ATTACHMENT I

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

VOGTLE TO SAVANNAH RIVER PLANT 230kV TRANSMISSION LINE

PREPARED FOR :

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

JUNE 1, 1985

envirosphere company
A Division of
EBASCO SERVICES
INCORPORATED

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
VOGTLE TO SAVANNAH RIVER PLANT
230 kV TRANSMISSION LINE

Prepared for:

South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
Columbia, South Carolina

By:

Envirosphere Company
Atlanta, Georgia

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

South Carolina Electric and Gas Company (SCE&G) proposes to construct a 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line which will pass through a portion of northwestern Barnwell County, South Carolina. The proposed line, designated as Vogtle-Savannah River Plant 230 kV Line, will connect The Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, being constructed by Georgia Power Company, to an existing substation on the Savannah River Plant (SRP). The proposed line is approximately 17.5 miles in length. The entire length of the line is located within the boundaries of the Savannah River Plant property, which is owned by the U.S. Department of Energy.

The Vogtle-SRP line will be operated at 230 kV. Because of the size of the line, SCE&G is required by South Carolina's Utility Facility Siting and Environmental Protection Act (Title 58, Chapter 33, Code of Laws of South Carolina) to provide an environmental assessment of the proposed route. The environmental assessment is necessary for completion of the Application for Certificate for Environmental Compatibility & Public Convenience & Necessity required by the state's Public Service Commission. This report presents a description of the environment along SCE&G's proposed route and possible impacts resulting from construction of the proposed transmission line.

1.2 STUDY METHODOLOGY

Information required to conduct the environmental assessment was compiled from a number of sources, including information supplied by state and federal agency personnel, published literature, USGS topographic maps, and South Carolina highway maps. The location of the proposed line has been surveyed and a plan prepared by SCE&G.

A field survey of the entire line was conducted May 23-24, 1985. Vegetation communities, land uses, local features, wildlife species, and the occurrence of threatened and endangered species were identified. Particular attention was given to those vegetation communities or habitat types in which threatened or endangered plant or animal species could occur or have been reported to occur.

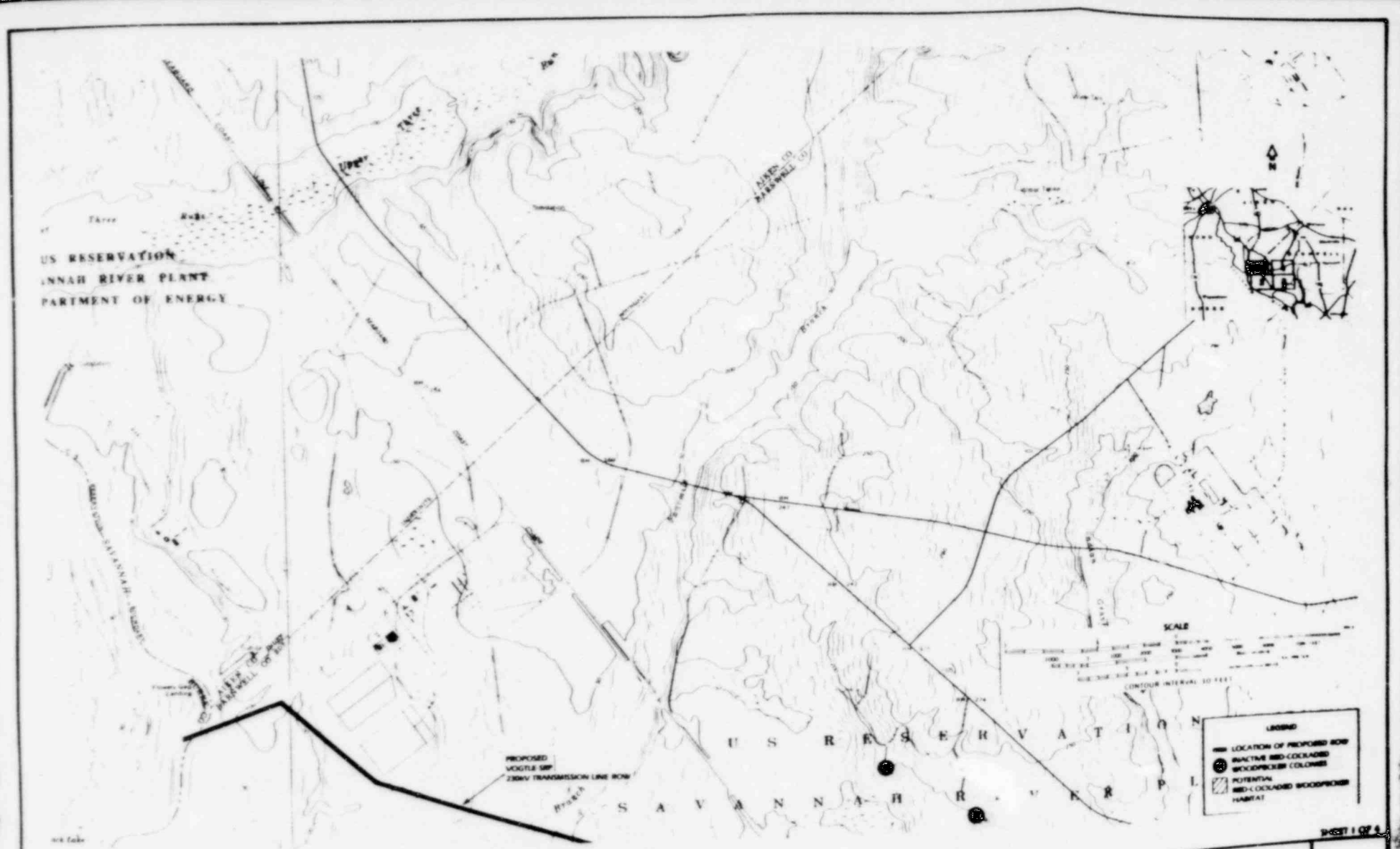
2.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The proposed route for the Vogtle-SRP transmission line is depicted in Figure 2-1. Major features of the route include the Savannah River crossing and crossings of Route 125 and six Savannah River Plant (SRP) roads. The proposed line will cross three major creeks, Four Mile, Pen Branch, and Steel Creek. Two minor creeks, Meyers Branch of Steel Creek and Beaver Dam Creek, will also be crossed by the line. The proposed route parallels approximately 2.3 miles of an existing SRP transmission line and 2,400 feet of the Canadys-Urquhart 230 kV line. The Seaboard Coast Line tracks, which are located within the SRP boundaries, will be crossed four times by the proposed right-of-way.

2.1 PHYSIOGRAPHIC FEATURES/TOPOGRAPHY

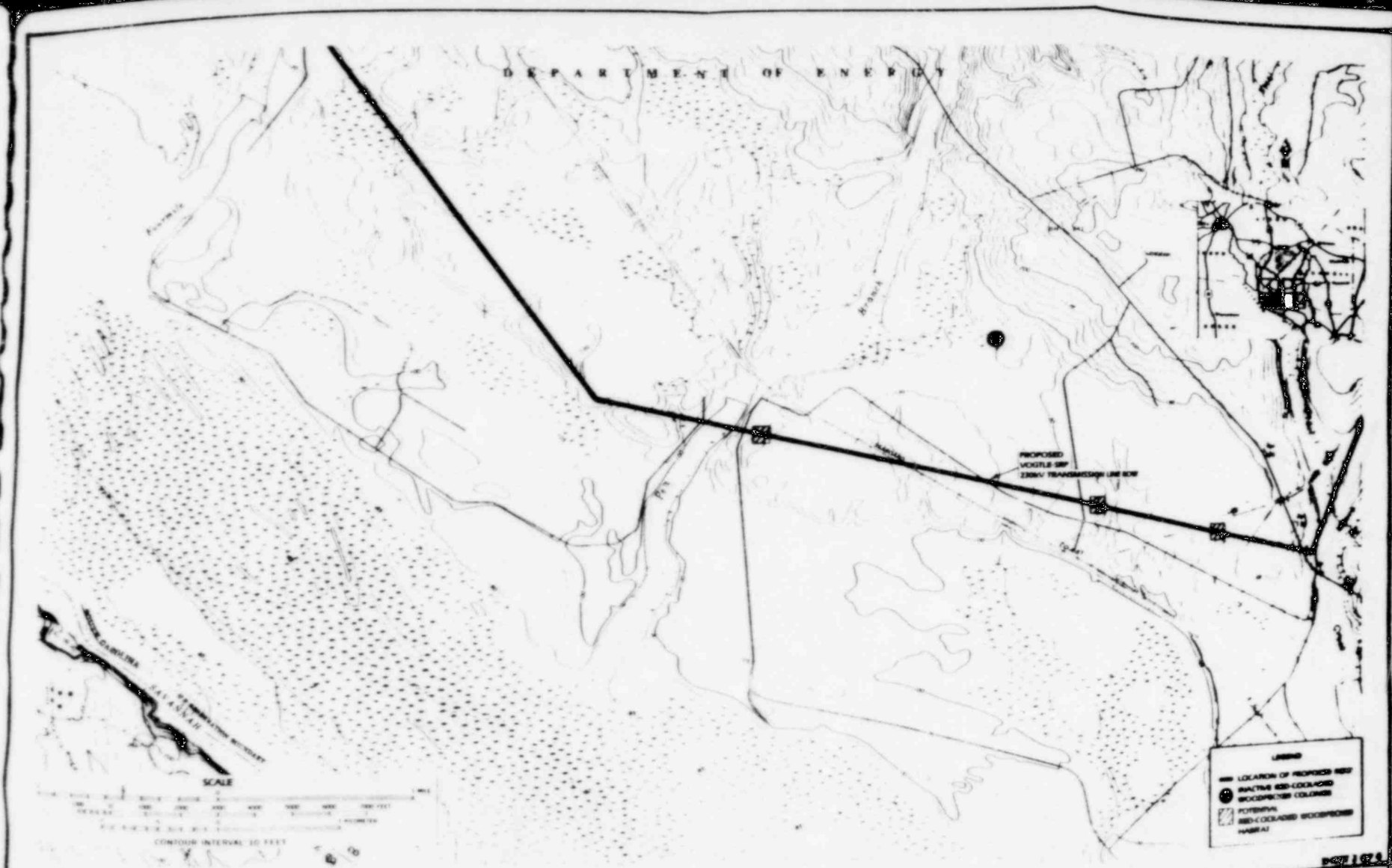
Barnwell County lies within the coastal plain region of South Carolina. Elevations within this region typically range from sea level to 200 feet, although sandhills occur at slightly higher elevations. The Savannah River Plant occupies approximately 132,000 acres of the 354,000 acres in Barnwell County. A large portion of the SRP occupies an area known as the Carolina and Georgia sandhills, which are characterized as gently sloping to strongly sloping uplands. Relief is typically measured in tens of feet. The southwestern part of SRP borders the Savannah River. The land bordering the Savannah River has been categorized as part of the Atlantic Coast Flatwoods. This region is described as nearly level coastal plain dissected by broad valleys with meandering streams. Local relief varies from a few feet to ten or twenty feet.

The elevations along the proposed right-of-way range from 90 feet MSL at the Savannah River to 290 feet (MSL) at the point where the line crosses SRP-9. Drainage of the entire transmission line route, as proposed, is provided by the Savannah River. The river in the area adjacent to SRP is very silty, with an unconsolidated bed and sandy banks. The river banks are quite steep and exhibit erosion in the outer edges of riverbends. Silt and sand bars tend to deposit on the inside curves.



SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

PROPOSED VOGTLE-SRP 230kV TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTE



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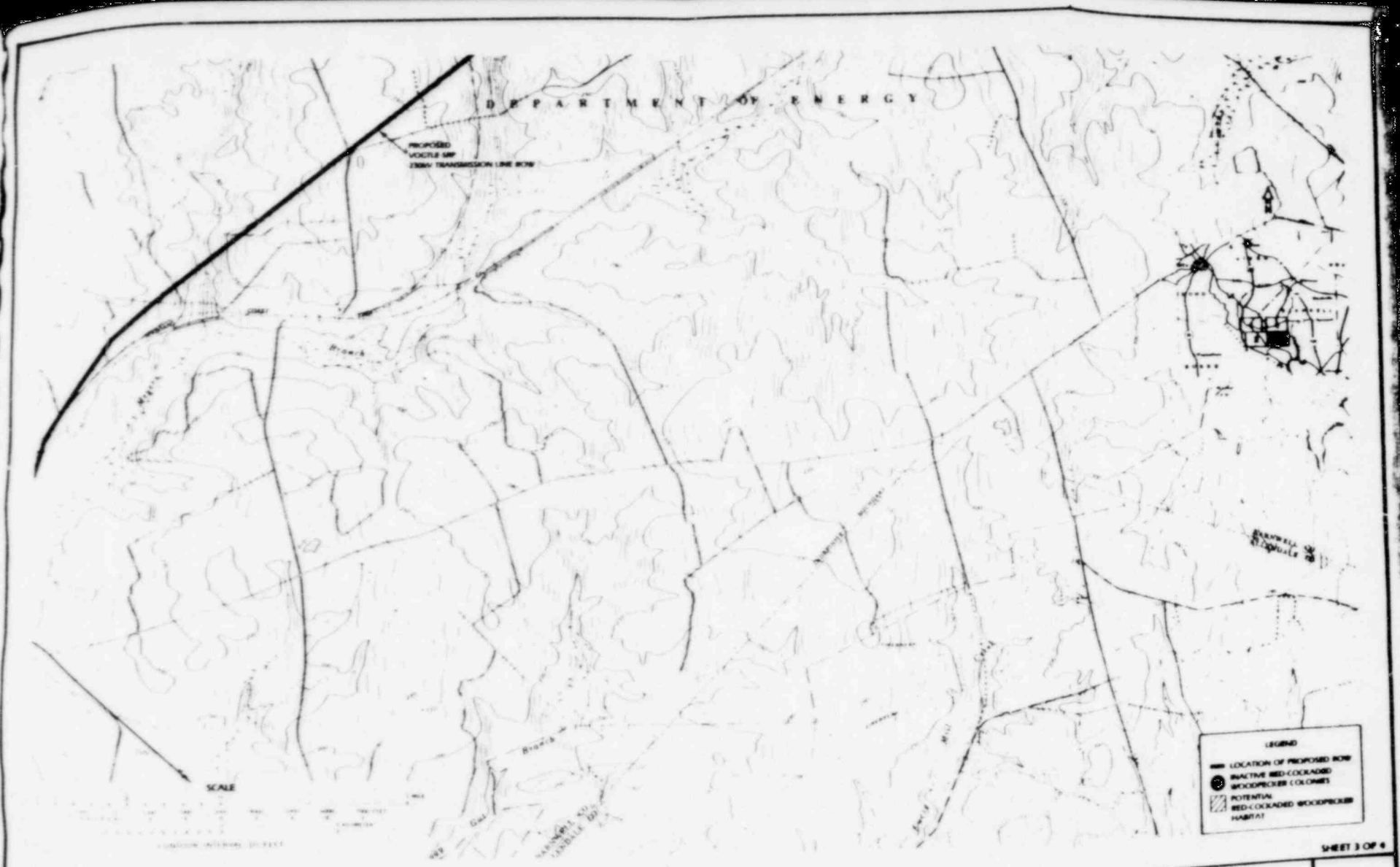

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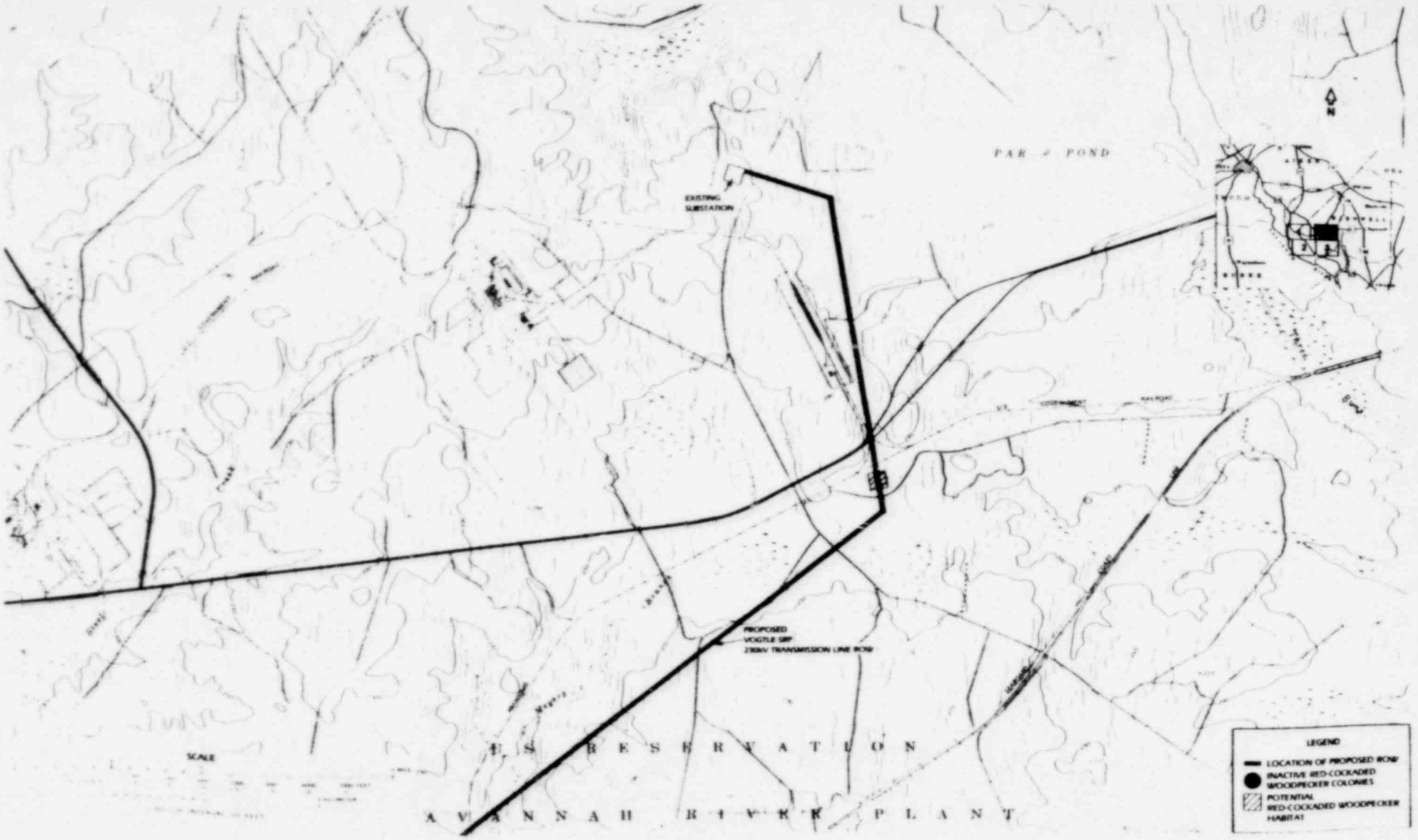
SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

PROPOSED VOGTLE-SRP 230kV TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTE

FIGURE 2-1



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SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

PROPOSED VOGTLE-SRP 230kV TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTE

FIGURE 2-1

2.2 SOILS

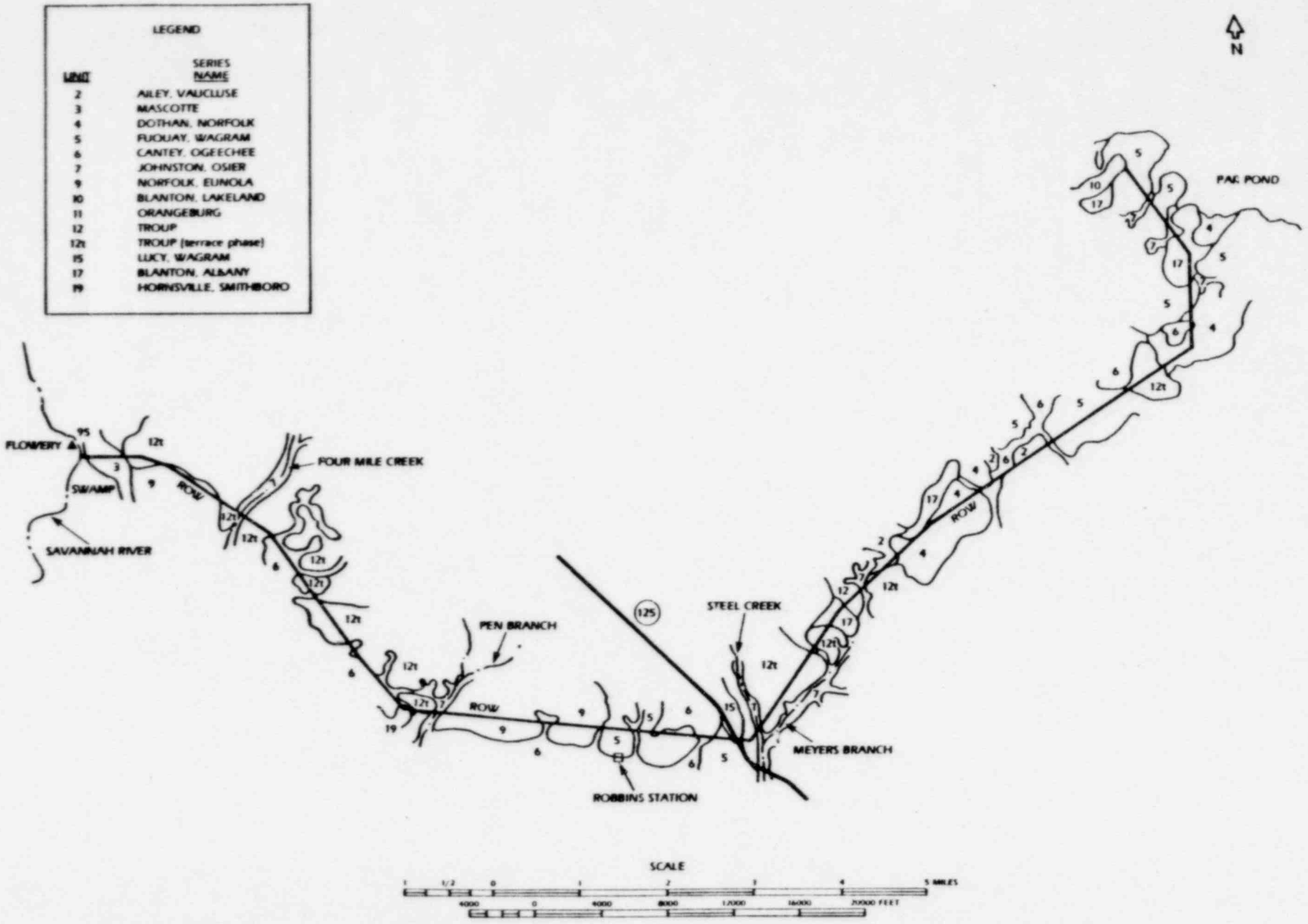
The soils of the Savannah River Plant (SRP) were formed from coastal plain sediments predominantly from the tertiary period and from alluvial sediments of a more recent geologic age. The soils formed from the coastal plain sediments are predominantly well drained to excessively drained with sandy surfaces and sandy clay loam subsoils.

The soils formed from alluvial sediments are generally high in silt and clay in the surface and subsurface layers. Surface layers are predominatly loamy fine sand to loam with most subsurface textures ranging from sandy clay loam to silty clay. Alluvial and stream terrace soils comprise about 18 percent of the total SRP acreage and over half of these are somewhat poorly to very poorly drained.

Soil pH typically ranges between 4.0 and 5.0. Excessively wet soils comprise about 11 percent of the total SRP area. In general, these soils are very productive for timber, but they present problems in harvesting, regeneration, and access. About six percent of the soils in the SRP area have a severe erosion hazard. These occur mostly on slopes greater than six percent. For the most part, these soils are presently uneroded, but have the potential to erode if laid bare for any long period of time. Most of these soils are fairly productive for timber, but harvesting, regeneration, and road construction present erosion control problems.

About one-third of the SRP consists of droughty sandy soils. Timber productivity on these soils is fairly low. Although harvesting presents no major problems, regeneration is difficult because seedling mortality is generally high.

Fourteen soil series occur along the proposed Vogtle-SRP transmission line route. The location of these soil series, with respect to the transmission line route, is shown in Figure 2-2. Information on drainage properties, erosion potential, corrosivity for uncoated steel, load bearing strength



SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY	SOIL SERIES OCCURRING ALONG THE PROPOSED VOGTLE TO SRP 230kV TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTE	FIGURE 2-2

for vehicles, prime farmlands, and typical vegetation are summarized for each soil series in Table 2-1. In general, the soil series are well drained, with a slight erosion potential. Corrosivity for uncoated steel is variable, ranging from low to high. Load bearing strength for vehicles is primarily good, although some soils have a sandy surface of more than 20 inches.

Only four of the soil series occurring along the proposed transmission line are considered prime farmland soils. These include, Dothan-Norfolk, Norfolk-Eunola, Orangburg, and Hornsville-Smithboro. The Dothan-Norfolk and Norfolk-Eunola are more common than the other two types. The Dothan-Norfolk series occurs in two locations, one south of Par Pond near the abandoned City of Dunbarton and the other along the proposed line between the western and eastern arms of Meyers Branch Creek (relative to SRP-9).

The Norfolk-Eunola series occurs in the area between the Pen Branch Creek (eastern side) and the Seaboard Coast Line tracks and in the area between Beaver Dam Creek and Four Mile Creek. The other prime farmland soils, Orangeburg and Hornsville-Smithboro, occur along the western sides of Steel Creek and Pen Branch Creek, respectively.

TABLE 2-1

PROPERTIES OF SOIL SERIES OCCURRING ALONNG THE PROPOSED VOGTLE-SRP 230 kV TRANSMISSION LINE

Soil Series	Map Unit	Drainage	Erosion Potential	Corrosivity	Load Bearing	Prime Farmlands	Typical Vegetation
Ailey, Vancluse	2	Well Drained[3]	Moderate	Moderate	Good[5]	No	Pine
Mascotte	3	Poor	None	High	Good	No	Pine, Wax Myrtle
Dothan, Norfolk	4	Well Drained	Slight[4]	Moderate	Good	Yes[4]	Loblolly Pine
Fuquay, Wagram	5	Well Drained	Slight[4]	Low	Good[5]	No	Loblolly Pine
Cantey, Ogeechee	6	Poor	None	High	Low	No	Hardwood, Pine
Johnson, Osier	7	Very Poorly	None	High	Low	No	Gum, Ash, Cypress
Norfolk, Eunola	9	Well Drained[2]	Slight[4]	Moderate	Good	Yes[4]	Loblolly Pine
Blanton, Lakeland	10	Well Drained to Excessively Well Drained	Slight	Low-Moderate	Good[5]	No	Loblolly/Longleaf Pine
Orangeburg	11	Well Drained	Slight[4]	Moderate	Good	Yes[4]	Loblolly Pine
Troup	12	Well Drained	Slight	Low	Good[5]	No	Pine
Troup (terrace phase)	12t	Well Drained	Slight	Low-Moderate	Good[5]	No	Pine
Lucy, Wagram	15	Well Drained	Slight[1]	Low	Good[5]	No	Pine
Blanton, Albany	17	Well Drained-Somewhat Poorly	Slight	Moderate-High	Good[5]	No	Pine
Hornsville, Smithboro	19	Somewhat Poorly	Slight	High	Low	Yes	Pine, Hardwood

Source: (Rogers, 1985)

(1) Refer to Figure 2-2

(2) Small areas of moderately well drained soils included

(3) On slopes greater than 6 percent

(4) Slopes of 0 to 6 percent

(5) Sandy surface more than 20 inches

2.3 LAND USE

The South Carolina portion of the proposed Vogtle-SRP transmission line is entirely within the boundaries of the SRP. The SRP is a major Department of Energy Facility which produces defense materials. The SRP covers approximately 300 square miles. The entire site, exclusive of production and administrative areas, has been declared a National Enviromental Research Park. Forested areas, including upland pine/hardwood and wetlands, comprise about 88 percent of SRP land use. The remaining land use is comprised of roads (2.1 percent), production areas (1.6 percent) and clear areas/power lines (5.8 percent) (USFS, 1984). Due to current construction activities at SRP, these percentages should be adjusted slightly to reflect more production and cleared areas.

The wooded or forested areas of SRP are managed by the U.S. Forest Service. Management activities include five general areas: 1) timber management, 2) wildlife management, 3) soils reclamation, 4) road management, and 5) research. The management of SRP forests began in the early 1950's under a cooperative agreement with the Forest Service and Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). Initially, the program was designed to reforest some 68,000 acres of former agricultural land. From 1953 through 1984 approximately 94,400 acres were planted.

The principle objective of SRP forest management is to promote and achieve a pattern of timber resource use on a sustained yield basis, while maintaining and enhancing soil, water, and wildlife resources. The U.S. Forest Service has delineated 85 timber compartments on SRP to achieve its stated management objective. Each compartment consists of approximately 2,300 acres.

A timber management plan has been developed for SRP. The current plan covers the period of 1979 through 1988. This plan proposes that a total estimated annual yield of four million board feet of saw timber and 79,000 cords of small round wood be harvested from an annual average cut area of 4,078 acres (USFS, 1984).

With the exception of road and rail crossings, the proposed Vogtle-SRP transmission line will cross undeveloped land managed by the U.S. Forest Service. The majority of this land is wooded with some clear-cut areas. The proposed line has been routed around development of new production areas or related facilities. The proposed line will cross portions of twelve timber compartments delineated by the U.S. Forest Service. The 100 foot right-of-way for the proposed line will require a total of approximately 210 acres from these timber compartments.

2.4 VEGETATION

Three principle forest types occur within South Carolina, oak-hickory-pine forest, southern mixed forest and the southern flood plain forest (Kuchler, 1964). The oak-hickory-pine forest is asssociated with the Piedmont region. Dominant canopy species of the oak-hickory-pine forest include hickory, short-leaf and loblolly pine, white oak, and post oak. The southern mixed forest is associated with the coastal plain region. Beech, sweetgum, magnolia, slash and loblolly pine, white oak, and laurel oak characterize the canopy of the southern mixed forest. The southern floodplain forest, which adjoins major rivers such as the Savannah, typically consists of tupelo, numerous species of oak, and bald cypress.

The SRP is situated near the arbitrary boundary that divides the oak-hickory-pine forest from the southern mixed forest. As a result, species representative of each forest type are found. The vegetation found on SRP has been influenced by a number of other factors such as farming, fire, edaphic features, and topography. There is no virgin forest in the region (Braun, 1950). Many of the previously disturbed areas on SRP, with exception of production areas, and rail and transmission corridors, have been reclaimed by natural plant succession or have been planted with pine by the U.S. Forest Service.

Most of the proposed right-of-way is forested as a result of management practices implemented by the U.S. Forest Service in the early 1950's. A

few of the wooded areas along the proposed line have been clear-cut. The vegetation community types observed along the proposed line include: bottomland forest, emergent marsh, open fields (clear-cuts), pine forest, and upland hardwoods-pine.

The bottomland forest type occurred at a number of locations along the proposed right-of-way. This type was, as expected, common along the Savannah River, Beaver Dam Creek, Four Mile Creek, Pen Branch Creek, Steel Creek, and two locations along Meyers Branch of Steel Creek. This vegetation type also occurred in lowland areas crossed by the proposed right-of-way.

Slight differences in the distribution of common species observed in this community type along the Savannah River were noted. Common overstory species found on the slightly higher elevations adjacent to the river bank included: river birch (Betula nigra), loblolly pine (Pinus taeda), yellow poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera), sweetgum (Liquidambar styraciflua), sycamore (Platanus occidentalis), American elm (Ulmus americana), box elder (Acer negundo), mulberry (Morus alba), and red maple (Acer rubrum). The common understory species consisted of virginia creeper (Parthenocissus quinquefolia), blue beech (Carpinus carolinana), American holly (Ilex opaca), possum haw (Ilex decidua), muscadine (Vitis rotundifolia), pepper vine (Ampelopsis arborea), smilax (Smilax spp.), cane (Arundinaria gigantia), and false nettle (Boehmeria cylindrica).

Species common to the lower areas, specifically along creeks and drainages behind the river bank include: river birch (Betula nigra), water hickory (Carya aquatica), shagbark hickory (Carya ovata), sycamore (Platanus occidentalis), bald cypress (Taxodium distichum), red maple (Acer rubrum), sugar maple (Acer saccharum), sugarberry (Celtis occidentalis), green ash (Fraxinus pennsylvanica), blue beech (Carpinus caroliniana), water oak (Quercus nigra), red buckeye (Aesculus pavia), trumpet vine (Campsis radicans), poison ivy (Rhus radicans), and birthwort (Aristolochia serpentaria).

Species common to this vegetation community type found along SRP creeks included sweetgum (Liquidambar straciflua), chestnut oak (Quercus michauxii), bald cypress (Taxodium distichum), gum (Nyssa sylvatica), red maple (Acer rubrum), sycamore (Platatus occidentalis), black oak (Quercus falcata), red bay (Persea borbonia), and water oak (Quercus nigra) in the overstory. Understory consisted of royal fern (Osmunda regalis), wax myrtle (Myrica cerifera), water oak (Quercus nigra), virginia creeper (Parthenocissus quinquefolia), American holly (Ilex opaca), cane (Arundinaria spp.), muscadine (Vitis rotundifolia), sweetgum (Liquidambar styraciflua), elm (Ulmus spp.), sassafras (Sassafras albidum), sparkleberry (Vaccinium spp.), dogwood (Cornus florida), mulberry (Morus alba), alder (Alnus serrulata), palmetto (Sabal minor), willow (Salix spp.), Virginia willow (Itea virginica), red buckeye (Aesculus pavia), sweet bay (Magnolia virginia), bald cypress (Taxodium distichum), wild azalea (Rhodendron nudiflorum), trilluim (Trillium spp.), blue beech (Carpinus carolinana), and leucothoe (Leucothoe axillaris).

The emergent marsh vegetation type occurred in the area adjacent to the wooded area bordering the Savannah River and at the crossings of Four Mile and Pen Branch Creeks. The occurrence of this vegetation type within the Savannah River floodplain was commposed predominantly of rush (Juncus spp). A small open area within the floodplain forest also falls under this vegetation type. Dominant species included smartweed (Polygonunn spp.), alligator weed (Alternanthera philoxeroides), and lizards tail (Saururus cernuus). The common species found in this community type at the SRP stream crossings include: common cattail (Typha latifolia), burreed (Sparganium americanium), rush (Juncus spp.), andropogon (Andropogon spp.), and smartweed (Polygonum spp.). Button bush (Cephalanthus occidentalis), alder (Alnus spp.), and willow (Salix spp.).

Open fields or clear-cut areas are crossed by the proposed right-of-way ten times along its length. Clear-cut or open fields were observed at the following points along the proposed right-of-way using distance from the

Savannah River as points of reference (point zero at the Savannah River and numbers expressed in feet from point zero): 9,900, 13,000, 25,000, 36,500, 40,000, 43,500, 52,000, 64,000, 76,800, and 83,140 feet, respectively.

The number of common species observed in each of these clear-cut or open field areas varied considerably and was dependent upon the length of time since the area had been cut and whether the area had been burned after cutting. Species found were common of upland, disturbed drier sites and consisted primarily of herbaceous and scrub shrub species. Common species observed included: sassafras (Sassafras albidum), blackberry (Rubus spp.), poison ivy (Rhus radicans), poison oak (Rhus toxicodendron), sumac (Rhus glabra), bull-nettle (Solanum carolinense), butterfly pea (Centrosema virginianum), and scrub live oak (Quercus geminata).

Pine forest or pine plantations of varying age were common along the proposed right-of-way. Species consisted primarily of loblolly pine (Pinus taeda), longleaf pine (Pinus palustris), and slash pine (Pinus elliottii). Due to varying management practices, understory species composition and density varied between stands. Common understory species observed include: water oak (Quercus nigra), laurel oak (Quercus hemisphaerica), gum (Nyssa sylvatica), sweetgum (Liquidambar styraciflua), sparkleberry (Vaccinium spp.), American holly (Ilex opaca), and wax myrtle (Myrica cerifera). In some stands no understory was present, only herbaceous level species such as muscadine (Vitis rotundifolia), smilax (Smilax spp.) and kudzu (Pueraria lobata).

Mature loblolly pine stands, suitable for red cockaded woodpecker habitat, were observed along the proposed right-of-way. One such area occurred at 28,500, a second at 35,500, and a third at 39,000 and a fourth at 82,320 (all numbers expressed in feet along the proposed right-of-way from the Savannah River) (Figure 2-1). Understory, when present, consisted of sweetgum (Liquidambar styraciflua), wax myrtle (Myrica cerifera), white oak (Quercus alba), American holly (Ilex opaca), muscadine (Vitis rotundifolia), and sparkleberry (Vaccinium spp.).

The uplands hardwoods-pine community type also occurs along the proposed right-of-way. As the name implies, this community type consists of a mixture of hardwood and pine species on upland drier sites which differentiate it from the bottomland forest type. Varying aged stands of this community type were observed along the proposed right-of-way. In the younger aged stands, pines and hardwoods were approximately 5-7" diameter breast height (dbh) and 15-30 feet tall. The species in older stands were approximately 15-20" dbh and 50-100 feet tall. In most cases the stands were even aged. Mixed aged stands were also observed along the proposed right-of-way. In these stands, pine species were approximately 10-15" dbh and hardwood species 4-5" dbh. Common overstory species observed were longleaf pine (Pinus palustris), loblolly pine (Pinus taeda), sweetgum (Liquidambar styraciflua), white oak (Quercus alba), water oak (Quercus nigra), laurel oak (Quercus hemisphaerica), turkey oak (Quercus laevis), postoak (Quercus stellata), hickory (Carya tomentosa), black cherry (Prunus serotina), and yellow poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera).

Understory species consisted of dogwood (Cornus florida), sweetgum (Liquidambar styraciflua), sassafras (Sassafras albidum), azalea (Rhodendron spp.), red maple (Acer rubrum), sparkleberry (Vaccinium spp.), and Virginia creeper (Parthenocissus quinquefolia).

2.5 WILDLIFE

The potential exists for a number of wildlife species to occur along the proposed right-of-way, due to the proximity of the Savannah River, and the suitable habitat available on the SRP. The diverse habitats encountered along the proposed Vogtle-SRP line lends to a variety of birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Species having ranges which include the SRP include 17 salamanders, 26 frogs and toads, 10 turtles, one crocodilean, nine lizards, and 31 snakes (Conant, 1975). An overview of the SRP herpeto fauna has been developed by Gibbons and Patterson (1978). A wide diversity of birds occur on SRP due to its proximity to the Atlantic Flyway and the

relative isolation of the plant site from the public. The SRP falls within the range of 50 bird species which are year round residents. The winter or breeding ranges of many more bird species include the SRP (Peterson, 1980). More than 40 species of mammals are reported to have ranges which include the SRP (Burt and Grossenheider, 1976). The wildlife species, or signs of wildlife and reptiles observed while walking the proposed right-of-way, are listed in Table 2-2.

2.6 THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

A number of both plant and animal species listed as threatened and/or endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Department are reported to occur, or potentially occur, in Barnwell County. These species, status, preferred habitat, and potential for occurrence along the proposed right-of-way, are presented in Table 2-3. Discussions of each of these species, including likelihood of occurrence and preferred habitat, are presented in the following paragraphs.

Shortnose Sturgeon

The shortnose sturgeon is a large somewhat primitive looking fish inhabiting fresh, estuarine, and saltwater. It is considered to be endemic to the eastern seaboard of the United States. During winter months, populations remain in lower estuaries where salinities range from 18-30 ppt, typically congregating in large, deep saltwater bays close to the ocean. The populations migrate upstream in January and February, spawning in February and March and April. Spawning occurs as far inland as Augusta on the Savannah River. In warmer months, the population congregates around low salinity areas of the estuary (1-3 ppt). Siltation of preferred habitat and overfishing are the major reasons for the decline of this species. Prior to 1982, the shortnose sturgeon had not been reported in the middle reaches of the Savannah River in the vicinity of the SRP.

TABLE 2-2

Wildlife Species or Signs Observed Along the Proposed Vogtle-SRP Transmission Line Route

Common Name	Scientific Name
Bird Species	
Turkey vulture	Cathartes aura
Red-tailed hawk	Buteo jamaicensis
Bobwhite quail	Colinus virginianus
Mourning dove	Zenaida macroura
Blue jay	Cyanocitta cristata
Common crow	Corvus brachyrhychos
Eastern bluebird	Sialia sialis
Starling	Sturnus vulgaris
Cardinal	Cardinalis Cardinalis
Red bellied woodpecker	Melanerpes carolinus
Wild turkey	Meleagris gallopavo
Barred owl	Strix varia
Yellow billed cuckoo	Coccyzus americanus
Mammal Species	
Eastern fox squirrel	Sciurus aberti
Raccoon	Procyon lotor
White tail deer	Odocoileus virginianus
Amphibian/Reptile Species	
Green Anole	Anolis carolinensis carolinensis
Southern five-lined skink	Eumeces inexpectatus
Black racer	Coluber constrictor priapus

TABLE 2-3

THREATENED OR ENDANGERED SPECIES OCCURRING OR POTENTIALLY OCCURRING ON THE SAVANNAH RIVER PLANT

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status		Habitat	Likelihood of Occurrence Along Proposed Route
		Federal	S. Carolina		
Animals (2)					
Shortnose sturgeon	Acipenser brevirostrum	Endangered	Endangered	Fresh, estuarine, saltwater	High
Gopher tortoise	Gopherus polyphemus	-	Endangered	Dry sand ridges	Medium
American alligator	Alligator mississippienis	Threatened	Threatened	Swamp, rivers, lakes	High
Southern bald eagle	Haliaeetus l. leucocephalus	Endangered	Endangered	River, lake edges	Medium
Red-cockaded woodpecker	Picoides borealis	Endangered	Endangered	Mature pine forests	Low
Wood stork	Mycteria americana	-	Threatened	Freshwater swamps	Medium
Cooper's hawk	Accipiter cooperii	-	Threatened	Wooded areas near water	Medium
American osprey	Pandion haliaetus	-	Threatened	Wooded areas near water	Medium-High
Plants (3,4)					
Smooth coneflower	Echinacea laevigata	- (1)	Threatened	Meadows and woodlands	Low
Croton	Croton elliottii	- (1)	-	Poorly drained flatwoods	Medium
Oconee azalea	Rhodendron flammeum	-	Threatened	Steep north-facing slopes in Piedmont	Low
Meadow beauty	Rhexia aristosa	- (1)	-	Savannahs, low pine woods, ditches	Medium

(1) Candidate for Federal Listing as Endangered or Threatened

(2) Source: (SCWMRD, 1985a)

(3) Source: (SCWMRD, 1985b)

(4) Source: (Rayner, 1985)

However, shortnose sturgeon larvae were found in ichthyoplankton samples collected in the Savannah River above Upper Three Runs Creek and the 3G pumphouse intake canal as part of the Savannah River Biological Measurement Program (Muska and Matthews, 1983).

Gopher Tortoise

Gopher tortoises are associated with dry sand ridges and sandhills of southeastern coastal plain. Habitats include longleaf pine/scrub oak, live oak, red oak hammocks, sand pine scrub oak, and wide grass flatwoods communities. The forest canopy must have some openings to allow for sunning, nesting, and production of the food for the gopher tortoise. Gopher tortoise habitat depends on fire to increase ground plants used for food and to ensure that pines remain the dominant tree species. Suitable habitat is available along the proposed right-of-way. Likelihood of occurrence along the route is medium.

American Alligator

The alligator is a fairly common inhabitant of swamps, rivers, lakes, and even brackish waters in South Carolina. Suitable habitats in South Carolina include impounded marsh, freshwater marsh, brackish marsh, saltmarsh, rivers and associated floodplains. The alligator is common to the SRP and breeds in Par Pond and the Savannah River swamp. Murphy (1981) reported sightings of alligators in the Savannah River swamp and in the major SRP streams. Alligator breeding habitat with documented nests exists along the backwater lakes and in the swamp associated with Beaver Dam Creek, which enters the swamp upstream from Steel Creek. Although much of Steel Creek and the Savannah River swamp do not contain vast areas of optimum alligator habitat, patches of quality habitat are present. There are beaver ponds and Carolina bays near the river swamp or creek floodplain margins, open-water oxbow lakes, and open-canopied, marshy areas typical of productive habitat.

Southern Bald Eagle

The southern bald eagle occurs in South Carolina along river and lake edges. Most nests are located along major river drainages, typically adjacent to impounded marshes managed for waterfowl. Recent declines of this bird are attributed to egg shell thinning from pesticides, indescriminate shooting, and habitat alteration. There is a medium potential for eagles occurring in the vicinity of the proposed route, especially along the Savannah River swamp and along Par Pond. However, no recent nesting records are known for this area.

Red-Cockaded Woodpecker

The red-cockaded woodpecker is only found in mature pine forests (greater than 60 years of age), which are fairly open and free of a hardwood understory. The birds live in colonies and drill cavities into appropriate mature pines. In general, effective timber harvesting practices have reduced the number of suitable old trees for habitat for this species. There are a number of red cockaded woodpecker colonies reported for SRP. The U.S. Forest Service is managing the SRP forests for red cockaded woodpecker habitat. Three inactive colonies are reported to occur in the general vicinity (4,000-8,000 feet) of the proposed right-of-way (Lennartz, 1985). The location of these colonies are shown in Figure 2-1. Suitable habitat exists along the proposed right-of-way, although no colonies were observed.

Wood Stork

This bird is North America's only native stork. It has been reported to forage in the Savannah River swamps of SRP. The wood storks have been observed feeding in the Savannah River swamp system near the outfalls of Beaver Dam Creek and Steel Creek. Birds have also been observed at Pen Branch and Four Mile Creek swamps (Meyers, 1984).

Cooper's Hawk

This hawk inhabits wooded areas along or near water. This species is considered a winter visitor throughout South Carolina's woodlands. Suitable habitat of wooded areas along the Savannah River and SRP creeks and ponds provides a medium likelihood of occurrence of this bird.

American Osprey

The osprey, like the eagle, prefers forested areas near water bodies. This species frequently nests on transmission line towers. The osprey is common throughout the coastal areas. Suitable habitat along the Savannah River and Par Pond provides a medium to high potential for this bird's presence.

3.0 ALTERNATE ROUTES CONSIDERED

Four alternate routes to the proposed transmission line route were considered. Alternate route number one is shown in Figure 3-1. The only common portion of this route with the proposed route is the location of the Savannah River crossing. Alternate route one was deemed less acceptable than the proposed route due to the number of crossings of and proximity to Savannah River Plant facilities, which would pose a conflict with SRP site use. This route would not be as reliable as the proposed route, due to the fact that it would cross existing supply transmission lines to SRP.

The location of alternate route number two is depicted in Figure 3-2. Alternate route number two follows approximately 4.5 miles of the proposed route, starting at the Savannah River crossing. It then crosses Route 125 and SRP 9 northwest of the proposed line. This alternate route crosses a sensitive wetland area bordering Pen Branch Creek. It also would pass through the cooling pond being constructed on Steel Creek. The negative environmental effects, as well as the conflict with SRP site use, resulted in this route being deemed less acceptable than the proposed route.

Alternate route number three crosses the Savannah River downstream of the point where the proposed route crosses the river. From this point, it crosses the Savannah River Swamp (approximately seven miles) tying into the proposed route at a point on the west side of Pen Branch Creek (Figure 3-3). This alternate route was considered to be less acceptable than the proposed route due to the approximately seven-mile run through the environmentally sensitive Savannah River swamp system, which could result in potentially adverse effects on wood stork foraging areas.

Alternate route number four is basically the same as the proposed route, with exception of the routing between the point at the west side of Pen Branch Creek and the crossing point of SRP A-14 (Figure 3-4). The route followed by alternate number four is a straight run from the west side of

FIGURE 3-1

ALTERNATE TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTE NUMBER ONE

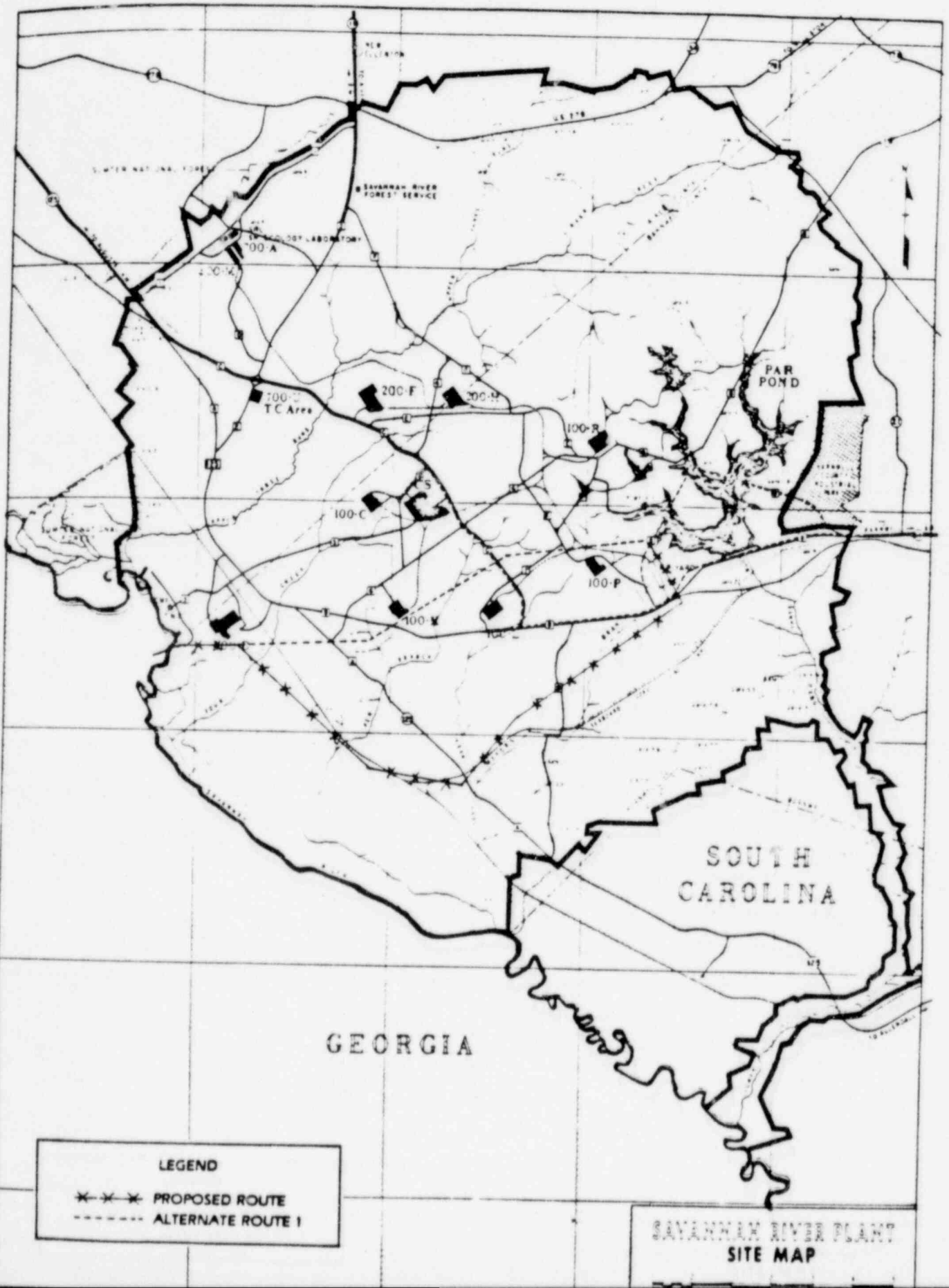


FIGURE 3-2

ALTERNATE TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTE NUMBER TWO

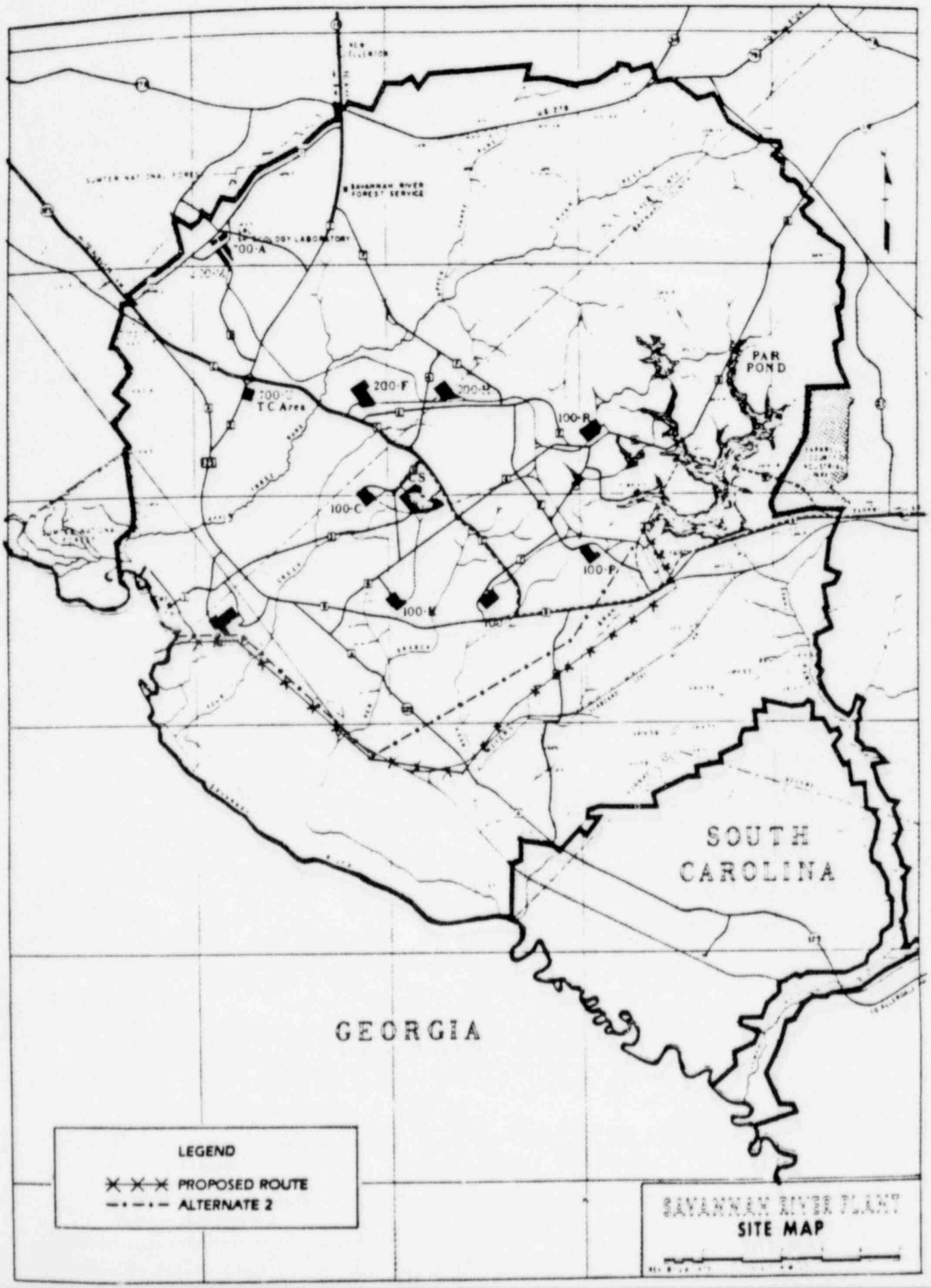


FIGURE 3-3

ALTERNATE TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTE NUMBER THREE

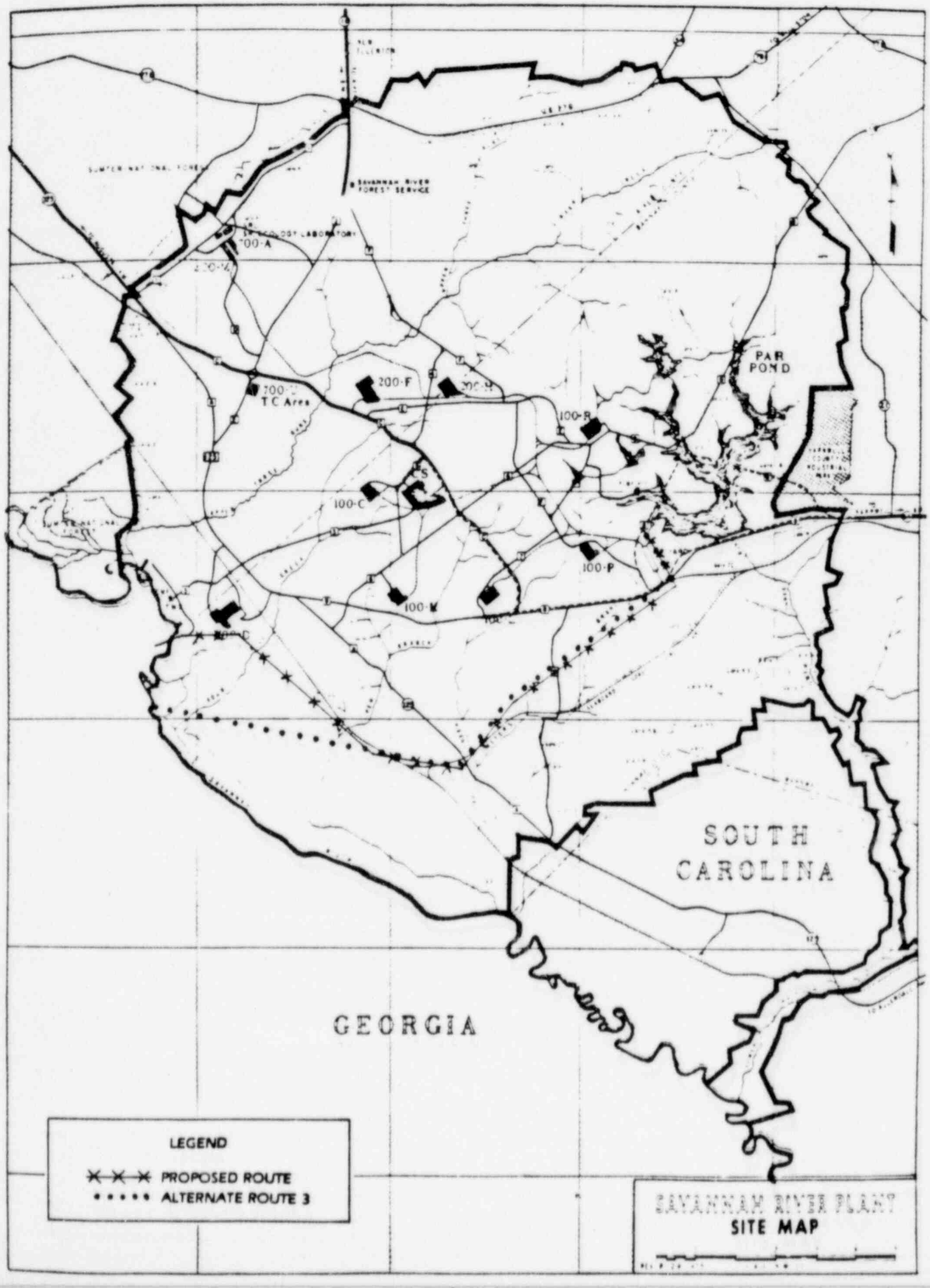
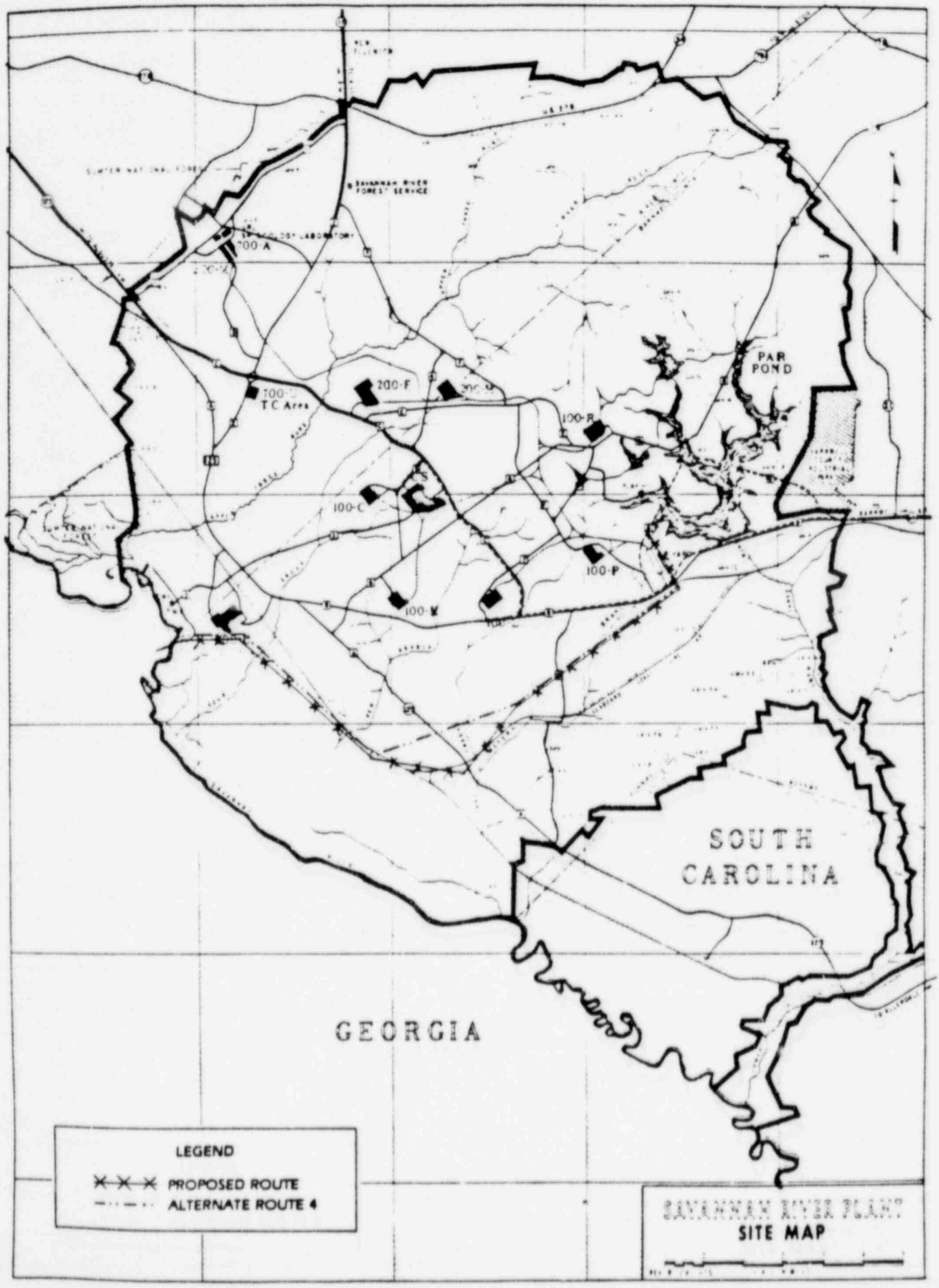


FIGURE 3-4

ALTERNATE TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTE NUMBER FOUR



Pen Branch Creek to the point where the proposed route crosses SRP A-14. Route 125 is crossed to the northwest of the point where the proposed route crosses it. Alternate Route Four would conflict with the cooling pond being constructed on Steel Creek, and was judged to be less acceptable than the proposed route.

The proposed route was selected from the alternates considered for the following reasons. It does not conflict with existing SRP facilities, SRP facilities under construction, or proposed SRP facilities. It does not cross environmentally sensitive wetlands and the amount of environmentally non-sensitive wetland areas crossed is minimal. Threatened or endangered species habitat is not effected. The proposed route provides a reliable supply transmission line to SRP without sacrificing the reliability of existing SRP supply transmission lines.

4.0 ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Construction of the proposed Vogtle to SRP transmission line will have both positive and adverse effects on land use and natural resources. Three major activities will accompany construction of the proposed transmission line: route clearing and grubbing, structure installation and conductor stringing, and routine right-of-way maintenance.

General specifications anticipated by SCE&G include clearing to be performed both manually and by heavy equipment. The wooded areas within the floodplains of the creek crossings will necessitate hand cutting of tall growing vegetation. It is anticipated that slash will be left as it falls in all areas except the creek areas. Forested areas will be first cut for merchantable timber under the auspices of the U.S. Forest Service. Remaining vegetation will be toppled by bulldozer. Slash will be piled and burned in these areas according to U.S. Forest Service practices.

Right-of-way width will be 100 feet, with the exception of the 2,400 foot segment leading to the existing substation, which will be 75 feet wide. Two structure types will be employed. H-frame structures will be used throughout, except at turning points where steel structures will be used. Structure height will average 75 feet. Distance between structures will be 800 feet, on the average.

Periodic maintenance will be performed as needed. Right-of-way maintenance techniques include mechanical clearing as well as chemical spraying. Spraying will be performed according to manufacturer's labels and in compliance with state and local regulations.

The anticipated effects of these activities on the environment are discussed in the following sections.

4.1 PHYSIOGRAPHIC FEATURES/TOPOGRAPHY

Since the proposed right-of-way will follow or conform to natural contours, no changes are anticipated in the topography along the proposed right-of-way. The proposed transmission line will be will span the Savannah River, as well as the other creek crossings. No bridging, damming, or other stream alterations will be necessary.

4.2 SOILS

The heavy equipment used to clear and grub the proposed right-of-way, as well as to construct the towers, will result in some temporary topsoil disturbance and minimal soil compaction. Soils will not be displaced from the route, and since access roads will not be built along the right-of-way, fill material will not be required.

Erosion is not anticipated to be a problem because of the nearly level topography and gradual slopes. Only one soil type occurring along the proposed right-of-way has moderate potential for erosion. The others are considered to have a slight erosion potential. If it is a problem, erosion control measures, such as installation of hay bales, diversion ditches and sedimentation basins will be used to prevent sediment landen runoff from entering the Savannah River or creeks draining to the Savannah River. Wind erosion also will not be a factor because of the predominantly vegetated terrain surrounding the proposed right-of-way. During construction, as much herbaceous and shrubby ground cover as possible will be left. This technique will further decrease the erosion potential.

Prime farmland soils occur along the proposed right-of-way. The loss of some prime farmland soils would have an adverse effect on agriculture in the area. However, current land use and management plans do not involve agricultural crop production. It is doubtful that these soils will ever be used for anything other than timber production. Given current land uses and management plans, and that the transmission line right-of-way is compatible with agricultural uses, the effects due to construction of the proposed right-of-way on prime farmland soils is considered to be minimal.

4.3 LAND USE/AESTHETICS

Construction of the proposed 100 foot right-of-way (75 feet along the 2,400 foot segment leading to the existing substation) will affect approximately 210 acres of land at SRP. Approximately 30 acres of this has already been cleared. Crossings of creeks, rail lines and transmission lines account for 7.5 acres, while roads and open water account for 2.2 acres. The remaining 170 acres is forested land managed by the U.S. Forest Service. Approximately 10 acres of the 170 acres is classified as a bottomland hardwood wetland type. Construction of the proposed transmission line will permanently remove the 170 acres from forest production. This action conflicts with the timber management plans of the U.S. Forest Service. In comparison to the total number of acres managed by the U.S. Forest Service, the loss of 170 acres is insignificant, especially in light of the fact that habitat will not be lost, only replaced by another type. The forest land removed by construcion of the proposed line will revert to an open scrub shrub habitat after construction is complete. This will add to the diversity of habitats on the SRP. This habitat alteration is in keeping with the U.S. Forest Service wildlife management activities.

The proposed route will not affect existing zoning, since it is located within the boundaries of the SRP. Authorization and approvals for the line will be obtained from the Department of Energy. Appropriate permits and authorization will be obtained for crossing Highway 125, railroads, and streams.

Impacts to human populations will be negligible due to the limited access to SRP. The proposed line will be constructed in accordance with the National Electric Safety Code and SCE&G's construction safety specifications to reduce potential health and safety impacts. Construction crews and equipment may cause minor traffic inconveniences to motorists along Highway 125, but this activity will be temporary.

Areas where the proposed line will cross Routes 125 and SRP roads will produce minimal visual intrusion due to the nearly perpendicular crossings of roadways by the proposed line. Views of the proposed crossings of SRP

site roads will be limited to plant personnel and will be in areas not heavily travelled by plant personnel.

There should be little or no adverse socioeconomic impacts. No social services, schools, hospitals, or other emergency services will be affected by the route. A minor positive effect will be realized as an economic gain to the towns of Aiken, Beach Island and Jackson from expenditures by construction workers on the line. The line will also enhance the area in the form of improved and more reliable electric service.

4.4 VEGETATION

Construction of the proposed transmission line will require clearing of a 100 foot right-of-way (75 feet along the 2,400 foot segment leading to the existing substation). As such, the net loss of woody vegetation can be considered an adverse effect. The impact of this net loss is considered to be minimal, since the areas to be cleared are used for timber production and would be cleared at some point in the future. While wooded vegetation will be removed from the proposed right-of-way, shrubby and herbaceous species will recover and invade the right-of-way, allowing different vegetation communities to become established.

Construction of the proposed right-of-way will also require some clearing in emergent marsh, scrub shrub, and bottomland hardwoods wetland types. A total of approximately 12 acres of these wetland types will be effected. The use of 700-800 foot spans will minimize the effects on these areas. The emergent marsh and scrub shrub wetland types will recover upon completion of construction activities. In the bottomland hardwood areas, only taller woody vegetation will be removed. Hand cutting will help minimize adverse effects in this area. The different type of habitat resulting from construction of the proposed right-of-way will help compensate for the 170 acres of timber land to be cleared.

Maintenance will require either mechanical or chemical treatment of right-of-way vegetation. Both these treatments will select against woody species and favor herbaceous species.

4.5 WILDLIFE

In general, impacts to wildlife species will not be as great as that to vegetation since wildlife species are mobile. Clearing of a 100 foot wide right-of-way represents a change in habitat for most species which currently reside in the wooded area to be used for the proposed right-of-way.

Because of tree removal, tree-nesting birds and some mammals may be displaced. Woodpeckers, squirrels, raccoons, and opossums would be such examples. However, the resultant vegetative change in the right-of-way would increase habitat for shrub and ground-nesting/feeding birds and mammals.

Right-of-way vegetation in forested areas serves as an ecotone and favors the popular game species, quail and deer, of the region. Certain raptors such as the kestrel, merlin, and Cooper's hawk, hunt over ecotonal communities created by transmission line right-of-ways.

No aquatic impacts are expected because no construction will occur in any water bodies. Careful construction practices will be employed in the low areas adjacent to the Savannah River and other creek crossings to reduce siltation potential.

4.6 THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

The threatened and endangered species discussed in the previous chapter as possibly occurring on, along or in the vicinity of the proposed Vogtle-SRP line are discussed in the following sections with regard to possible effects of construction or operation of the line.

4.6.1 Animals

Shortnose Sturgeon

The only possible effects of the proposed right-of-way that could affect the sturgeon would be excessive siltation of the Savannah River during

construction. This impact will not occur since no structures will be placed in the river, and careful construction techniques will be employed along the banks.

Gopher Tortoise

There is a likelihood of occurrence due to the occurrence of suitable habitat along the proposed right-of-way. No active burrows were found along the proposed right-of-way during the field survey, as such, this species should not be impacted by line construction. In fact, construction of the right-of-way should provide additional habitat for this species.

American Alligator

The American alligator is present in and along the Savannah River, as well as in numerous SRP ponds. Due to the mobility of this species and that all ponds and water bodies will be spanned by the proposed line, the alligator should not be adversely affected other than possible temporary displacement during construction. Habitat is plentiful all along the Savannah River swamp system and in Par Pond. Both these areas are outside the influence of the proposed right-of-way.

Southern Bald Eagle

Eagles may hunt in Par Pond, which is adjacent to the proposed route. Suitable habitat does not occur along other segments of the proposed right-of-way. There are no records of eagles nesting near the proposed route. Effects on this species are considered to be insignificant.

Red-Cockaded Woodpecker

Suitable habitat occurs along the proposed right-of-way and three inactive colonies occur within the vicinity of the proposed right-of-way. While the

proposed right-of-way will remove red cockaded woodpecker habitat, management practices implemented by the U.S. Forest Service will compensate for any habitat lost. No active colonies were observed along the proposed right-of-way, nor are any reported to occur (Lennartz, 1985).

Wood Stork

No suitable nesting habitat exists along the proposed route. Storks have been observed foraging in the Savannah River swamp system which is located to the south of the proposed route. No effects are anticipated since the line will not cross the swamp area.

Cooper's Hawk

This is one species which would probably benefit from construction of the proposed transmission line. This bird prefers edge or ecotonal communities for hunting. The removal of wooded vegetation will increase ecotonal community development. As such, no adverse effects are expected.

American Osprey

No osprey nests were detected along the proposed route. These birds typically build nests in transmission structures, so construction of the line could have benefits in this regard. No adverse effects are expected.

3.6.2 Plants

No plants found on the federal endangered species list or considered to be of regional or statewide concern by South Carolina were found along the proposed route. No plants of concern are reported to occur in the proposed right-of-way area (Rayner, 1985).

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

The proposed Vogtle-SRP 230 kV transmission line will have no significant adverse effects on existing SRP site use, vegetation, wildlife, and threatened or endangered species. The positive effects of increased reliability of electrical power and support of national defense will compensate for the minimal visual effects, loss of timber land, and temporary effects associated with construction of the proposed transmission line.

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ATTACHMENT II

AN APPLICATION BY

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

TO THE

SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

FOR A CERTIFICATE OF

Environmental Compatibility & Public Convenience & Necessity

AS REQUIRED UNDER THE

Utility Facility Siting & Environmental Protection Act

The Vogtle - Savannah River Plant

230 KV Line

Date: 6/25/85
No.:

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE

UTILITY FACILITY SITING AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT

TRANSMISSION LINES AND SUBSTATIONS

NAME OF APPLICANT: South Carolina Electric & Gas Company

NAME OF LINE: Vogtle-Savannah River Plant 230kV Line

EXTENDING FROM: The Savannah River

TO: Existing Savannah River Plant 230kV Substation

ESTIMATED LENGTH 17.5 MILES

WIDTH OF RIGHT-OF-WAY 100 FEET

DESIGN VOLTAGE 230 KV

NORMAL CAPACITY: 1100 MVA

CONDUCTOR: 1272 KCMIL ACSR

CONFIGURATION Flat

TYPES OF STRUCTURES: Wood Pole H-Frame

NOMINAL HEIGHT: 75 FEET

NOMINAL HEIGHT: FEET

NAMES OF SUBSTATIONS:

LOCATION:

TECHNICAL: DESIGN KVA CAPACITY:

DESIGN NOMINAL OPERATING VOLTAGES: PRIMARY

SECONDARY

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTATION:

AREAS IN WHICH FACILITIES ARE TO BE LOCATED IN SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTIES: Barnwell

MUNICIPALITIES: None

NAMES OF NATIONAL OR STATE PARKS OR FORESTS DIRECTLY EFFECTED OR NEAREST THE FACILITY

Proposed route is on the Savannah River Plant

OTHER AREAS TO BE CONSIDERED OR CROSSED

DESIGNATED HISTORICAL, SCENIC, RECREATIONAL: None

MAJOR WATERWAYS: Savannah River

MAJOR HIGHWAYS: Route 125

PROPOSED SCHEDULE:

Application to be submitted to PSC:	June 26, 1985
Construction to be started:	September 1, 1985
Construction to be completed:	May 1986

WHEREFORE, the Applicant, South Carolina Electric & Gas Company, respectfully requests the Commission to inquire into the matter herein and that the Commission grant Applicant a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility & Public Convenience & Necessity and for such other and further relief as the Commission may deem just and proper under the circumstances.

South Carolina Electric & Gas Company

By: H. Thomas Arthur

H. Thomas Arthur
Governmental & Regulatory Affairs
South Carolina Electric & Gas Co.
Post Office Box 764
Columbia, South Carolina 29218
(803) 733-2819

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

Fred L. Cain
South Carolina Electric & Gas Co.
Post Office Box 764
Columbia, South Carolina 29218
(803) 748-3692

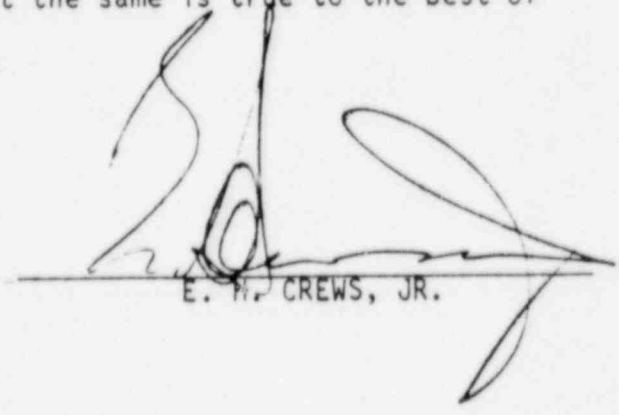
ATTACHMENTS:

Print of Route Map
Copies of Forwarding Letters to Agencies
Environmental Assessment

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)

VERIFICATION

PERSONALLY appeared before me E. H. CREWS, JR., who, on oath, says that South Carolina Electric & Gas Company is a corporation and is the Applicant in the within matter; that he is Senior Vice President - Power Operations of said corporation and as such is authorized to make this verification on its behalf; that he knows the contents of the foregoing Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility & Public Convenience & Necessity and that the same is true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.



E. H. CREWS, JR.

SWORN to before me this

25th day of June, 1985.

(L.S.)
Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission Expires: January 16, 1990.

NEED & NECESSITY STATEMENT

SCE&G (SAVANNAH RIVER PLANT)
TO
GEORGIA POWER (VOGTLE)
230 KV INTERTIE

The construction of the SRP - Vogtle line is necessary to provide a high capacity tie between SCE&G and Georgia Power. Georgia Power plans to start testing their Vogtle 1150 MW generator in May 1986. When this generation is on line, the power flow between the two systems will overload the existing 115 KV SCE&G to Georgia Power interties. Therefore, we must open these lines. This SRP - Vogtle line is needed to maintain a direct intertie with Georgia Power and to increase the transfer capability between SCE&G and Georgia Power allowing SCE&G to take advantage of emergency and economy transfers.

Other alternatives considered were a Graniteville - R. B. Russell (SEPA) 230 KV intertie and a Yemassee - McIntosh (SEPCO) 230 KV intertie. Neither of these give SCE&G a direct intertie with Georgia Power and both were found to have low response to transfers causing other interties to load heavily. These two alternatives were also more expensive.

6/12/85

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY

The Vogtle-Savannah River Plant 230kV transmission line will establish an interconnection to facilitate economic power transactions between South Carolina Electric & Gas Company and Georgia Power Company. The proposed route is a carefully planned route which will have no significant adverse effects on existing Savannah River Plant site use, vegetation, wildlife and threatened or endangered species. The positive effects of increased reliability of electrical power and support of national defense will compensate for the minimal visual effects, loss of timberland and temporary effects associated with construction of the proposed transmission line.

The only irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources would be labor and moderate amounts of copper, steel, aluminum and petroleum products used in construction.

CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

The South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology is making a cultural resources study of the proposed route. A report will be issued later.

While there are no known sites along the proposed route, assuming some are discovered during the survey, then appropriate actions will be taken to minimize impact on potential sites.

LIST OF AGENCIES SERVED WITH COPY OF APPLICATION:
(Copies of forwarding letters attached)

S. C. Department of Archives and History
S. C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
S. C. Department of Wildlife and Marine Resources
Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology
S. C. Water Resources Commission
S. C. Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism
Barnnwell County Supervisor
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS IN WHICH NOTICE WAS PUBLISHED

Columbia State and Record Newspapers
Aiken Standard

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY
POST OFFICE BOX 764
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29218

THOMAS ARTHUR
ATTORNEY

June 25, 1985

Mr. Charles F. Lee
Director
S. C. Department of Archives and History
Post Office Box 11669
Columbia, SC 29211

Dear Mr. Lee:

Enclosed is a copy of an Application to the South Carolina Public Service Commission by South Carolina Electric & Gas Company for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility & Public Convenience & Necessity for the construction of the Vogtle - Savannah River Plant 230 KV Transmission Line. The line is located in northwestern Barnwell County and is within the boundaries of the Savannah River Plant property, which is owned by the U. S. Department of Energy. The South Carolina portion is approximately 17.5 miles in length beginning at the Savannah River and extends to an existing substation.

This application is being forwarded to you pursuant to 58-33-12(2) S. C. Code of Laws (1976), otherwise known as the "Utility Facility Siting and Environmental Protection Act." Route Maps are included in the Application and supporting data is available at South Carolina Electric & Gas Company's offices at 1426 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina, and 1850 Main Street, Barnwell, South Carolina.

Public notice of the Application has been given by publication in The State, The Record, and The Aiken Standard.

A statement setting out any comments concerning this project should be filed with the Public Service Commission no later than July 26, 1985.

If you have any questions concerning this application, please contact Mr. Fred L. Cain at 748-3692, or me at 748-3396.

Very truly yours,

H. Thomas Arthur

H. Thomas Arthur

HTA/va

Enclosure

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY
POST OFFICE BOX 764
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29218

H. THOMAS ARTHUR
ATTORNEY

June 25, 1985

Mr. Alfred H. Vang
Executive Director
S. C. Water Resources Commission
Post Office Box 4440
Columbia, SC 29240

Dear Mr. Vang:

Enclosed is a copy of an Application to the South Carolina Public Service Commission by South Carolina Electric & Gas Company for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility & Public Convenience & Necessity for the construction of the Vogtle - Savannah River Plant 230 KV Transmission Line. The line is located in northwestern Barnwell County and is within the boundaries of the Savannah River Plant property, which is owned by the U. S. Department of Energy. The South Carolina portion is approximately 17.5 miles in length beginning at the Savannah River and extends to an existing substation.

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If you have any questions concerning this application, please contact Mr. Fred L. Cain at 748-3692, or me at 748-3396.

Very truly yours,

H. Thomas Arthur

H. Thomas Arthur

HTA/va

Enclosure

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY
POST OFFICE BOX 764
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29218

H. THOMAS ARTHUR
ATTORNEY

June 25, 1985

Mr. Richard E. Hunter
Barnwell County Supervisor
Room 100
County Office Building
Barnwell, SC 29812

Dear Mr. Hunter:

Enclosed is a copy of an Application to the South Carolina Public Service Commission by South Carolina Electric & Gas Company for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility & Public Convenience & Necessity for the construction of the Vogtle - Savannah River Plant 230 KV Transmission Line. The line is located in northwestern Barnwell County and is within the boundaries of the Savannah River Plant property, which is owned by the U. S. Department of Energy. The South Carolina portion is approximately 17.5 miles in length beginning at the Savannah River and extends to an existing substation.

This application is being forwarded to you pursuant to 58-33-12(2) S. C. Code of Laws (1976), otherwise known as the "Utility Facility Siting and Environmental Protection Act." Route Maps are included in the Application and supporting data is available at South Carolina Electric & Gas Company's offices at 1426 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina, and 1850 Main Street, Barnwell, South Carolina.

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H. THOMAS ARTHUR
ATTORNEY

June 25, 1985

Dr. James A. Timmerman
Executive Director
S. C. Wildlife & Marine Resources Department
Post Office Box 167
Columbia, SC 29202

Dear Dr. Timmerman:

Enclosed is a copy of an Application to the South Carolina Public Service Commission by South Carolina Electric & Gas Company for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility & Public Convenience & Necessity for the construction of the Vogtle - Savannah River Plant 230 KV Transmission Line. The line is located in northwestern Barnwell County and is within the boundaries of the Savannah River Plant property, which is owned by the U. S. Department of Energy. The South Carolina portion is approximately 17.5 miles in length beginning at the Savannah River and extends to an existing substation.

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COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29218

H. THOMAS ARTHUR
ATTORNEY

June 25, 1985

Mr. J. W. Lawrence
Assistant Director - Operations
S. C. Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

Enclosed is a copy of an Application to the South Carolina Public Service Commission by South Carolina Electric & Gas Company for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility & Public Convenience & Necessity for the construction of the Vogtle - Savannah River Plant 230 KV Transmission Line. The line is located in northwestern Barnwell County and is within the boundaries of the Savannah River Plant property, which is owned by the U. S. Department of Energy. The South Carolina portion is approximately 17.5 miles in length beginning at the Savannah River and extends to an existing substation.

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POST OFFICE BOX 764
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29218

H. THOMAS ARTHUR
ATTORNEY

June 25, 1985

Mr. John Fridell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Endangered Species Field Office
100 Otis Street; Rm. 224
Ashville, NC 28801

Dear Mr. Fridell:

Enclosed is a copy of an Application to the South Carolina Public Service Commission by South Carolina Electric & Gas Company for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility & Public Convenience & Necessity for the construction of the Vogtle - Savannah River Plant 230 KV Transmission Line. The line is located in northwestern Barnwell County and is within the boundaries of the Savannah River Plant property, which is owned by the U. S. Department of Energy. The South Carolina portion is approximately 17.5 miles in length beginning at the Savannah River and extends to an existing substation.

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COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29218

H. THOMAS ARTHUR
ATTORNEY

June 25, 1985

Dr. Bruce Rippetean
State of Archaeologist
Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208

Dear Dr. Rippetean:

Enclosed is a copy of an Application to the South Carolina Public Service Commission by South Carolina Electric & Gas Company for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility & Public Convenience & Necessity for the construction of the Vogtle - Savannah River Plant 230 KV Transmission Line. The line is located in northwestern Barnwell County and is within the boundaries of the Savannah River Plant property, which is owned by the U. S. Department of Energy. The South Carolina portion is approximately 17.5 miles in length beginning at the Savannah River and extends to an existing substation.

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COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29218

H. THOMAS ARTHUR
ATTORNEY

June 25, 1985

Dr. Robert S. Jackson
Commissioner
S. C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street Extension
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Dr. Jackson:

Enclosed is a copy of an Application to the South Carolina Public Service Commission by South Carolina Electric & Gas Company for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility & Public Convenience & Necessity for the construction of the Vogtle - Savannah River Plant 230 KV Transmission Line. The line is located in northwestern Barnwell County and is within the boundaries of the Savannah River Plant property, which is owned by the U. S. Department of Energy. The South Carolina portion is approximately 17.5 miles in length beginning at the Savannah River and extends to an existing substation.

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