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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

No. 78-162
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Mailed - July 17, 1978)

NRC GIVES NOTICE OF PROPOSED LICENSING ACTION ON BELLEFONTE NUCLEAR PLANT IN ALABAMA

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has accepted for review an application from the Tennessee Valley Authority for licenses to operate Units 1 and 2 of the Bellefonte Nuclear Plant being constructed approximately six miles north-east of Scottsboro and 38 miles east of Huntsville in Jackson County, Alabama, and is providing opportunity for a public hearing concerning issuance of the licenses.

Construction of the Bellefonte plant, which will use two pressurized water reactors with an electrical capacity of about 1200 megawatts each, was authorized on December 24, 1974.

Any person whose interest may be affected may file a petition for leave to intervene in the proceeding with respect to issuance of the operating licenses, or the applicant (Tennessee Valley Authority) may file a request for a hearing. Petitions and requests are to be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Section, or delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C., by August 16, 1978.

Petitions for leave to intervene, which must be filed according to instructions published in the Federal Register on July 17, should set forth in detail the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding, and the specific aspects of the case on which the petitioner wishes to intervene.

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If timely petitions or requests are received, a notice of hearing or other appropriate order will be issued. In the event a hearing is held and a person is permitted to intervene, he becomes a full party to the proceeding and has a right to participate fully in the conduct of the meeting.

Whether or not there is a hearing, the operating licenses will not be issued until after completion of safety and environmental reviews by the NRC staff and findings that the company's application complies with the requirements of both the Atomic Energy Act and the Commission's regulations. In addition, a license for either unit will not be issued until it is found that the unit has been satisfactorily constructed and is ready for fuel loading.

An environmental report that discusses environmental considerations related to the proposed operation of the facility is available at the Alabama Development Office, State Office Building, Montgomery, Alabama, and at the Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments, 350 State National Bank Building, Huntsville.

This report, along with the application for operating licenses and other documents related to the licensing of the plant, is also available for public inspection at the Scottsboro Public Library, 1002 South Broad Street, Scottsboro, Alabama, and at the NRC Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C.

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