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NRC ACCEPTS APPLICATION FOR NEW REACTORS AT SUMMER

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has accepted for review a combined license (COL) application for two new reactors at the Summer site near Columbia, S.C.

The applicants, South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCE&G) and Santee Cooper, submitted the application and associated information March 31. The application, minus proprietary or security-related details, is available on the NRC Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col/summer.html>.

The application seeks approval to build and operate two AP1000 reactors at the site, approximately 26 miles northwest of Columbia. 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 Summer application does not indicate whether the Commission will approve or reject the request. The docket numbers established for this application are 52-027 and 52-028. 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.

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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