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**COMMITTEES:**

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Education and Youth, Secretary  
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## The State Senate

Atlanta, Georgia 30334

August 24, 2011

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555-0001

Re: Docket Nos. 52-025-COL and 52-026-COL  
Southern Nuclear Operating Co., et al; Combined Licenses for Vogtle Electric  
Generating Plant, Units 3 and 4, and Limited Work Authorizations

As a native resident of Burke County and as a State Senator representing 8 counties in east central Georgia, including Burke County, I am submitting this letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I would like to express my strong and unequivocal support for the issuance of a combined operating license (COL) for Plant Vogtle units 3 and 4 (Docket Nos. 52-025-COL and 52-026-COL) in Burke County, Georgia.

Plant Vogtle expansion is critical to the economic health of all the communities that I serve and to the State of Georgia as a whole. The additional high paying jobs will help greatly, especially in places such as neighboring Jenkins County, where unemployment leads the State at 20%. The multi-billion dollar investment will enhance the tax base of Georgia and Burke County, and the ability of local government to provide needed services in one of the poorest counties of the State.

As a believer in the vital role of nuclear energy in supplying our region's electricity needs to make future growth possible and in freeing our nation from dependence upon fossil fuels with all of their environmental hazards, I hope the NRC will expedite the licensing process and vote to approve the COL very soon. I have full confidence in both the NRC and the Southern Company/Southern Nuclear having closely observed the meticulous hearings that have brought us to this point and the outstanding safety record of Plant Vogtle's operation over the last few decades.

Thanking you for your favorable consideration, I am,

Sincerely,

*Jesse*

Jesse C. Stone,  
Senator, 23<sup>rd</sup> District