkinsville,
3 Austin, Herb Glenn, Bethel, and the Greenbriar
4 communities, talked to people coming in and out of the
5 stores.

6 And I'm reflecting on the perceptions of
7 what people have said to me. They talked about the
8 infrastructure of roads, water system, jobs, health
9 care, fire protection, and recreation.

10 For instance, with health care, putting
11 two more reactors there, with four to six thousand
12 people, that number keeps fluctuating, in a community
13 that don't even have a car wash or a laundromat, of
14 four thousand people working, perhaps, for four, five,
15 seven years, to build this institution, or reactors,
16 gives some concerns about health.

17 We have our elementary school within five
18 to six miles of the nuclear power plant, about 300
19 elementary children who are all on fixed lunches,
20 which means that their mother and father are extremely
21 poor.

22 And we don't know the health conditions of
23 all those children. We know there is millions of
24 people that don't have health care. And having the
25 health care center that is very important for that

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1 particular part of the community, and the community
2 wants some assistance on that.

3 In terms of fire stations, you are going
4 to put two more reactors there. The community kind of
5 felt that they needed more protection. The fire
6 station they have is really run down, it needs some
7 upgrading.

8 I've met with Mr. Archie, and I have
9 toured the plant on numerous occasions, and they work
10 very seriously to make that the safest place there is.

11 But they are not infallible, something could happen.

12 In the event that something happens, fire
13 protection and health care is important. And if you
14 have thousands, and thousands, and thousands of people
15 coming into the community, an influx into the
16 community, the community has a concern that folks are
17 still buying up land, and purchasing land already in
18 the Dawkins community.

19 People are building 500,000 dollars to a
20 million dollar homes, and predominantly in an African-
21 American community. And you put a million dollar home
22 next to a 50,000 dollar trailer, it won't be long
23 before you legally lose your home and land, and get
24 run off the land.

25 So people have some real concerns about

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1 that. They have some concerns about the evacuation
2 route. Twenty, fifteen years ago you could ride down
3 the road and you could see signs about evacuation.
4 Those signs are no longer there.

5 I have talked to people who have moved
6 into the community in the last 15 years, they don't
7 know how to get out of there in the event that
8 something happen.

9 We don't have an accurate count on those
10 people whose capacity, elderly people who, if
11 something did happen, how they would really get out of
12 there.

13 I have seen some studies on the impact on
14 fish, wildlife, and fauna, and the area was more
15 particular about that than they are particular about
16 the people who might need some of these resources.

17 And the other thing about jobs, 90 percent
18 of the people that work at the nuclear power plant,
19 over the last 25 to 30 years, according to the
20 community, do not live in Fairfield County, and there
21 is some fear that if all these jobs come here, and
22 affluent people come here, whether or not they are
23 going to live in the county, or other different
24 places.

25 Again, I said, they impact the land, and

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1 take the land. But if we are going to train people in
2 Fairfield County, how do you prepare them, what are
3 they looking for? Do they need GEDs, what is the
4 process?

5 People really need to know that. And
6 those are some of the concerns that people have, in
7 our community, and we would like to know, who would
8 you go to? Because I talked, earlier, folks couldn't
9 answer those questions.

10 So who can answer those questions for the
11 community? And I hope to be able to have some more
12 dialogue with you, about this, later.

13 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Okay, we should
14 have some talks on the side, or after this meeting.
15 Thank you. Next Creighton Coleman.

16 MR. COLEMAN: How is the NRC doing today?
17 Welcome to Fairfield County. I'm speaking in my
18 capacity as an elected official, and as a private
19 citizen.

20 I have had the pleasure to represent
21 Fairfield County in the House of Representatives in
22 Columbia for eight years, and now I have been elected
23 in the Senate, this past November. So I'm a new
24 Senator.

25 Also I was born here, I was reared here, I

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1 was educated here, except for when I went to college
2 and law school, and I practice law here. I think I
3 have a unique perspective in the sense that when I was
4 a young man, growing up here in the early '70s, and
5 the first nuclear reactor came, our farm is located in
6 the western part of the county, right down from
7 Jenkinsville and Monticello, probably about six or
8 seven miles down the road.

9 And they exercised eminent domain to take
10 some of our property. And I can remember, as a young
11 man, going to various meetings with my father,
12 concerned about what was coming. This was in the
13 '70s, people weren't aware of nuclear power like they
14 are now.

15 But I can tell you, if my father was
16 living now, and I can tell you my opinion. My concern
17 has been completely satisfied with what has happened
18 at the V.C. Summer nuclear place.

19 I have a little cabin on the lake out
20 there, on the recreation lake, my kids are out there
21 all the time, as much as we can. We go swimming in
22 the lake, we fish in the lake, we go boating in the
23 lake, we enjoy it out there.

24 And I can say nothing but the best things
25 about SCE&G, they have been a wonderful corporate

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1 neighbor to Fairfield County. They provided a lot of
2 money for Fairfield County.

3 And in the state of South Carolina, if you
4 look at the taxes that SCE&G paid in, I think it was
5 in '07, they paid over 125 million dollars, across the
6 state, in taxes. 19.9 million of that went to
7 Fairfield County to help build this facility that we
8 are sitting in today.

9 So I'm here to, number one, endorse
10 nuclear power. Number two, to thank SCE&G for being
11 here, and what they have done in the past, and what
12 they are going to do in the future, if you all give
13 the okay, which I would certainly encourage you all to
14 do.

15 Thank you so much.

16 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Next is
17 Mary Kinley.

18 MS. KINLEY: Good evening. My name is
19 Mary Lynn Kinley. And, as Senator Coleman said, he
20 has lived here all his life, so have I.

21 And I just want to be supportive of this.

22 I'm a public relations director at the hospital, and
23 I'm also on the County Council, which I have been on
24 for 13 years.

25 They have certainly been a corporate

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1 friend to Fairfield County. But I want to give you
2 just a little bit of insight on some local stuff that
3 they have done, and participated with, and a little
4 bit about some of the gentlemen that work out there.

5 They have been integrated with the
6 schools. Jeff Archie is a local son of the soil. He
7 was born and raised here, grew up in the system, went
8 to work, he and his wife as engineers out there, and
9 he is now the vice president of the nuclear plant.

10 Steve Byrne, just a class act. Both of
11 them are very professional gentlemen. And one word I
12 like to use with them, that you don't hear some times,
13 is honorable.

14 What they say they follow through with.
15 And safety in the plant has been their number one
16 thing. And what a record they have had. And I think
17 you have to look at the history of a business, or an
18 industry, and you see how well it has done.

19 These folks have done a good job. They
20 care about this community, but they have integrated,
21 as I said, with the schools. Jeff has gone in and had
22 some of the students from Fairfield Central High
23 School, to go out to the plant, and he has also been
24 here to discuss classes with them, and talk to them
25 about nuclear power.

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1 We certainly do have to look for
2 alternative means of power, and the country of France,
3 a couple of years ago, went 80 percent nuclear power.

4 That was a very courageous move.

5 And I think we have to be on the lookout
6 for better ways to have power. We are going to
7 certainly need it, and we are finding more ways to use
8 power.

9 So we are going to have to have that. But
10 they certainly have a good group out there. All that
11 we have worked with, on the Council, has just been
12 perfectly wonderful, and we support them one hundred
13 percent.

14 So thank you for coming down and listening
15 to our concerns, and our comments, and I thank you for
16 this opportunity to speak. Thank you.

17 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: You are welcome.
18 Next is Tom Clements.

19 MR. CLEMENTS: I would kind of like to
20 talk to the people here as well. My name is Tom
21 Clements, I'm with the environmental organization
22 Friends of the Earth, based in Columbia, and I live
23 north of the city.

24 My organization has intervened against the
25 reactors before the Public Service Commission, and

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1 that process is ongoing with a decision expected in
2 the end of February.

3 We have also joined in intervention with
4 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission against the
5 licensing of the reactors. And I just want to go
6 through a few things, and I will submit some other
7 comments.

8 In the application, before the Public
9 Service Commission, the analysis that SCE&G did of
10 alternatives, efficiency, conservation, and renewable
11 energy, was a mere matter of pages.

12 There was hardly any analysis done of
13 demand side management, as it is called, which is now
14 sweeping the nation. In the Public Service Commission
15 hearing, the company said they would do such an
16 analysis of these alternatives, which costs far less
17 than building a new nuclear plant, sometime later this
18 year.

19 But we don't have that analysis. The EIS
20 should cover the analyses, including energy
21 efficiency, conservation, and renewables, which
22 conservation can be brought online at a cost of three
23 to four cents, where there are indications that the
24 nuclear power coming out of these new reactors could
25 be 20 cents, 25 cents, 30 cents, per kilowatt hour.

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1 While there may be some benefits here in
2 the county, the people in the service area, and the
3 rest of the county, could well be stuck with massive
4 rate increases once we start paying for these things,
5 which is going to be very soon, under South Carolina
6 law.

7 It is not going to be when they come
8 online. As far as the AP1000 reactor design, there
9 was a question if this is the same kind of reactors.
10 These reactors do not exist, they are only on paper.

11 The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has
12 certified the design. That doesn't mean they are
13 approved. It is not going to be until 2010, or 2011,
14 that the reactor design is finalized.

15 So we are looking at an EIS process where
16 we don't even know what the reactor is, basically.
17 There is a general design of it, but there are a lot
18 of details that are being reviewed, and there is not
19 even an established review schedule to finalize the
20 reactor design.

21 I don't think this EIS process should go
22 forward until we know exactly what kind of reactor is
23 going to be built at the site.

24 As far as cost, and this is getting back
25 that efficiency and conservation are far cheaper. The

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1 company has partnered with Santee Cooper to build
2 these plants and basically said they cost around ten
3 billion dollars.

4 The Department of Energy, on October 2nd,
5 said that one reactor would cost nine billion dollars.

6 And that may be at a site that doesn't have an
7 existing reactor.

8 There are other estimates that the two
9 reactors could cost 20 billion dollars or more. So
10 there is a wide discrepancy about how much these
11 things are going to cost the ratepayers of South
12 Carolina.

13 There could end up being quite a negative
14 economic impact due to building the reactors. As far
15 as the nuclear waste, the Barnwell nuclear facility,
16 according to the Department of Health and
17 Environmental Control, is going to close in 2035.

18 If that does happen, and I think there has
19 been more feeling in the state not to accept out of
20 state waste, and to close on schedule, where is the
21 low level waste going to go? This has to be analyzed
22 in the EIS.

23 The high level nuclear waste I think the
24 company said they have 19 years of storage in the
25 spent fuel pools. Where is the high level waste

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1 going to go? Now reactors are storing the waste on-
2 site, in big dry casks.

3 But, basically, we are looking at a medium
4 term, if not long-term high level nuclear waste
5 storage facility expanded over what the current
6 reactor would produce.

7 As was mentioned, earlier, the Yucca
8 Mountain project is in trouble. So this waste could
9 essentially be here forever.

10 The water impact was mentioned earlier.
11 The two reactors are going to use about 35 million
12 gallons of water from the Monticello Reservoir, which
13 could restrict flow into the Broad river.

14 With the two new Duke reactors upstream,
15 if they go forward, and Duke hasn't decided on that,
16 35 million gallons, from those reactors, Duke is also
17 planning a coal plant on the Broad river, right on the
18 North Carolina side, so we are talking about 80
19 million gallons of evaporative cooling water removed
20 from the Broad river basin.

21 So the cumulative effect of the two Duke
22 reactors, and the new coal plant, have to be examined
23 in the EIS.

24 And I will submit some more comments. But
25 I wanted to say one thing. There were some

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1 discrepancies in the presentation about how the public
2 was, or how notice has gone out about this hearing.

3 Unfortunately SCE&G, and I feel this is
4 very unfair, as a participant in the Public Service
5 Commission process, they testified about these
6 hearings tonight, and tomorrow night, in early
7 December. They already knew about them.

8 The public was not notified until December
9 5th, in the notice that appeared in the Federal
10 Register. The company received, or was sent a letter,
11 on December 24th, from the NRC, talking about the
12 hearings tonight. But we, the public, didn't know
13 about this, officially, until January 5th.

14 They sent letters, the NRC sent letters to
15 the Department of Natural Resources, Fish and
16 Wildlife, and others, on January 12th. So I'm quite
17 concerned that the NRC is giving the inside track, not
18 only tonight, but possibly in other EIS, or other
19 meetings, to the Applicant. That should not be the
20 case.

21 The public should be informed of these
22 meetings at the same time the company is, and that did
23 not take place for these meetings tonight. That is
24 quite unfortunate, and I hope that there is some
25 investigation of this, because this is not the way

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1 that the NRC should be conducting the public's
2 business.

3 I will leave my comments there, and thank
4 you very much.

5 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thanks. Next is
6 Suzanne Rhodes.

7 MS. RHODES: My name is Suzanne Rhodes,
8 and I'm representing the League of Women Voters of
9 South Carolina this evening.

10 I was impressed with all the comments from
11 the community, about the jobs, and the tax base, which
12 is certainly important to the community, if this works
13 out as planned, and there are lots of hurdles to go
14 over.

15 I wanted, though, to remind you that
16 Finland, almost ten years ago, decided they needed
17 clean power, and ended up contracting with France for
18 one of these universal designed plants, different one
19 than these, but it was one that the industry had
20 mulled over carefully.

21 France, of all people, should have been
22 able, of all countries should have been able to put it
23 up, but it has everything wrong. So now the community
24 that was counting on the power plant to be on board
25 now, has not worked on conservation, efficiency,

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1 renewables, and has a huge cost on their mind.

2 So what we are concerned with is that
3 South Carolina citizens' desires for new strategies,
4 efficiency, conservation, renewables, are being
5 ignored in favor of some of these more risky industry.

6 We currently have competitive electric
7 rates, but we are taking a huge risk. Moody says this
8 kind of plant is going to cost ten million a piece, as
9 a general step.

10 Part of the NRC responsibility, and
11 actually part of the responsibility of the state
12 officials, is to look at other alternatives, whether
13 it is EIS or the NEPA, and efficiency, conservation,
14 and renewables, should get a careful look before we go
15 further with this huge investment.

16 We have, we generate a lot of electricity,
17 and we use, in this country, and we wear sweaters with
18 air conditioning, and we have drafty walls, and we
19 don't have good building standards.

20 There is a lot we can do, no matter what
21 we do about the nuclear power plants, we have to do a
22 lot more thinking long range, particularly about wind,
23 and I was talking with Santee Cooper.

24 I personally was very disappointed when I
25 heard about the on-shore wind monitoring system,

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1 because I think we have looked at that, carefully,
2 over the last 35 years. Off shore is where the League
3 would like to see some attention.

4 We don't know exactly what time of day
5 that wind is, but there is certainly enough wind out
6 there. And we do recognize that our rate structure
7 needs to be changed so that utility companies can
8 benefit from conservation, but there are plenty of
9 models out there.

10 And if we do go the conservation,
11 efficiency, renewable energy route, there are jobs,
12 there are lots of jobs for everybody, it is quick
13 jobs, cheap jobs, quick jobs, quick cheap turnaround
14 as we are talking about the three cents per kilowatt,
15 rather than the 25, or whatever.

16 One thing that I had fun reading, Florida
17 had a climate plan that was developed -- Governor
18 Christ, in fact Jeb Bush's chief of staff was on it,
19 and it was really to look at climate issues.

20 But what they ended up with was a jobs,
21 job strategy that saved a huge amount of energy, and
22 it was quick, it was much faster economic turnaround.

23 We need to look at that. We can't afford
24 to put off looking seriously at our energy future.
25 And I think we need to stop, the League thinks we need

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1 to stop and start thinking harder about energy. Thank
2 you.

3 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Next is
4 Sarah Tansey.

5 MS. TANSEY: Good evening. Thanks for the
6 opportunity to speak tonight. My name is Sarah
7 Tansey, and I traveled here, tonight, from Columbia,
8 South Carolina.

9 But I lived in, and fell in love with,
10 Jenkinsville, South Carolina, this summer. And while
11 I was there, listening to the community members,
12 learning all about the folks who suddenly became my
13 neighbors, there were a lot of concerns raised,
14 particularly around health impacts of the first V.C.
15 Summer reactor.

16 So tonight I would really charge the NRC
17 with taking every pain to research, thoroughly, the
18 impacts of the radiation emissions the plant is
19 allowed to release. You know, there are safe amounts
20 of radiation, but addressing bio accumulation of that
21 radiation, within the organisms in the lake and the
22 reservoir, and in the water.

23 A lot of the community members, in
24 Jenkinsville, have to subsistence fish, or grow a
25 garden in their backyard, to put food on the table

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1 every night.

2 And a lot of folks who have concerns, who
3 have seen cancer mortality rates increase since the
4 first reactor came in, are not very happy about two
5 new reactors in their neighborhood.

6 A lot of folks I spoke with, and consider
7 friends now, had children -- one of the most striking
8 was an older gentleman in the community, whose 24 year
9 old daughter had passed away from cancer.

10 Another family who had lost a young son to
11 leukemia. These are very real, very devastating
12 concerns within the community.

13 So I would look to test those gardens,
14 look at the food coming out of them, test the fish,
15 account for accumulation of the food chain, of that
16 radiation, and those very real impacts in the
17 community.

18 Furthermore, I think, beyond the breadth
19 of the community, that we have to be thinking about
20 global impacts. Right now we face a crossroads in
21 energy decisions, and how we are going to create,
22 produce, and supply energy.

23 And there is a lot of concern about global
24 warming, and climate change. And a lot of folks are
25 really giving nuclear energy sort of the emissions

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1 free status that it doesn't deserve.

2 I think that we have to look for all the
3 new reactors, that are being proposed right now, at
4 the life cycle impacts from the uranium mining, to the
5 transportation of uranium, to the enrichment process,
6 all the way to waste management.

7 Like a lot of folks have mentioned
8 tonight, most of the waste that is produced at V.C.
9 Summer, if two new reactors are built, will stay on-
10 site. It will stay in Jenkinsville, in the community.

11 So that is another impact. So, overall, I
12 hope that the socioeconomics, and environmental
13 justice portion of the impact statement team really,
14 really takes a look at some of the issues for such a
15 community.

16 I thank you for this opportunity.

17 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Next is
18 N. T. Vasuki, V-A-S-U-K-I.

19 MR. VASUKI: My name is N. T. Vasuki, I'm
20 an engineer (inaudible) electro plant in Ridgeville,
21 South Carolina.

22 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Could you get a
23 little closer to the mike, please?

24 MR. VASUKI: And we buy electric power
25 from Santee Cooper, which is part of ownership in V.C.

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1 Summer.

2 So we are also customers on real time
3 basis, and the price of coal, as it has taken off, we
4 see a real impact of not having a baseload, that needs
5 to be in the place of what coal used to be.

6 And based on the record of SCE&G, and
7 Santee Cooper, at V.C. Summer, considering that this
8 is not a new installation but rather it is an
9 expansion, based on track record alone, I would urge
10 you to approve this, so that we could look to
11 reasonable costs of energy, because our business is
12 very much dependent on the price of energy.

13 And it is certainly getting scarce. Thank
14 you.

15 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Next is
16 Susan Corbett.

17 MS. CORBETT: Good evening, thank you to
18 the NRC. I also want to turn the mike around a little
19 bit, because I want to address the audience.

20 Again, my name is Susan Corbett, I live in
21 West Columbia, about 40 miles from here, in Lexington
22 County. I'm a volunteer with the Sierra Club, I'm a
23 mother, grandmother of two, and this is an issue that
24 I have been following for many, many years, because I
25 have had lots of concerns about it, from the day of

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1 its inception, back in the '70s.

2 And I was actually here when this one was
3 originally built. And I will agree that they have run
4 this plant probably better than some of the other
5 ones. But I'm not sure that that is any justification
6 for going into the future with more.

7 I have heard a lot of things, here
8 tonight. And I think the reason we are here is to ask
9 you, the NRC, to consider these issues as you go
10 forward.

11 And some of the things that I would like
12 to see you do, first of all, I'd like for you to
13 really, really look at the economics. I know that
14 SCE&G has gone before the Public Service Commission
15 and has asked for a 37 percent rate hike immediately,
16 to begin paying for that.

17 And there are lots of folks, in low
18 economic situations in this county, and in this
19 service area, that are really going to have a hard
20 time when their utility rates go up.

21 I mean, our rates are relatively low, but
22 because our homes, especially our low income homes,
23 are so inefficient, they are so leaky, even my own
24 house is leaky, and I'm working on that now, these
25 people have huge electric bills. Not because the

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1 rates are high, but because we are so inefficient, and
2 our houses are so leaky.

3 We could probably negate the need for this
4 plant, at all, if we would put serious consideration
5 into doing weatherization, and energy efficiency, in
6 making our houses energy efficiency.

7 I think you have to look at the economics
8 of this, and how it is going to impact people of low
9 income, in terms of their utility bills.

10 I think that you also have to consider, I
11 didn't bring it up here with me, what is going to
12 happen if they go into this, and they decide to bail
13 out?

14 I actually have one of your publications
15 here with me, it is appendix C of your reactor
16 booklet, and it has a list of canceled reactors, from
17 the -- it is mainly from the '80s, and it wasn't just
18 after Three Mile Island, it was in the '80s, where
19 basically economics killed the first -- there are 64
20 canceled reactors in that list.

21 And people, the ratepayers got stuck
22 paying for whatever money was put into those. So I
23 think there should be some guarantee that if this
24 reactor doesn't get built, the ratepayers are not
25 going to get stuck with whatever money has been

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1 invested, because we have a bad history of this in the
2 past, of utilities starting this things up, and then
3 walking off and leaving 64 of them.

4 I think that there should be more
5 transparency in terms of the health risk. And I want
6 to -- I know this is really a subject that is just --
7 it seems to be wildly emotional, I'm not sure why it
8 is.

9 But one of the things that I have a
10 problem with is you can't go on, anywhere on the
11 website, and find out what is actually being released
12 from a nuclear power plant, at least -- I mean, you
13 can go to ADAMS, but ADAMS is so hard to navigate, it
14 is impossible for an average person to go on ADAMS and
15 figure out what the releases are.

16 Do not be fooled, for a second, in
17 thinking there are no releases. Nuclear plants
18 release radiation. And there is no -- the National
19 Academy of Science says there is no safe level of
20 radiation, there just isn't. It is all dangerous, it
21 is all potentially dangerous to your health.

22 So I would like to see the NRC set up a
23 situation where we can see the little incidences, the
24 daily things that are allowed to be released, the
25 krypton, the tritium, the iodine 131, the strontium,

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1 all those things.

2 We should be able to see what is being
3 released from these plants, and we should be able to
4 access it without having to spend days trying to wade
5 through the ADAMS process.

6 I brought with me, tonight, a leukemia map
7 of South Carolina. Now the insidious thing about
8 radiation is you can't prove that it causes anything,
9 that is what is kind of sad about it.

10 But every county in this state that has a
11 nuclear facility in it, has higher than average
12 leukemia rates, including Fairfield County. And maybe
13 that is just coincidental.

14 But I would like to see that addressed in
15 your study. I would like to see you project what the
16 increased cancer rates, not only leukemia, but there
17 is also, now, a higher, significantly higher group of
18 thyroid cancers around the Oconee plant, there is
19 three reactors up there.

20 I want to see you project what are going
21 to be the increased cancers in this area, from
22 releases of that plant.

23 The issue of waste, I've already spoken
24 about that. It is going to sit here. We are
25 condemning -- we may be providing energy for our

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1 children, but we are providing a nuclear waste storage
2 dump for our great-great-grandchildren, to babysit and
3 have to take care of.

4 And how much is that going to cost, and
5 what is that going to mean to them? And they are
6 probably look back on us and say, what did you all
7 leave us this stuff for?

8 So I want to know what you are going to do
9 with the waste. I also want you to address the supply
10 of uranium. Everybody seems to think that this is
11 some way to get away from being dependent on foreign
12 sources.

13 Well, there is not much uranium left in
14 this country. So we are going to have to go to
15 Kazikstan, or South Africa, or wherever it is, and try
16 to get enough uranium, in the future, for all these
17 nuclear power plants.

18 And we are going to be right back in a
19 situation where we are having to negotiate with
20 foreign governments for the supply of uranium. So
21 let's get a reading on the uranium supply, and how
22 consistent, and what the price is going to be on that.

23 Lastly I would just like to say, you know,
24 we don't have to be on the lookout for new energy
25 sources. We have them, we have a PhD professor from

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1 Clemson, Professor Nick Rigas, he did he did an
2 incredible study of our offshore wind potential.

3 He says that we have over 4,000 megawatts
4 of offshore wind that could be up and running in five
5 years. Half the time that it would take to build this
6 reactor.

7 And I would like to say that the French
8 are building this reactor in Finland, it is already

9 , you should be using this as a guide, it is
10 already two years behind schedule, and 50 percent cost
11 overrun, and I think that this utility has severely
12 underestimated the cost of this plant, based on what
13 we are seeing world-wide.

14 And they have also underestimated the
15 kilowatt hour. I think they ran an ad in the state
16 paper saying that it is going to be 7 cents a kilowatt
17 hour. I think they are underestimating that.

18 And, finally, the French, yes, the French,
19 it is a socialist country.

20 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Next is
21 John Hartz.

22 MR. HARTZ: Good evening. My name is John
23 Hartz, I live in Columbia, I'm an SCE&G rate payer. I
24 think it is important to note that these two nuclear
25 reactors will not only serve SCE&G, but also Santee

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1 Cooper.

2 As a matter of fact, Santee Cooper will
3 own 45 percent of the reactors. So what happens in
4 terms of the construction, the cost, the rates that
5 are generated, etcetera, affect almost the entire
6 state of South Carolina.

7 I would also suggest that some of the
8 electricity will be sold out of state. And I wonder
9 what the strategy is in terms of using South Carolina
10 as a place to put a nuclear reactors with all of the
11 problems associated with it, to provide electricity to
12 neighboring states, such as Georgia, and North
13 Carolina.

14 Now, I'm the Chair of the Conservation
15 Committee of the State Chapter of the Sierra Club. We
16 will be submitting formal comments by the due date of
17 March 6th.

18 The purpose of this hearing is not to
19 speak in favor of, or oppose, to the nuclear reactor.

20 The purpose of this hearing is to give the NRC staff
21 advice on what the scope of the EIS should be.

22 In general terms I say it should be broad,
23 and it should be deep. And I personally object to the
24 fact that the first speaker, representing the
25 Congressional Delegation, read a letter signed by all

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1 of them, that support the proposal to build nuclear
2 power, they do not address the need for the NRC to
3 conduct an objective analysis of the environmental
4 impacts in accordance with both the spirit and the
5 letter of the National Environmental Policy Act.

6 That is what we are going to hold NRC's
7 feet to the fire on. We want to see an objective
8 analysis, we want to see one that is not just biased
9 towards the industry's perspective on the role of
10 nuclear power.

11 And I also, in terms of the Congressional
12 Delegation, I would like to know how much money have
13 the parties involved in the construction, and
14 operation of the proposed nuclear power plants, and
15 I'm talking about the nuclear industry, I'm talking
16 about Westinghouse, I'm talking about SCE&G, I'm
17 talking about Santee Cooper.

18 Everybody associated with that, how much
19 have they contributed to the various campaign coffers
20 of our congressmen, and our U.S. senators? Thank you.

21 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thanks. I'm going
22 to read three names, so that you know when you are
23 next in line. The first one is Rick McLeod, the
24 second is Robert Whitten, and third is Joe Wojcicki.
25 So we will go with Rick first.

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1 MR. MCLEOD: My name is Rick McLeod, I'm
2 Executive Director of the Savannah River Site
3 Community Reuse Organization in Aikens, South
4 Carolina.

5 I'm here to express my organization's
6 strong support for continued operation, and planned
7 expansion of the V.C. Summer nuclear plant.

8 I would like to read, for the record, and
9 will provide a copy of two letters from our Chair, and
10 past Chair.

11 Dear Sir or Madam: Our organization, the
12 Savannah River Site Community Reuse Organization,
13 strongly supports continued operation, and planned
14 expansion, of the V.C. Summer Nuclear Plant.

15 These new units, which are scheduled to
16 join the grid, nearly a decade from now, are critical
17 to our energy future, and to our nation's quest for
18 energy independence.

19 The SRSCRO is the U.S. Department of
20 Energy's designated community reuse organization,
21 based in Aiken, South Carolina. We are charged with
22 developing, and implementing, a comprehensive strategy
23 to diversify the economy of a five county region, in
24 the central Savannah River area, of Georgia and South
25 Carolina.

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1 The SRSCRO is governed by a 22 member
2 Board of Directors, composed of business, government,
3 and academic leaders, from Georgia and South Carolina.
4 Initially its mission was to develop and implement a
5 regional economic development plan utilizing
6 technology based facilities at the Savannah river
7 site.

8 Today SRSCRO remains focused on
9 diversifying the region's economy, by supporting new
10 business ventures that create new jobs in our region.

11 We strongly believe that nuclear power is
12 the wave of the future, as our state and nation
13 struggle to free ourselves from the domination of
14 foreign oil.

15 Nuclear is our number one source of
16 emission-free electricity. Today the U.S. remains the
17 global leader in nuclear power, with more operating
18 nuclear reactors than any other nation. One hundred
19 and four reactors operate in 31 states.

20 And after a three decade hiatus utility
21 companies, like SCANA, and Santee Cooper, are pursuing
22 plans to build more than 30 new reactors in several
23 areas of the country, including here in South
24 Carolina.

25 This is welcome news for an energy hungry

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1 region, and a nation that must find new and better
2 ways to meet a growing demand.

3 Commercial power is now more than 50 years
4 old. And those five decades has proven itself to be
5 reliable, economical, and most of all, safe.

6 Electricity production at existing nuclear
7 power plants continues at near record performance
8 levels, with capacity factors of an impressive 90
9 percent.

10 Operating costs, estimated at 1.68 cents,
11 per kilowatt hour, in 2006, continues to be the lowest
12 of any source of electricity.

13 And the last several years have shown that
14 this strong operating performance is sustainable,
15 while maintaining a solid safety record.

16 This year the V.C. Summer nuclear plant
17 will celebrate 25 years of reliability supplying
18 electricity for South Carolina customers. V.C. Summer
19 is ranked highly in important industry performance
20 indicators, and according to a recent assessment, by a
21 team of its peers, it has a strong and very healthy
22 safety culture.

23 The fact that the Nuclear Regulatory
24 Commission extended the plant's operating license in
25 2004 granting it 20 additional years of operation,

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1 through the year 2042, is also a testament to this
2 facility's outstanding record of performance,
3 compliance, and contribution to our state.

4 We look forward to the V.C. Summer nuclear
5 plant contributing a strong and growing role in our
6 energy future.

7 Another letter. Dear Sir or Madam: As
8 the current President of Aiken Technical College, and
9 past Chair of the SRS Community Reuse Organization,
10 I'm pleased to submit this letter in support of the
11 application.

12 Many in the community surrounding Aiken,
13 South Carolina, currently receive electricity supplied
14 by SCE&G. This expansion will ensure the future
15 energy needs of our growing community, and benefit
16 other areas of South Carolina.

17 The U.S. Energy Information Administration
18 predicts the total electricity sales will increase by
19 29 percent, from 3,659 billion kilowatt hours in 2006,
20 to 4,705 billion in 2030.

21 No one resource alone can meet that
22 demand. The country needs an energy mix that includes
23 renewable energy, wind, solar, natural gas, and
24 nuclear.

25 Nuclear reactors provide baseload power.

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1 That is they are reliable, producing energy 24 hours a
2 day, at a constant rate, to supply a region's regular
3 energy needs.

4 Renewables, like wind and solar, are
5 intermittent resources, that will require a baseload
6 system in order to have backup power available to
7 ensure reliability of supply.

8 If we do not maintain a diverse energy
9 portfolio, we risk over-dependence on one resource,
10 and our energy security. Nuclear power is currently
11 the only technologically mature, that is proven, and
12 already deployed on a large scale.

13 Again, I support the application, and
14 thank you for allowing us to voice our support.

15 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Okay, thanks. Next
16 is Robert Whitten, and after that, is Joe Woscicki.

17 MR. WHITTEN: Good evening. My name is
18 Robert Whitten, I'm President and Chief Executive
19 Officer at Showa Denko Carbon in Ridgeville, South
20 Carolina.

21 We are a manufacturer of graphite
22 electrodes that are supplied to the electric arc
23 furnace steel industry, here in South Carolina and,
24 really, all over the United States and other parts of
25 the world.

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1 We use a large amount of electrical power
2 in our process, as do our customers. We are strongly
3 in favor of conservation, wind, solar, nuclear, coal,
4 gas, you name it.

5 We believe that the only way this country,
6 and our company, can be successful is if we have all
7 of these resources available to us.

8 My company, we would like to expand our
9 facility, double it really. We are going to need a
10 lot of additional electrical energy if we do do that.

11 We won't be able to if what I just mentioned doesn't
12 happen in this state, and in this country.

13 A lot of other companies won't be able to,
14 either. A lot of what I was going to say has already
15 been said, so I'm not going to repeat it.

16 I believe, very strongly, that wealth is
17 created by manufacturing, mining, or growing
18 something. If you are not doing one of those three
19 you are really not creating wealth.

20 If this country ever needed a wealth
21 creating machine, it is now. And I strongly, I
22 implore you to recommend that we license these
23 facilities, and that we proceed with the other
24 comments that I made, including conservation,
25 including wind, all of these items that this country

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1 needs desperately. Thank you.

2 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thanks. Next is
3 Joe Wojcicki, and then Hoyt Von Kaenel, and then Steve
4 Byrne.

5 MR. WOJCICKI: Good evening, ladies and
6 gentlemen. And I just appreciate to have people from
7 Nuclear Regulatory Commission. First welcome to South
8 Carolina.

9 And I hope that you guys are not going to
10 bring warming, global warming, because probably it is
11 not a good argument.

12 My name is Joseph Wojcicki, my students
13 and friends call me, usually, Joe. I am an engineer,
14 and I would like to present some problems from this
15 point of view.

16 How are we supposed to handle this kind of
17 problem to have electrical energy here in South
18 Carolina? First I did not really hear, today, anybody
19 telling about the product of nuclear plant, it is
20 electricity.

21 And if you are going to look at just from
22 the business point of view like, for example, Wal-
23 Mart. Wal-Mart is first looking to market, where are
24 we going to sell our product.

25 The second, they try to make a

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1 distribution system. And this is what is important
2 for me, as a guy who knows something about the
3 generation of electrical energy, where to put this
4 kind of two babies, right now, that they plan to
5 install.

6 They try, means South Carolina Electric
7 and Gas, they want to build this here, close to us, in
8 Jenkinsville. Now, practically, when you look at the
9 load, this big load that is required 24 hours and 7
10 day's delivery, it is not going to be in the next 50
11 years here, around this area, it is going to be
12 someplace between Charleston and Savannah river,
13 Savannah port.

14 There is a plan already signed by two
15 governors, the governor of South Carolina, Mark
16 Sanford, and the governor from Georgia, Mr. Perdue, to
17 build an ocean terminal, which is pretty close to the
18 Savannah port.

19 And, really, this is going to be something
20 that will require gigawatts of the power. Now, here,
21 we are pretty close to the big city of Columbia. It
22 is 25 to 50 miles that most people are living here.

23 Now, what are we going to expect here as
24 the owners of the property, of the residents of this
25 place?

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1 If you have to say that the property, the
2 value of the property is going to be decreased, it is
3 for sure. Now, what is also important to understand,
4 here, that several information is not available to the
5 general public.

6 Maybe I would try to deliver some kind of
7 information about what I have read in the application
8 of South Carolina Electric and Gas. All this
9 prediction, how many we need to have the gigawatts
10 produced for electricity is a plan that we are going
11 to have about a million people more in this region.

12 But it is really not this problem. The
13 problem is to deliver the power close to the Atlantic
14 Ocean. And here is the problem. First, if we have to
15 put these generators in proper place, as a product of
16 electricity, it must be done closer to Charleston and
17 Savannah, not here.

18 The second, if we are going to move this
19 location to this area, what are we going to do? We
20 are going to save a lot of building of transmission
21 lines. So this is distribution system for the
22 protocol electricity.

23 So we need to really have this kind of
24 stuff here. Now, also, in the hearing there was
25 mentioned, it was here in Columbia, for about three

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1 weeks, it was mentioned that it would be problem with
2 building this transmission line here, because the line
3 from Jenkinsville to the prospective huge load close
4 to the Savannah, required about an extra 200 miles of
5 the transmission line, and we need to find the
6 corridors for this one.

7 And it is almost impossible to find this
8 place around Columbia. So there would be very big
9 problem.

10 Now, let's go to the situation for what we
11 need to really deliver to our friends from Washington,
12 that they are going to do some kind of report, or work
13 about environmental.

14 The part of the environmental are not only
15 plants, but also there are animals and, of course,
16 people. So one of the things that I have here today,
17 that we are going to have a lot of jobs.

18 Now, think about what kind of jobs we can
19 expect here. There will be, probably, jobs delivered
20 by Westinghouse. So according to the information from
21 the Westinghouse, there is going to be three years of
22 the job down in the site, that is going to be -- that
23 one of the reactor is going to build.

24 And if you know that Westinghouse is
25 property of the Toshiba, what do you think that the

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1 owners of this company is going to suggest to do with
2 these people here?

3 Second, what kind of jobs we can expect
4 here. Already we have heard the existing unit number
5 1 hired people that are out of the Fairfield County.
6 Just ten percent from the people living here are going
7 to be hired.

8 So can you expect more people locally will
9 be hired for units 2 and 3? Probably not. Now, the
10 second problem is, yes, if we are going to have
11 ability to teach these people, I have heard two
12 persons from Midland Tech, and from Aiken Technical
13 College.

14 Now, I never heard that we have ability to
15 teach these people. Aiken Technical College closed
16 the nuclear program several years ago. They closed
17 control and instrumentation program a few years ago.
18 They have no chance to really reopen this program,
19 they don't have the instructors, they don't have the
20 facility to teach them.

21 So you cannot really expect that your
22 children, from the people living here in Jenkinsville,
23 will have a chance to learn how to operate a nuclear
24 facility, a generator, and all this stuff.

25 So let me turn back to the proposal of

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1 moving these two units far away from Jenkinsville.
2 Not far away, but somewhere in the Atlantic Ocean.

3 First, we are going to have much better
4 distribution of the electricity, we are going to have
5 the right place to put this reactor. And we are going
6 to get use of the seawater for cooling.

7 Somebody mentioned how many gallons,
8 billions of gallons of the water is going to evaporate
9 from the cooling system, a lot of them.

10 I just make a very simple calculation. I
11 would tell you that just these two reactors, forget
12 about the Duke Power reactors, somewhere in Cherokee
13 County, this is going to take the water from about two
14 million people, or it is going to take the water from
15 over a quarter of million of farms, the farms that are
16 going to create the food for us.

17 If we are going to take the water from
18 these people, what you can expect to pay for the
19 tomatoes, and all this stuff, right now, even the
20 peanuts, which is a South Carolina product.

21 Probably my time is going to be almost
22 expired. So, please, let me just tell you a few
23 things about, again, the necessity, I don't think so
24 that anybody is going to ignore the decision of the
25 governor of South Carolina.

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1 So probably Jenkinsville is not going to
2 survive as a location. So in this case what we are
3 going to have, here in Jenkinsville, I would just
4 start to scare the people. You guys are not going to
5 have the jobs. No, you can't have the jobs.

6 If you are going to accept any of the
7 possible solutions. Let me just give the example of
8 California or Nevada. They built one production solar
9 panels for 100 million dollars. Each of them, they
10 were built in one year. And each of this facility can
11 build in ten years exactly two and a half gigawatts
12 power that is right now planned by these two reactors.

13 And, by the way, if you are going to move
14 this one close to the Savannah, or this place,
15 probably SCE&G will have to build a third one. So
16 this is good business for South Carolina Electric and
17 Gas just move away from here.

18 And deliver this 100 million dollars to
19 the people of this county, build someplace that can
20 hire the local people. And it is going to be 99
21 percent the people from Fairfield County, not percent
22 like it is right now.

23 Thank you very much, and this is what,
24 really, I would like to ask the people from -- again,
25 somebody mentioned, also, about the drought here. And

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1 what will happen if for some reason we are going to
2 have the high temperature in the -- it will be
3 necessary to shut down the reactors.

4 You are not going to have electricity, but
5 the reactors still will not have water to cool them
6 down. So it is terrible solution to put these two
7 guys here.

8 Please, also, look for Florida -- okay,
9 just one mention about Florida. They are, already,
10 trying to build exactly the same time two reactors
11 AP1000, but they are located on the Gulf of Mexico.

12 And they are going to use the seawater to
13 the cooling, not the water from the people that need
14 to drink, from the animals that they need to drink,
15 and from the farmers that they need to plant and
16 produce the food for the people.

17 Thank you very much, and have a good day.

18 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: It is tough, these
19 are very important comments we are hearing. So bear
20 with me, if I try to cut you short, don't forget you
21 can add to the written comments.

22 Okay, we have Hoyt Von Kaenel, K-A-E-N-E-
23 L, and then we will have Steve Byrne, and then we will
24 have Dr. Ron Wilder.

25 MR. KAENEL: Good evening, I'm Hoyt Von

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1 Kaenel, from Showa Carbon, I'm an environmental
2 technician, and industrial electronics and control
3 technician.

4 I've been doing this for over two decades,
5 and I thank you for letting me address the NRC
6 tonight. I'm used to being up here in front of our
7 local state regulators, at a forum, a public forum, or
8 at work, where they come and do their jobs as state
9 regulators.

10 One of the things you have heard tonight
11 is a lot about renewables, and renewables are great,
12 but one thing about our renewables, we would be using
13 them right now, is that they are not sustainable. We
14 have not reached that level yet, with solar cells,
15 wind power, biomass, something that Santee Cooper is
16 working on, is a biomass project with Newberry.

17 And if it was so great, you know, we would
18 be doing it right now. But it is not sustainable, we
19 don't have the infrastructure, we don't have the time.

20 We are taking baby steps.

21 One thing I'm sure you all are a bunch of
22 professionals, federal professionals. I'm used to
23 dealing with state professionals, is you are going to
24 be dealt a lot of misinformation.

25 There is a lot of people that know a lot

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1 about everything, namely myself and others. And you
2 all have the good common sense to filter through the
3 correct information.

4 But what I have dealt with, on the
5 environment, number one, turn the environment a better
6 place than what you found it. And that is what we, in
7 industry, do. We, as fathers, do and as communities.

8 Where I work is down around Ridgeville,
9 about 50 miles from Charleston, where we should build
10 a nuclear plant, from what I understand.

11 The power grid, we understand how it
12 works. My coop buys power from Santee Cooper, it is
13 traded on the open grid. States go out without power,
14 national routing.

15 One of our President's comments is that we
16 need infrastructure, let's get them up and get
17 working, build on the national grid. I understand
18 about power distribution, I also understand about the
19 power crunch.

20 I read a lot in the state paper, local
21 papers, about what the power companies would lead us
22 to believe, that there is a false demand for power.
23 When our plant gets cut back on power, and our natural
24 gas gets cut back on power, so local people can have
25 their heaters, or air conditioners on during the dead

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1 of winter, or the heat of night, I don't think that is
2 a fallacy the power people are trying to spread.

3 What we actually need, what I feel we need
4 in this public forum, is we are all for conservation,
5 none of us are against it. Some of us, most of us,
6 half of us, I don't know, want nuclear energy.

7 But I think what we all need is a balance.

8 A balance in this approach to this energy solution.
9 We need to get up there and bring up solar cells,
10 bring up geothermal, clean coal, and there is such
11 thing as clean coal, biomass, nuclear, have a good mix
12 out there, where we have a balanced approach toward
13 solving our energy problems. Thank you very much.

14 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Next is
15 Steve Byrne, Dr. Ron Wilder, and then Clint Wolfe.

16 MR. BYRNE: Good evening. I think it is
17 entirely appropriate that in a proceeding like this
18 you get a chance to hear from the utilities.

19 So my name is Steve Byrne, I'm the senior
20 VP for generation for South Carolina Electric and Gas,
21 and I have responsibility for coal, natural gas,
22 nuclear, and hydrogeneration.

23 Let me just tell you that when we made the
24 decision that we needed a new generation, it was not a
25 decision that we entered into lightly. We started

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1 studying this issue back in about 2004, and evaluated
2 coal, and natural gas, and hydro scenarios, that would
3 be much more difficult for us to site a hydro unit
4 than a nuclear unit these days.

5 And in the nuclear arena we evaluated
6 three different options, three viable candidates to
7 deliver nuclear plants. We evaluated Westinghouse,
8 which is the one that we ultimately decided to go
9 with; we evaluated General Electric, and we evaluated
10 Areva, and we discounted the Areva unit because it was
11 so complicated. And I think you are seeing some of
12 those problems in Finland, so we did not go down that
13 road.

14 We also looked at some renewable options,
15 and renewables are not foreign to this company. We
16 own some wind turbines in West Texas, in a place where
17 the wind does blow, and we do have a coal generator
18 down in Charleston, responsible for 45 megawatts of
19 biomass.

20 So we do have some renewable options, so
21 we are not foreign to those. You have heard a lot of
22 different points, a lot of different opinions tonight.

23 You are going to continue to hear those
24 opinions, but as somebody who has worked in and around
25 the nuclear industry for over 25 years, let me just

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1 tell you, these plants are safe, they are viable, they
2 are economical.

3 Whether you are talking about industrial
4 safety, or radiological safety, of environment safety,
5 these plants are safe. And we run an excellent plant,
6 and there are probably a dozen or so nuclear
7 professionals in this room, that work at V.C. Summer,
8 and they are some of the best people in the world.

9 We have an opportunity, with these plants,
10 to bring online baseload power that does not emit
11 greenhouse gases. It is the only source of baseload
12 power that will not emit greenhouse gases.

13 People need to understand that. The other
14 sources that do not emit greenhouse gases are not
15 baseload. They do not run, producing large amounts of
16 power, most of the time.

17 Capacity factors for things like wind, and
18 solar, are relatively low. And, again, we run some
19 wind turbines in Texas, in a place where the wind
20 blows, not like here. And the capacity factor is down
21 in the 30 percent range. The solar capacity factor is
22 down to the 20 percent range, and nuclear is 90
23 percent.

24 That is the differentiation between
25 baseload and non-baseload power. So, again, nuclear

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1 is our only option for baseload power, that does not
2 emit greenhouse gases.

3 You heard some discussion about life cycle
4 of greenhouse gases. People would have you believe
5 that nuclear plants do emit greenhouse gases, because
6 if you mine uranium, or if you build the plants, and
7 then you decommission the plants, that that process
8 emits greenhouse gases.

9 And when you look at it on a per unit of
10 energy basis, the life cycle of greenhouse gas
11 emissions for nuclear are lower than that of solar,
12 and about the same as that of wind.

13 So, remember, it takes manufacturing to
14 build solar panels, and it takes manufacturing to
15 build wind turbines, also.

16 On the issue of fuel, we have effectively,
17 safely, dealt with spent fuel at the V.C. Summer site
18 for about 26 years now. We will continue to safely
19 and effectively deal with that fuel, until the federal
20 government lives up to their obligation to take that
21 fuel.

22 We have a contract for the Department of
23 Energy to take our fuel from V.C. Summer unit number
24 1, we have a contract with the Department of Energy to
25 take fuel from these new units, if they are sited.

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1 So the federal government has the ultimate
2 responsibility to disposition this fuel. Now, whether
3 that is a deep geologic repository, like Yucca
4 Mountain, or spent fuel recycling, or some other
5 solution, I believe that eventually the government
6 will live up to that obligation.

7 Now, for those people that would have you
8 believe that Yucca Mountain is dead, it is not dead.
9 It is in the licensing process. A license was issued,
10 sorry, submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11 in June of last year, and the NRC will be going
12 through a separate process, similar to licensing a
13 nuclear plant with the license for this deep
14 geological repository.

15 The problem of spent fuel is a political
16 problem, not a technical problem. We can solve that
17 issue, we can solve that problem.

18 I heard a lot of discussion about cost.
19 This is not a forum to address cost. But I will just
20 tell you that we have a contract with a reputable
21 vendor, and we supplied those costs to the Public
22 Service Commission hearings that you heard about this
23 evening.

24 And whether people believe that the costs
25 are too low or not, that is the contract that we have.

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1 And those are the costs that we can produce this for.

2 Some of the studies that you heard talked about, the
3 DOE studies, and those kinds of things, those were
4 guesses based on applications for loan guarantees.

5 That ten billion dollars per reactor, that
6 is not real in our world. So we can build these
7 plants for the price that we said that we can build
8 these plants for. And it is not the exaggerated
9 figures that you heard here today.

10 Water issues. You hear a lot about water,
11 we hear a lot about water. The Department of Health
12 and Environment Control publishes a report that would
13 say that there are 16 trillion gallons of surface
14 waters used, in the state of South Carolina, every
15 year.

16 About 75 percent of that is hydropower.
17 Now, how does a hydroplant use water? You put a
18 hydroplant in the river, the water runs past the
19 turbines, and it continues on its path to wherever it
20 is going, presumably down towards the ocean, where Mr.
21 Joe would like to see us relocate these plants.

22 That is non-consumptive use. The water
23 was there, it goes through the turbines, it is still
24 there. The thermoelectric plants, like V.C. Summer
25 or coal plants, most of their water use is non-

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1 consumptive use.

2 In our V.C. Summer location 94 percent of
3 all the water that we take out of the Monticello
4 reservoir is non-consumptive use, it goes back there.

5 That remaining roughly 5 or 6 percent is what is
6 evaporative losses.

7 Our new units will use only the equivalent
8 of about one percent of the average annual flow of the
9 Broad River. There is some discussion about droughts.

10 We have a unique situation here in Fairfield County
11 with that Fairfield pump storage facility.

12 That Lake Monticello is a large surge
13 volume. We pump it up at night, we let it down during
14 the day. That will provide for over two month's worth
15 of cooling, even if there were no rain, and no water
16 in the Broad River.

17 So the people that are concerned about
18 V.C. Summer running out of water, need not be
19 concerned. There is plenty of water there for V.C.
20 Summer.

21 We are not going to change the Monticello
22 reservoir. I have heard some rumors about us
23 expanding the reservoir, we are not expanding the
24 reservoir. It is the same size that we intend for it
25 to be.

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1 And we will have low-rise, not big-tall,
2 but low-rise cooling towers for our new units, so as
3 not to increase the temperature of the Monticello
4 reservoir. So we are being good stewards of the
5 environment.

6 One of the beauties of this scenario that
7 we have mapped out for two new nuclear plants, is that
8 when it comes to fruition out in 2019, that will
9 afford me the opportunity to retire some of our older
10 coal plants.

11 I have coal plants that are in excess of
12 50 years old. Then they will be about 60 years old,
13 or more. So I can't retire those plants unless I get
14 some new baseload generation, and that is what we are
15 planning for.

16 One thing I want to leave you with. A lot
17 of you that are from this county are aware of the
18 power reactor. That is a reactor that was on the
19 drawing board before I was born.

20 It operated and shut down in 1967, here in
21 Fairfield County. We put a fence around it, and we
22 locked it down for 30 years. In 1997 we came back to
23 it and started a decommissioning process.

24 We will be finished with that
25 decommissioning process this year. So we have an

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1 obligation to decommission that reactor in that site,
2 we are living up to that obligation, and we will live
3 up to our obligations to the environment, and the
4 community, with these new reactors. Thank you.

5 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Is Dr. Ron Wilder
6 here?

7 (No response.)

8 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Clint Wolfe, and
9 after that will be Bret Bursey, and Elaine Cooper.

10 MR. WOLFE: Thank you. My name is Clint
11 Wolfe, I'm the Executive Director of Citizens for
12 Technology Awareness, based in Aikens, South Carolina.

13 And I know I speak for the overwhelming
14 majority of the folks in South Carolina, in expressing
15 our strong support for the expeditious construction of
16 these two nuclear units.

17 I have some strong opinions, hopefully
18 based on factual information of my own, but if you
19 don't mind, I would like to quote from a report issued
20 in August of 2008, by the directors of ten of our
21 national laboratories.

22 This is a report prepared for the
23 laboratory directors, and signed by ten of them,
24 including Steven Chu, who is the new Department of
25 Energy, Secretary of the Department of Energy.

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1 And I quote: "The Directors of the
2 Department of Energy, DOE, national laboratories,
3 strongly believe that nuclear energy must play a
4 significant and growing role in our nation's and the
5 world's energy portfolio.

6 This conclusion is based on analysis of
7 national and international energy needs, in the
8 context of broader global energy, environmental and
9 security issues.

10 This paper provides details regarding our
11 position in relation to nuclear energy. It is
12 intended to be used as a basis for further discussion
13 with stakeholders, to help in developing specific
14 near-term actions, as well as a coherent long-term
15 strategy, incorporating the items listed below."

16 And I have just selected four out of eight
17 that they mentioned, because the last four were
18 international in scope. But the first bullet is:
19 "Make maximum use of the current fleet of operating
20 light water reactors, including plant life extensions,
21 extended fuel burnup, and power uprates.

22 Establish a national priority to
23 immediately deploy advanced light water reactors to
24 meet our nation's increasing energy demand, while
25 limiting greenhouse gas emissions, and continuing to

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1 provide critical support to the Nuclear Regulatory
2 Commission.

3 Employ an integrated approach to manage
4 use of nuclear fuel, and high level waste, including
5 interim storage, licensing of the Yucca Mountain
6 Repository, as a long-term resource, and exploration
7 of optimal future waste management options.

8 Implement an aggressive research and
9 development, or R&D program, on advanced reactors,
10 reprocessing, waste management, and full fabrication
11 concepts, to enable timely identification of the
12 technological options for a sustainable closed fuel
13 cycle."

14 Now, it is clear that the best scientific
15 minds our country has to offer, as evidenced by the
16 unqualified endorsement of the laboratory directors,
17 believe nuclear energy must be aggressively pursued.

18 As I mentioned, Steven Chu, who was the
19 director at Berkeley, at the time, is now the new
20 Secretary of the Department of Energy, in the Obama
21 Administration.

22 These are the opinions of knowledgeable
23 folks, who are at the height of their fields in
24 science and engineering, technology, and energy
25 technology.

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1 It is time we rejected the fear and
2 superstition that anti-nuclear activists have tried to
3 thrust upon the public. Today's nuclear power plant
4 designs are inherently safe, adding to an already
5 perfect safety record established in the last six
6 decades.

7 So-called lethal nuclear waste has never
8 killed anybody, and can be safely disposed, stored, or
9 reprocessed. We remain convinced that apples to
10 apples comparison of kilowatt hour costs at the buss
11 bar, will favor nuclear generated electricity.

12 Price fluctuations in steel, concrete, and
13 other commodities, will affect the price of
14 construction of any new generation capability, no
15 matter what the technology.

16 The largest component of potential
17 unanticipated costs is time. Some of those opposing
18 nuclear power are not here to protect the environment.

19 If they were, they would gladly trade power plants
20 belching millions of tons of toxic waste and
21 greenhouse gases, for emission free nuclear energy.

22 Rather they continue to hope to delay the
23 regulatory process to the point where it is not cost
24 effective to continue. We must not let them succeed
25 in that endeavor.

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1 I repeat my opening remarks relative to
2 pursuit of an expeditious hearing process that will
3 let the people of South Carolina have these units, on
4 line, on schedule. And thank you for the opportunity
5 to speak.

6 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thanks. I have
7 Bret Bursey, Elaine Cooper, and Robert Guild.

8 MS. COOPER: Hello. I know that Bret
9 Bursey is not here. I'm Elaine Cooper, I'm an SCE&G
10 rate payer, and a citizen of South Carolina for 30
11 years.

12 I have to wake up here, due to the late
13 hour, after working all day. And I'm sure many of you
14 are tired, so I will be brief.

15 So let's start off, right away, with a
16 show of hands of people who are here, and it does not
17 involve their job. They are not politically oriented,
18 they are here because they are persons such as I.
19 Let's see a show of hands that it does not involve
20 your job at all.

21 Everyone look around. Very, very few
22 people in the room where it does not involve their
23 job. An interesting point. So I will go on to say
24 that, you know, I went to the inauguration in
25 Washington, I worked in the Obama campaign, and in the

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1 new change, and new era.

2 After that last fellow spoke about Steven
3 Chu, I will talk about what I spoke to Obama directly,
4 one on one, many times, which is, I'm looking to my
5 grandchildren, I'm looking to my great-grandchildren.

6 I'm hoping that we are on the threshold of changing
7 the environment and setting a new goal, and everyone
8 who was there, flew a flag that they are proud that
9 they are Americans now, and what that said.

10 I will talk about the environment. It
11 seems that many people in the community cannot make a
12 difference between the jobs, the economy, and the
13 safety of the nuclear power plants, they can't discern
14 a difference.

15 It doesn't matter how many jobs are
16 created by the nuclear power industry, if you are
17 sick, you can't bring all this money to heaven or
18 hell, wherever you will end up.

19 So you need to look at the safety, the
20 environment, what you are leaving for your children.
21 And, anyway, I will just briefly go over a little
22 pamphlet that was sent out to many of the working
23 people in the area.

24 Number one, utility rates will rise
25 dramatically with the building of these very expensive

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1 plants. SCE&G has refused to conduct a valid analysis
2 of lower cost efficiency, and conservation
3 alternatives, that could result in lower rates.

4 Citizens of this area will be left with
5 hundreds of additional tons of high level radioactive
6 nuclear waste, stored on-site, creating environmental
7 and health risks.

8 All nuclear plants regularly release
9 radiation into the environment. Reactors will use
10 millions of gallons of water a day, affecting the flow
11 of the Broad River.

12 SCE&G will begin charging ratepayers a
13 decade before the plant goes on-line, with no
14 guarantee it will actually be built, and with no
15 refunds if they change their minds.

16 SCE&G has chosen a risky reactor design.
17 The AP1000 has never been built anywhere, and the
18 final design is years away from approval by the NRC.

19 SCE&G is understating the true cost of
20 the two reactors, understating the true cost of the
21 two reactors, risking massive cost overruns. The DOE
22 has estimated over nine billion each, not ten billion
23 for two.

24 While the rest of the country, while the
25 rest of the country is invested in cleaner and greener

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1 energy options, SCE&G is tying up capital in risky,
2 expensive, and polluting nuclear energy.

3 Thanks for your time.

4 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. We've
5 got Robert Guild, Pamela Greenlaw, and Ron Calcaterra.

6 MR. GUILD: Good evening. My name is
7 Robert Guild, I'm a lawyer from Columbia, and I
8 represent the Sierra Club, and the Friends of the
9 Earth.

10 We have sought to intervene in the
11 licensing proceeding for the V.C. Summer units 2 and
12 3, before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Licensing
13 Boards, and have filed a petition to intervene, which
14 raises a series of contentions challenging the
15 adequacy of the environmental review submitted by
16 SCE&G and Santee Cooper, in support of the
17 Commission's compliance with the National
18 Environmental Policy Act.

19 Our contentions identify numerous
20 deficiencies in the company's environmental report.
21 And I'm here to, tonight, to challenge the NRC staff
22 to live up to the mandate of the National
23 Environmental Policy Act, but also to communicate to
24 those still present here, tonight, particularly those
25 who have been such boosters of this project, without

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1 regard to its environmental or economic costs, without
2 regard to the results of the scoping review that we
3 are supposed to be undertaking tonight.

4 I'd like to let you know that the company,
5 SCE&G company, that claims to be such good corporate
6 neighbors, and the NRC staff that has insisted tonight
7 that they are so open to hearing from the public, both
8 of them have opposed every single issue raised by the
9 Sierra Club, and Friends of the Earth, and our
10 petition to intervene.

11 Let me repeat that. The NRC staff has
12 opposed consideration of each and every environmental
13 issue raised by the Sierra Club, and Friends of the
14 Earth, and has insisted that the petitions to
15 intervene be dismissed.

16 And I suggest to you that there is an
17 inherent contradiction between the claim by the NRC,
18 that they intend to embark tonight on a full and open
19 compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act,
20 and that they really care what we think about the
21 environmental costs and benefits of this project.

22 A contradiction between that claim and the
23 actual behavior of the NRC, and this company, in the
24 licensing proceeding itself, where their legal papers
25 have opposed hearing, even discussing these very

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1 issues.

2 I would like to remind the NRC staff that
3 in the year 2003 the Commission rejected a rulemaking
4 petition brought by this industry, the Nuclear Energy
5 Institute, asking the NRC to permanently ban
6 consideration of the need for power, and of
7 alternative and renewable energy issues, from the NEPA
8 review process for new nuclear power plants.

9 The industry took the position that we
10 should just get past the charade of the NRC even
11 worrying about whether power plants are needed, and
12 whether there are more cost effective environmentally
13 benign alternatives to nuclear power plants, to just
14 eliminate the entire charade and simply, by fiat,
15 dictate that nuclear power plants are good, and we
16 will always choose that alternative.

17 The Commission recognized, in 2003, that
18 legally they could not do that, and they rejected the
19 NEI petition. And they cautioned that when the Atomic
20 Energy Commission, the NRC's predecessor, attempted to
21 do this back in 1971, the Federal Courts mandated that
22 the AEC and the NRC comply with the law.

23 And I challenge you to do so again in
24 2009. I ask that you -- I don't expect you to, I ask
25 that you fully consider the costs of this proposed

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1 project. That is the cost of building two AP1000
2 plants.

3 And I submit to you, as others have said
4 tonight, that the company has grossly underestimated
5 the cost of the plant, and there is substantial
6 extrinsic evidence supporting that that plant cost is
7 underestimated.

8 I charge you, and ask you to consider
9 fully the need for this plant. That is the forecast
10 of growth and demand for electricity in the SCE&G and
11 Santee Cooper service area.

12 I submit to you that SCE&G and Santee
13 Cooper have performed no current load forecasts
14 justifying the need for this plant. And, in fact, the
15 most recent load forecast by SCE&G predates the
16 economic collapse that we all are experiencing and
17 suffering from.

18 While other utilities in the region,
19 including Duke Power Company, have substantially
20 reduced their load forecast, showing some recognition
21 of the current economic reality, SCE&G refuses to do
22 so.

23 And their environmental report contains no
24 updated load forecast. I ask you to consider, fully,
25 the cost of alternatives that are more environmentally

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1 attractive than building nuclear power plants with
2 their attendant risks and dangers, and costs.

3 Those include aggressive demand side
4 management, energy efficiency, and alternative
5 renewable energy sources.

6 I won't belabor the point, except to say
7 that the Governor's Climate Energy and Commerce
8 Committee, charged by Governor Sanford, issued a
9 report, only this last year, contradicting SCE&G's
10 grossly pessimistic view about the prospects of
11 efficiency and alternatives.

12 And, instead, as others have said tonight,
13 identifying the short term availability of large
14 amounts of offshore wind, and a very, very significant
15 potential savings in energy efficiency.

16 I would just note, in passing, South
17 Carolina has some of the least efficient use of
18 electric energy in the country. We have, what I have
19 seen reported, as the fourth highest per capita
20 consumptions of electricity in the United States, and
21 some of the highest per household electric bills,
22 coupled with low, relatively low electric rates.

23 And that is a product of the fact that we
24 use that electricity resource extremely inefficiently.

25 There are a lot of savings available that will make

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1 the lives of the people in Fairfield County better.

2 The people of Fairfield County do not need
3 to waste electricity by heating and air conditioning
4 the great outdoors, because SCE&G fails to provide us
5 the tools to use their power efficiently.

6 They want us to waste their electricity to
7 justify the need for this new plant. I ask you also
8 to include, in your Environmental Impact Statement, a
9 review of the costs of severe accidents not properly
10 evaluated, so far, by either the NRC or this
11 Applicant.

12 And that includes the cost of the,
13 hopefully, improbable but now we know not impossible,
14 accident of an intentional aircraft crash directed at
15 these proposed new units.

16 I submit that such a low probability, high
17 consequence event would have catastrophic consequences
18 for the people of Fairfield County, and likely for the
19 people of Columbia, as well.

20 That accident has been deemed non-
21 credible, and was not included in the environmental
22 evaluation submitted by the company.

23 Lastly I would ask that you consider the
24 true cost of the AP1000 reactor. As others have said,
25 the reactor of that design has never been built. And,

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1 indeed, the NRC currently has -- Mr. Clements, of
2 Friends of the Earth, stated that design certification
3 is now in its 17th design revision, with no firm
4 schedule by the NRC, for completion of that design
5 review.

6 That is, precisely, that lack of a certain
7 design is precisely the dynamic that created the
8 collapse of the nuclear industry 30 years ago, with
9 massive cost overruns, and canceled plants, because
10 each plant was designed as it was being built.

11 And I submit that that is likely to happen
12 here tonight. Last I will close by saying the
13 National Environmental Policy Act is enforced by the
14 courts of the United States against the NRC and its
15 predecessor, mandate that we not artificially narrow
16 the scope of alternatives to be considered, so as to
17 favor the preferred alternative.

18 Everything I have seen, from the NRC
19 staff's behavior so far, in the licensing proceeding
20 smacks of that precise failure. And I submit to you
21 that if you simply ignore the alternatives, fail to
22 consider, fully, the environmental costs and benefits
23 of this project, then the result of this review will
24 be foreordained, and we all are wasting our time here
25 tonight. Thank you.

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1 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thanks. Next is
2 Pamela Greenlaw, and we will have Ron Calcaterra next,
3 and then Ralph Thomas.

4 MS. GREENLAW: Thank you very much for
5 having this meeting. I'm becoming famous for saying
6 thank you, and then turning around and trying to slap
7 you.

8 I need to say something about this
9 process. My name is Pamela Greenlaw, I'm a rate
10 payer. I also intervened as a private citizen, in
11 this case.

12 And my problems aren't as much pro-
13 nuclear, or non-nuclear, I'm here for some of the same
14 reasons that Mr. Guild is. We have some serious
15 process problems.

16 I understand that you want to do this in
17 the community. However, the planning is very odd, in
18 that this one was very reasonable, this is in
19 Jenkinsville, this is a Tuesday night.

20 But we are in the Bible belt. And so when
21 is the next meeting they are planning? Thank you.
22 That doesn't show sensitivity to the communities, at
23 all. It does here, but for tomorrow night, who can
24 come tomorrow night? I can't.

25 And I doubt that other people who couldn't

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1 come tonight will be able to make it tomorrow night,
2 either. So I would like to see the NRC do a better
3 job planning, and dealing with the actual culture of
4 South Carolina, and meet the people's needs whom you
5 are purporting to serve.

6 Enough on that one. I have a problem with
7 some things that have been said this evening, and
8 because this is supposed to be about environment, I'm
9 going to try to stick to that.

10 But I have to say this, just common sense
11 tells me that it is really difficult to have an
12 environmental plan on something that doesn't exist.
13 There is not even a demonstration model planned.

14 So what does SCE&G do? They want two.
15 And how do they get two? They get a sweetheart deal.

16 I'm sorry, I love BOGO. Do you all know what BOGO
17 is? Buy one, get one, okay?

18 I'm sorry this is nuclear, this is
19 extremely important technology. And if we are
20 supposed to be analyzing the environmental impact of
21 something that doesn't exist, would you give your
22 child that kind of homework?

23 This, to me, just seems insane. So we
24 have an Environmental Impact Statement, or
25 environmental study on theory. Okay, that is the best

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1 we can do. If that is the best we can do, what can we
2 do to move forward?

3 Well, the legislature decided that, okay,
4 we are going to move forward with this, we are going
5 to put in place the Baseload Review Act, and you only
6 get an opportunity for one prudence review.

7 And once the Public Service Commission
8 decides to move forward, folks, there is no going
9 back. The Legislature has said you will pay, you will
10 pay, you will pay if PSC says let's go ahead.

11 Now, I know that you are being told that
12 you are going to pay interest only first. And then
13 they are going to sock us with the capital after they
14 got them built.

15 Well, we are back to square one, with how
16 do we know what the environmental impact is? I'm
17 sorry, this just seems insane to me. So I have real
18 problems with this process.

19 Mr. Byrne, bless his heart. I mean, he
20 does know what he is doing, he has operated a safe
21 plant. And his testimony in the stand was very solid.

22 But I'm very bothered by something he said
23 tonight, that he had said earlier in the proceedings,
24 and that is that, hopefully, if the AP1000 works as
25 designed, which of course we still don't have the

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1 final revision of yet, they have sufficient water to
2 run it for two months with drought or no drought.

3 What happens after two months? I don't
4 know. Okay, and I'm not sure they do either. It is a
5 cool design, I have to say. Because it is not just
6 water cooled, there is some liquid nitrogen involved
7 in this. This is really unique.

8 But how can we judge? I can't read my
9 notes very well. I was fine reading them back here,
10 but I'm nervous here. So all this is speculation.
11 And there is no safety record on the AP1000 regardless
12 of the safety record that they have on Summer 1.

13 They can't possibly have a record on the
14 AP1000. They have to develop that. Well, we have to
15 get it in first, but we have to pay for it. And while
16 we are paying on that interest, up front, we are not
17 able to develop the infrastructure and the smart grid
18 that the legislature is looking at now.

19 They are finally waking up to the fact
20 that the rest of the nation is working on smart grid,
21 diversification, and not just diversification of
22 resources, but change in the way the grid works, so
23 that your power doesn't all have to come from a giant
24 baseload, but from smaller plants.

25 Anyway, let me try to finish up. You

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1 know, this is based on theoretical models, it can't be
2 tested. And so we are also supposed to have, from
3 what I understand, a safety review, is that correct?
4 How can you have a safety review on something that
5 doesn't exist?

6 And so I really, I think if I were in the
7 NRC, I would have to get people together and say, we
8 have to stop, we have to slow some of this down and
9 say, we need to have someone who will do a
10 demonstration model for each of the new types of
11 reactor designs that are coming out.

12 There are basically three, I think; AP1000
13 is one of them. And let there be a prototype for
14 developing these systems, these kinds of tests that we
15 want, environmental and safety.

16 You are having the environmental hearing,
17 but I didn't hear when you had or will have the safety
18 set of hearings. Is that coming up, or has that
19 already happened?

20 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: We are not
21 answering questions, but it would be the same --

22 MS. GREENLAW: Well, I would like you all
23 to -- well, I can -- that is something that needs to
24 be advertised as well.

25 So concerning the retirement of coal

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1 plants, I'm sorry, under oath not one SCE&G witness,
2 including Mr. Byrne, promised to take a coal plant
3 off-line if they built the two power plants.

4 And the transcripts are online, you can go
5 through and re-read them. And the reason they said
6 that was because, again, how can you have a guarantee
7 on something that you don't have in your hands, you
8 don't have up and running?

9 I don't fault them for not being able,
10 actually, to promise to take a coal plant off-line.
11 But I don't think he can come up now, later, not even
12 under oath, and make that kind of promise.

13 Now we were, it was indicated to us that
14 perhaps a coal plant could be taken off-line
15 eventually, as a result of all the energy efficiency,
16 and demand side management, and conservation, and
17 those kinds of things were dealt with.

18 And they might be able to take a coal
19 plant off-line. So I don't have a lot of questions,
20 except that this environmental review is a phantom,
21 and it is kind of, like what they say, trying to nail
22 Jello to a tree. Except this jello isn't even gelled
23 yet, it is still liquid. Thank you.

24 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Ron
25 Calcaterra? And then we are going to have Ralph

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1 Thomas, and then Delores Pinkney, I'm not sure about
2 that last name. Go ahead.

3 MR. CALCATERRA: My name is Ron
4 Calcaterra, I'm with Central Electricity Power
5 Cooperative. Central Electricity is the generation
6 and transmission entity for the 20 distribution
7 cooperatives in the state.

8 I'm here, tonight, representing those
9 million or so South Carolinians, who receive service
10 from us. I'm here to support these nuclear units,
11 based on need.

12 Real quickly, the cooperatives are
13 interested in providing a service to members, we don't
14 care about generation. We have conducted an
15 independent study about efficiency, and about
16 renewable resources.

17 With our best efforts, over a ten year
18 period, we have reduced our energy growth by
19 efficiency, and energy conservation measures. Our
20 goal is between 5 and 10 percent. Realistically
21 spending approximately 300 million dollars over a ten
22 year period, we expect to achieve a 5 percent level.

23 South Carolina is a renewable resource
24 poor state. Our goal is to obtain between 5 and 10
25 percent of our energy from renewable resources that

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1 are reasonably economic.

2 We have adjusted our energy forecast for
3 conditions, including energy efficiency increases, and
4 the economy. And even with that we still need this
5 capacity in the 2016 to 2019 period.

6 So we are supporting it for that reason.
7 Thank you.

8 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thanks. Ralph
9 Thomas and then Delores Pinkney, and then Corry Mason.

10 MR. THOMAS: First let me say thank you
11 for conducting this meeting this evening, and giving
12 all of us the opportunity to express our opinions.

13 My name is Ralph Thomas, and I serve as
14 president of the South Carolina Power Team, and we
15 operate out of Columbia. We represent the South
16 Carolina Public Service Authority, Santee Cooper, and
17 20 electric cooperatives and their industry
18 recruitment efforts for rural South Carolina.

19 Santee Cooper is a billion dollar a year
20 public agency engaged in the generation and
21 transmission of electricity. The 20 individual rural
22 electricity coops buy approximately 60 percent of the
23 power produced by Santee Cooper, and retailed to their
24 customers, in all of South Carolina's 46 counties.

25 Since 1988 we have had the opportunity to

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1 assist over 580 new and expanded industrial projects
2 to select South Carolina as their base of operations.

3 Those companies have made 6.7 billion dollars in
4 capital investment in our state.

5 They have created 39,000 new jobs, and
6 they offer an annual payroll, to South Carolina
7 citizens, of 1.3 billion dollars annually.

8 South Carolina Electric and Gas is also
9 involved in economic development that serves to
10 improve the lives of all South Carolinians. One of
11 the most critical tools that I carry, is that of
12 reliable, affordable electricity.

13 This is one of the first things, if not
14 the first, that industry executives look for when
15 considering a site for a relocation or an expansion.

16 South Carolina offers just that. Our
17 electricity utility providers have a track record of
18 reliable, affordable power. We do it through offering
19 a diverse generation mix, that already includes safe
20 and clean nuclear power.

21 Half of all power generated in South
22 Carolina today is nuclear. Nuclear power provides
23 reliable 24 hour electricity at significant
24 capacities.

25 The V.C. Summer generating station, which

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1 Santee Cooper, and SCE&G, have operated successfully
2 since 1983, has excellent reliability and safety
3 records.

4 We know that these two utilities can
5 deliver an excellent record of safety, security, and
6 reliability in nuclear power generation. They have
7 been doing it for more than two decades.

8 Nuclear power is the only emissions-free
9 source of baseload generation today. And it is a
10 perfect ingredient for an environmentally responsible
11 generation portfolio.

12 Santee Cooper has been generating
13 renewable energy in South Carolina since 2001, from
14 landfill biogas and solar. And they are exploring
15 biomass and wind energy.

16 Renewable energy is important, but it
17 cannot generate enough power by the time we need it.
18 Landfill biogas generation is a great win for
19 everyone, including electricity utility customers.
20 But its potential capacity is very limited.

21 Solar and wind energy are promising, but
22 with current technologies, practical baseload
23 solutions, because they can only generate power when
24 the sun is shining and the wind is blowing.

25 Nuclear power operates around the clock,

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1 week in and week out. It is exactly what industries
2 and customers need, and without it South Carolina
3 could lose out on jobs and economic stability.

4 South Carolina is proud that our utilities
5 are continuing to implement renewable energy,
6 conservation, and energy efficiency methods.

7 We also need to know, however, that there
8 are viable clean, long-term generating solutions in
9 place for our future. Nuclear power is part of a
10 balanced approach to meeting South Carolina's energy
11 needs while building a prosperous state for all of our
12 citizens. Thank you very much.

13 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thanks. Ms.
14 Delores Pinkney from Ridgeway. And next will be Corry
15 Mason and then Clifton Hendrix.

16 MS. PINKNEY: My comments were relative to
17 the Yucca project. And they mostly have been stated.
18 So I will defer the rest of my comments in writing.

19 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Corry
20 Mason and then Clifton Hendrix.

21 MR. MASON: Well, my take on the nuclear
22 industry, and I have been kind of following it for 30
23 years or more --

24 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Can you move
25 closer, please?

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1 MR. MASON: I think nuclear industry has
2 basically been a dead horse for the last 30 years. It
3 hasn't had any new reactors go on-line, then we get in
4 trouble as the oil gets depleted, and all of a sudden
5 these nuclear power plants are safe.

6 They have proposed virtually all of them
7 in the South. I guess they figure we are more
8 vulnerable and expendable. The nuclear industry has
9 not a good history, starting with the Atomic Energy
10 Commission, people like James Neal, and Stafford
11 Warren, they were going around injecting welfare,
12 pregnant welfare mothers with plutonium, and
13 radioactive iodine, and retarded people in
14 institutions, and Howland did this, and Samuel Basset.

15 And then in the early '90s, late '80s,
16 they go down to South America, and none of these
17 people knew they were being injected. Then they
18 injected the Yanomamo Indians in South America.

19 I mean, this industry -- and we are
20 talking about, you know, a false contract. We will
21 give you a light bulb and, here, you can have a poison
22 that can kill virtually all life on earth for 1,000
23 human generations.

24 I think that is being a psychopath,
25 personally. I think our politicians caved in on us,

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1 and gave a sweetheart deal here. California it is
2 illegal to build a nuclear power plant. Germany
3 doesn't allow them. And I'm sure there are many more
4 places that don't.

5 In the end all these people are going to
6 be doing all these alternative energies, and we are
7 going to be the laughingstock, expendables, stuck here
8 with this dangerous nuclear power.

9 And it costs more to build one, get all
10 the ores out of the ground, process it, build it, burn
11 the lights 24/7, take the stars out of the night,
12 building these things for years and years, and then as
13 it produces, they run in the red.

14 Everyone talks about France. France runs
15 in the red. Their nuclear industry spends more energy
16 building them, and running them, than they can ever
17 put out.

18 And it is just that some people are making
19 some bucks off this thing. They know we are
20 vulnerable, they know they can run over people in
21 South Carolina, we are poor.

22 If you want jobs in V.C. Summer get rid of
23 V.C. Summer, get rid of the plant that is there now,
24 grow some Kudzu over the ugly building. And, sure, a
25 lot of people won't come to that lake community,

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1 because there was a nuclear power plant here.

2 Of course a lot less would come if there
3 were three nuclear power plants. But if you just gave
4 that lake to Fairfield County, got rid of the nukes,
5 thank you very much, goodbye, you weren't too bad as
6 nuclear power plants go, there would be a lot of money
7 generated out of that.

8 There would be stores opening up to cater
9 to the people that move in, and this place would
10 prosper. Assimilating the people that live around
11 there, just all you are doing is you are giving a
12 validity to an industry that doesn't have any
13 validity.

14 If you want lights, all these lights that
15 they blaze at night, through the countryside, when the
16 full moon is out in the wintertime, get SCE&G or
17 someone to put a light switch on those things, so they
18 can turn them off and have moonlight.

19 If you have driers, try using the sun to
20 dry clothes. We are going to have to cut back if we
21 are going to survive. You get a population explosion
22 going on, and then you fall back, I mean, this nuclear
23 industry is like a bunch of cockroaches building cans
24 of Raid and spraying themselves.

25 I mean, it is being a psychopath. And

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1 I've been here a long time, so I can't think of
2 everything I want to say.

3 Terrorists, if you have three nuclear
4 power plants in one spot, that sounds like a
5 terrorist's dream. You can knock out three like
6 falling dominoes for the price of one. I think that
7 is bait for terrorism.

8 There are many heads on this monster, and
9 it is just insanity. And, like I said, the nuclear
10 industry has been basically floundering for 30 years,
11 and now it is coming to South Carolina because it
12 doesn't want to quite die, so it is fluttering around
13 like a burnt moth, and figuring we can cave in, our
14 politicians can be bought.

15 And I live up there, and I don't like it.
16 It makes me think I work hard to try to leave the
17 earth a better place than I found it, and I don't like
18 to think that the land I live on is going to be
19 radioactive for the next thousand human generations.

20 Or take depleted uranium, we are talking
21 about birth defects, 4.5 billion years. And if you
22 don't believe it, check it out. And it has a bad
23 history. It is a dead horse, and they just know that
24 they have to last -- it is like the nuclear industry
25 comes to the South, and particularly South Carolina.

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1 And most of the south is rejecting them.
2 And I don't believe the bird can fly. I mean, what a
3 hell of an ego trip to say that you can have this
4 energy, and it can kill you for a thousand human
5 generations.

6 And can any of you look me in the eye and
7 say, yes, we can cover that, we can protect this, it
8 is cost effective. I figure if you could protect the
9 earth from this poison, it probably break down to -- I
10 don't know, I'm not a mathematician, 100,000 dollars a
11 light bulb?

12 It is pathetic, and it is ridiculous. And
13 we need to grow up, and we need to get responsible,
14 because right now I don't see a shred of
15 responsibility. Thank you.

16 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thanks. I have
17 three more. Clifton Hendrix, Gerald Rudolph, and
18 Travis Knight.

19 MR. HENDRIX: Again, thank you for the
20 opportunity to address you. My name is Clifton
21 Hendrix, I'm from the Blair area. What the lady said
22 about the Bible belt, my Bible study was tomorrow
23 night, so I came tonight, over to Winnsboro.

24 First of all, I retired in November of '99
25 as a chemical worker. I was an electronic technician.

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1 And after that I worked at five different nuclear
2 sites, over the last eight years.

3 And I was thoroughly impressed when I
4 would go in to work with the site people. The
5 magnitude of safety that they exhibit, and the
6 procedures they go through.

7 And that being said, back in the '70s I
8 graduated from Midlands Tech, and that afforded me the
9 opportunity to do great things in my life. And I want
10 to applaud the Chairman for coming in and expressing
11 his desire to help Fairfield County.

12 He talked about the construction jobs, but
13 my prayer is that our county will not only do that,
14 but in the sector of operating the plant, provide
15 courses where our people can study, even if not during
16 the daytime, at night, to advance themselves.

17 And the energy emporium that some
18 companies have, I would hope that SCE&G and Santee
19 Cooper would provide one here in this county, where
20 our students can look at that and see what it takes to
21 operate a nuclear plant.

22 The other one is, if something happens.
23 If I was at my house, which is ten miles above the
24 site, and I had to depend on the internet system that
25 I have, which is a dial-up, it is fast maybe one

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1 percent of the time, the rest of the time it is just
2 real slow.

3 And in this process my prayer is that some
4 type of infrastructure can be provided where if people
5 wanted to get information, they could access the
6 internet in a fast way.

7 And I think that is a doable thing. It
8 might be a long time in planning, but I think we need
9 to work toward that.

10 The other is I know you talked about Mr.
11 Archie going to the schools, maybe the site people and
12 Santee Cooper, and maybe even the NRC can kind of pull
13 together and say let's educate the community as to
14 what this is.

15 I mean, you educate us now, but what about
16 the upcoming people, as young children they can learn
17 about it. The other one is recreation. A lot of
18 people don't like to talk about that. But that is
19 important, especially over in our area.

20 A lot of the people with resources can
21 access recreation real easy. But from the general
22 public standpoint, there ought to be something there
23 that we can do better. Thank you very much.

24 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. Gerald
25 Rudolph? The last will be Travis Knight.

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1 MR. RUDOLPH: Hello. My name is Gerald
2 Rudolph. I suppose I'm one of the usual suspects that
3 the gentleman spoke of. I'm not sure what he meant by
4 that.

5 I suspect that he meant that our opinions
6 are not that important to him. One of the things that
7 I studied in my doctoral program was risk, and
8 probabilities. And I wanted to speak a little bit
9 about that.

10 I wanted to compliment SCE&G on reducing
11 risk in one area, and that is in the risk to their
12 shareholders. You and I, the public, will eventually
13 own all of this nuclear waste. And we will be
14 financially, and otherwise, responsible for that
15 waste.

16 And the investors are protected from that
17 risk. You and I, the public, are financially and
18 otherwise responsible for all but a minor part of any
19 cost related to a disaster.

20 So the shareholders are protected from
21 that risk, but the public is holding that risk. A
22 Public Service Commission friendly to SCE&G reduces
23 the risk to investors about the cost, I mean, the
24 rates that they can charge to cover their increasing
25 costs.

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1 So ratepayers are the ones holding those
2 risks. Even if the plant never opens, because of
3 whatever, the lack of water, or the public opposition,
4 or for whatever reason, rate payers will still pay,
5 and investors are protected from that risk.

6 Other financial risks that SCE&G is that
7 when rates go up alternative energies become more
8 viable. Recently in our house we installed hot water
9 solar heaters. And as rates go up other people will
10 start buying more alternative energies and conserving
11 in their homes.

12 So the revenue that I was giving will have
13 to be covered by the rest of you ratepayers, as the
14 rates go up, to cover the cost of a reduced
15 consumption. But the investors and the shareholders
16 are protected from that. It is the ratepayers that
17 will assume that risk.

18 Wall Street, and our government, have
19 reassured us for a long time, since the '30s, that we
20 would never experience the kind of depression that
21 they had in the '30s.

22 And our nuclear industry is assuring us
23 that we will never have a risk, that it is safe, that
24 we will never have any kind of catastrophe. But after
25 80 years, almost 80 years, 75, look at what we are

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1 having.

2 And can we really trust the SCE&G and the
3 supporting Nuclear Regulatory Commission to protect
4 us? They are looking out for their shareholders, not
5 for the public.

6 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thank you. And our
7 last speaker is Travis Knight.

8 MR. KNIGHT: Actually it is Travis Knight.
9 My handwriting is pretty bad, I guess.

10 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: So is mine. So we
11 are --

12 MR. KNIGHT: But thank you for the
13 opportunity to address this meeting, and I guess I'm
14 the last speaker, so I guess I get to set some of the
15 facts straight.

16 I have been studying nuclear power for
17 more than 15 years. I have a PhD in nuclear
18 engineering, and master's degree in applied physics.
19 I live within 20 miles of the plant.

20 As some of the other speakers I have
21 children, two children, that is an important
22 qualification, and I'm an SCE&G ratepayer, just for
23 the record.

24 Nuclear power has been proven safe,
25 reliable and secure supply. The comment that if we

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1 run out of uranium in the United States is not true.
2 We have the third largest reserves in the world, when
3 you consider all grades of uranium, and the fact that
4 uranium is such a small part of the overall cost of
5 the generation of nuclear power, it is about five
6 percent.

7 Any volatility in the price of uranium is
8 easily absorbed. So we have adequate uranium
9 reserves. This talk about the design not existing, is
10 a farce. The design is an evolutionary design, based
11 on all the best lessons learned, and advances in
12 technology, over the last 40-plus years.

13 The design is based on an earlier design,
14 the AP600, which received design approval in the early
15 to mid-1990s. There were facilities built at Oregon
16 State to test the evolutionary and new advances in the
17 thermohydraulics for the AP600 design.

18 So it is a proven design, it is an
19 evolutionary design, again, built on the best
20 technology that exists. The AP1000 received its own
21 approval in 2005, and the comments they are making
22 have to do with certain revisions to that design.

23 But the fact that it is not based on good,
24 existing technology, is utterly -- it is an utter
25 farce.

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1 The meeting here tonight is about
2 environmental aspects. And compared to other baseload
3 generation, that is reliable, that being coal, it is
4 important to note some important facts.

5 Each of these plants will displace seven
6 million tons of CO2 per year. In a carbon trading
7 environment, should we have one, which was discussed
8 in the last Congress, this is worth about 160 million
9 dollars per year, at present value.

10 Also each plant will also displace 42,000
11 tons of sulphur dioxide per year, as well as 12,000
12 tons of nitrous oxide per year, improving air quality,
13 helping us all breathe a little bit easier.

14 It will also displace about 350 kilograms
15 of mercury. This is based on a DOE Brookhaven
16 National Lab study of 2004, based on large coal
17 plants.

18 To give you some of the idea of the impact
19 of mercury emissions, in 2005 the National Institutes
20 of Health study estimated a 9 billion dollar economic
21 impact associated with mercury emissions, related to
22 child brain development.

23 A 2004 CDC study, Centers for Disease
24 Control, estimates that 8 percent of women of
25 childbearing age have unsafe levels of mercury. As

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1 well, that same study, estimated some 300,000 children
2 at risk for mercury poisoning.

3 With respect to radiological aspects, it
4 was mentioned here, again those were mentioned by some
5 of the earlier speakers, radiological aspects, the
6 health effects have been studied for more than 100
7 years.

8 There is no -- we cannot draw any
9 correlation between nuclear power emissions and some
10 of these ridiculously reported studies here, earlier
11 tonight.

12 While no, of course radiation is a hazard,
13 like any other hazard, or carcinogen in the
14 environment, and it is true, what one of the earlier
15 speakers said, that there is no safe radiation level,
16 of course.

17 But the important thing is that radiation
18 of any type, regardless of the source, is the same,
19 and the health effects are the same. So let's make
20 some comparisons.

21 A coal plant emits three times more
22 radiation than a nuclear power plant. This is based
23 on the Environmental Protection Agency data. And you
24 can google this, go to EPA dose calculator, you can
25 put it in, and you can estimate your own dose levels.

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1 That is assuming you live within 50 miles
2 of the coal plant. The same thing for a nuclear
3 plant, it is one-third that of the coal plant. Coal
4 has uranium, thorium, it comes out of the ground. It
5 has radon, radon daughters. Those get into the
6 environment, of course, and that is where the dose
7 results from.

8 Also for perspective, the radiation
9 received from a nuclear power plant is equivalent of
10 having a smoke detector in your home. I have nine,
11 and I think it is well worth the risk, and I intend to
12 keep my nine smoke detectors.

13 It is 100 times less than watching TV,
14 assuming you don't have one of the fancier new TVs,
15 which don't emit any radiation. With respect to other
16 sources, wind and solar, what was said earlier,
17 nuclear power is, indeed green.

18 It is as green as wind, hydro, and solar.
19 It emits about, when you consider the full life cycle
20 cost, the full energy chain, it is about two and a
21 half grams carbon equivalent per kilowatt hour. And
22 those are the facts backed up by a 2004 OACDC study.

23 And it comes, I mean, when you consider
24 construction costs, the material input, the concrete
25 and steel, it is five times more for a windmill, on a

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1 per kilowatt hour basis.

2 Again, it is important to factor in the
3 overall life cycle cost. And this is based on a 2005
4 International Journal of Life Cycle journal article,
5 as well as a 2000 Renewable Energy Journal article.

6 The waste, a lot has been said about
7 waste. The waste is small, if you compare all the
8 waste from all 100-plus nuclear plants, for the last
9 50 years, commercial nuclear power, is one-fifth the
10 volume of ash and sulphur generated by one coal plant
11 in one year.

12 It is a manageable amount of waste, and to
13 think that we can't manage this waste and, ultimately,
14 whether it goes to geologic disposal, or whether it is
15 above ground storage, or whatever it may be,
16 ultimately we are going to deal with it, and it is
17 easily managed.

18 And ultimately we will mine this as a
19 resource, once we have exhausted existing fossil
20 resources. It will be important, since 99 percent of
21 that spent nuclear fuel, used nuclear fuel is, indeed,
22 recyclable.

23 There is much more that could be said
24 about this but I think that given the late hour I
25 think I will retire, and thank you for the opportunity

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1 to speak, and thank you all.

2 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Okay, thank you
3 all. We did run over a little bit, and I appreciate
4 you folks hanging around to listen to all of the
5 comments.

6 We would like to finish up with Deborah
7 Jackson making some concluding statements.

8 MS. JACKSON: Thank you, Chet. As I was
9 introduced earlier, I'm a Senior Manager from the
10 Nuclear Regulatory Commission representing for
11 tonight's meeting.

12 I want to thank all of you for attending
13 this meeting, and for participating. As was
14 previously stated, the purpose of tonight's meeting
15 was to get your input for the scope of the
16 Environmental Impact Statement.

17 Many of you participated, and your input
18 was very valuable, and we thank you for that. If you
19 want to provide additional input for the scoping
20 meeting, after tonight, the information is on a slide
21 that Patricia presented earlier.

22 There is a method to do it by mail, and
23 also by email. And as a reminder, there is additional
24 information on the environmental information, safety
25 information, and public involvement on the NRC's

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1 website.

2 And we will be back to talk with you in
3 about a year, on the draft Environmental Impact
4 Statement. So thank you very much, again, and enjoy
5 the rest of your evening. Good night.

6 FACILITATOR POSLUSNY: Thanks. We will
7 also be there, speaking, tomorrow night as well. Good
8 night. The record is closed.

9 (Whereupon, at 10:18 p.m., the above-
10 entitled matter was concluded.)

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Summer Scoping Meeting
Fairfield County, SC
27-Jan-09

Written Comments Received

Dr. Susan A. Winsor,
President
Aiken Technical College
P.O. Drawer 696
Aiken, SC 29802-0696

Lindsey Graham, U.S. Senator
John M. Spratt, Jr., Member of Congress
Gresham Barrett, Member of Congress
Henry Brown, Member of Congress
Bob Inglis, Member of Congress
Joe Wilson, Member of Congress
James E. Clyburn, Member of Congress
Jim DeMint, Member of Congress
Charlie McDown, District Administrator

R. David Brown, Chairman

W.R. (Rick) Toole, Chairman
SRS Community Reuse Organization
P.O. Box 696
Aiken, SC 29802



Dr. Susan A. Winsor
President

January 27, 2009

Chief, Rules and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Office of Administration
Mailstop: TWB-05-B01M
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Sir or Madam:

As the current President of Aiken Technical College and past chair of the SRS Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO), I am pleased to submit this letter in support of the Application for a combined license (COL) for two Westinghouse Advanced Passive 1000 (AP1000) Pressurized Water Reactors (PWR) designated as V.C. Summer Nuclear Station Units 2 and 3.

Many in the community surrounding Aiken, South Carolina currently receive electricity supplied by SCE&G. This expansion will ensure the future energy needs of our growing community and benefit other areas of South Carolina.

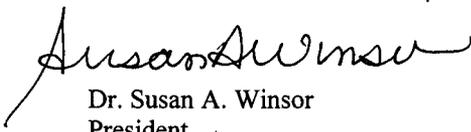
The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) predicts that total electricity sales will increase by 29 percent, from 3,659 billion kilowatt-hours in 2006 to 4,705 billion in 2030. No one resource alone can meet that demand. The country needs an energy mix that includes renewable energy, wind, solar, natural gas, and nuclear.

Nuclear reactors provide baseload power – that is, they are reliable, producing energy 24 hours a day at a constant rate to supply a region's regular energy needs. Renewables – like wind and solar – are intermittent resources that will require a baseload system in order to have backup power available to ensure reliability of supply.

If we do not maintain a diverse energy portfolio, we risk overdependence on one resource and our energy security. Nuclear power is currently the only technologically mature non-emitting generation technology that is *proven* and *already deployed* on a large scale.

Again, I support the Application for a combined license and thank you for allowing me to voice my support.

Sincerely,



Dr. Susan A. Winsor
President

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 26, 2009

Dr. Dale E. Klein
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop O-16G4
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Re: Docket Numbers 52-027 and 52-028

Dear Chairman Klein:

As members of the South Carolina Congressional Delegation, we are writing to express our strong support for the development of new nuclear energy facilities within the state of South Carolina.

Nuclear power does not produce greenhouse gases, and will therefore have a positive impact on the environment by allowing us to significantly reduce CO2 emissions in our state. In addition to being clean, nuclear energy has proven to be safe, economical and reliable.

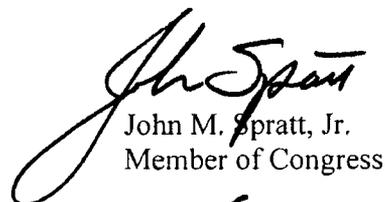
Today, 52 percent of the energy generated in South Carolina comes from nuclear power plants. Nuclear energy accounts for 71 percent of the nation's clean-air electricity generation.

We would appreciate your consideration of this expression of our support as the Commission reviews applications for new nuclear energy facilities in our state.

Sincerely,



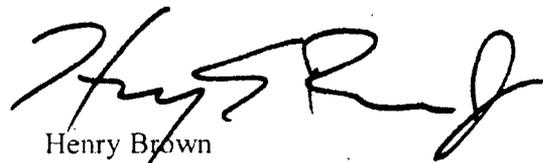
Lindsey Graham
United States Senator



John M. Spratt, Jr.
Member of Congress



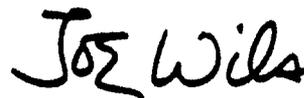
Gresham Barrett
Member of Congress



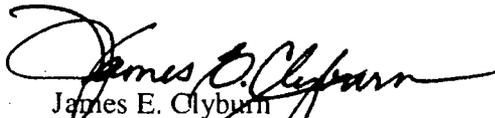
Henry Brown
Member of Congress



Bob Inglis
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress


James E. Clyburn
Member of Congress


Jim DeMint
United States Senator



Charlie McDow
District Administrator

Congressman John Spratt
5th District, South Carolina
Budget Committee, Chairman
Armed Services Committee

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Fax: 803/327-4330

charlie.mcdow@mail.house.gov





STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
 COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE EXPANSION OF V.C. SUMMER NUCLEAR PLANT IN FAIRFIELD COUNTY

WHEREAS, nuclear power has proved to be a reliable and low-cost source of energy, providing baseload electricity 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week; and

WHEREAS, nuclear power has proven to be a safe energy alternative, with 52 percent of the energy generated in our state coming from nuclear power plants; and

WHEREAS, nuclear power is clean and sustainable, accounting for 71 percent of the nation's clean-air electricity generation; and

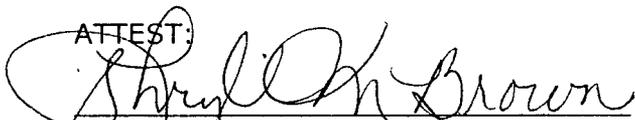
WHEREAS, nuclear power will allow us to lessen our reliance on other forms of generation, resulting in significant reductions in CO2 levels in our state; and

WHEREAS, nuclear power promotes economic development by providing a reliable source of energy, as well as through the creation of much needed jobs and tax revenues;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Fairfield County Council that we support the development of two new nuclear energy facilities at V.C. Summer Nuclear Plant within Fairfield County.

Adopted this 26th day of January 2009, by Fairfield County Council.


 R. David Brown, Chairman

ATTEST:

 Shryll M. Brown, Clerk to Council



COMMUNITY REUSE ORGANIZATION

two states, one future

January 26, 2009

Chief, Rules and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Office of Administration
Mailstop: TWB-05-B01M
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

RE: V. C. SUMMER NUCLEAR PLANT

Dear Sir or Madam:

Our organization – the Savannah River Site Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO) – strongly supports continued operation and planned expansion of the SCANA's V. C. Summer Nuclear Plant. These new units, which are scheduled to join the grid nearly a decade from now, are critical to our energy future and to our nation's quest for energy independence.

The SRSCRO is the U. S. Department of Energy's designated Community Reuse Organization. Based in Aiken, South Carolina, we are charged with developing and implementing a comprehensive strategy to diversify the economy of a five-county region in the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) of Georgia and South Carolina.

The SRSCRO is governed by a 22-member Board of Directors composed of business, government and academic leaders from Georgia and South Carolina. Initially, its mission was to develop and implement a regional economic development plan utilizing technology-based facilities at the Savannah River Site. Today, SRSCRO remains focused on diversifying the region's economy by supporting new business ventures that create new jobs in our region.

We strongly believe that nuclear power is the wave of the future as our state and our nation struggle to free ourselves from the domination of foreign oil and environmental threats posed by other energy sources such as coal. Nuclear is our number one source of emission-free electricity.

Today, the U. S. remains the global leader in nuclear power, with more operating nuclear reactors than any other nation – 104 reactors operating in 31 states. And after a three decade hiatus, utility companies like SCANA are pursuing plans to build more than 30 new reactors in several areas of the country, including here in South Carolina.

This is welcome news for an energy-hungry region and nation that must find new and better ways to meet a growing demand.

Commercial nuclear power is now more than 50 years old and, in those five decades, has proven itself to be reliable, economical and, most of all, safe. Electricity production at existing nuclear power plants continues at near-record performance levels with capacity factors at an impressive 90%. Operating costs – estimated at 1.68 cents per kilowatt hour in 2006 – continue to be the lowest of any source of electricity. And the last several years have shown that this strong operating performance is sustainable while maintaining a solid safety record.

This year, the V. C. Summer Nuclear Plant will celebrate 25 years of reliably supplying electricity for South Carolina customers. V.C. Summer is ranked highly in important industry performance indicators and, according to a recent assessment by a team of its peers, it has a strong and very healthy safety culture. The fact that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission extended the plant's operating license in 2004 -- granting it twenty additional years of operation through the year 2042 – is also testament to this facility's outstanding record of performance, compliance and contribution to our state.

We look forward to the V. C. Summer Nuclear Plant continuing a strong and growing role in our energy future.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W.R. Toole', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

W.R. (Rick) Toole
Chairman