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NRC ACCEPTS APPLICATION FOR NEW REACTORS AT VOGTLE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has accepted for review a combined license (COL) application for two new reactors at the Vogtle site near Waynesboro, Ga.

Southern Nuclear submitted the application and associated information March 31. The application, minus proprietary or security-related details, is available on the NRC Web site here: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col/vogtle.html>.

Southern Nuclear is applying for a license to build and operate two AP 1000 reactors at the Vogtle site, approximately 26 miles southwest of Augusta. The AP1000 is a 1,100 MWe pressurized-water reactor design the NRC certified in 2006. The agency is currently reviewing a Westinghouse application, submitted in May 2007, to amend the certified design. More information regarding the review is available on the NRC's Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/design-cert/amended-ap1000.html>.

Docketing the Vogtle application does not indicate whether the Commission will approve or reject the request. The docket number established for this application is 52-025 and 52-026. The NRC will publish in the near future a notice of opportunity to intervene in the adjudicatory hearing required for this application. Petitions to intervene in a hearing may be filed within 60 days of the notice, by anyone whose interest may be affected by the proposed license and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding.

In addition to Vogtle, the NRC is reviewing COL applications for the South Texas Project site in Texas, the North Anna site in Virginia, the Bellefonte site in Alabama, the Shearon Harris site in North Carolina, the Grand Gulf site in Mississippi, the Lee site in South Carolina and the Calvert Cliffs site in Maryland. Detailed information about the new reactor licensing process can be found on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactor-licensing.html>.

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