

# **HELP PREVENT more nuclear reactors in Georgia**

## **\*\* Last Opportunity to Comment\*\***

### **\* WHAT:**

With your support, SACE and our partners have been fighting Georgia utilities' risky proposal to build two more nuclear reactors at Plant Vogtle near Augusta along the Savannah River in Georgia.

*Join us at two important hearings in March* held by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board judges. The judges are expected to make a decision in mid-June 2009.



*You can also give oral or written comments.* Please tell the Board your concerns with Vogtle's proposed expansion, whether about water use, accident risks, security concerns, radioactive nuclear waste, health impacts and more.

Staff from organizations engaged in the legal challenge are NOT allowed to make comments so it is up to others to raise concerns about building more nuclear reactors in Georgia.

### **\* HOW:**

**1) Attend the Vogtle Early Site Permit Contested Hearing, March 16-19, 2009 in Augusta:** Show your support to prevent more nuclear reactors in Georgia by attending this important hearing where our exceptional legal team will argue the merits of our case in front of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board judges.

**When:** March 16-19, 2009 beginning at 8:30 am and running throughout the day. You can attend at any time and stay for however long your schedule permits.

**Where:** Doubletree Hotel and Convention Center, 2651 Perimeter Parkway, Augusta, Georgia. See [http://doubletree1.hilton.com/en\\_US/dt/hotel/AGSDTDT-Doubletree-Hotel-Augusta-Georgia/index.do](http://doubletree1.hilton.com/en_US/dt/hotel/AGSDTDT-Doubletree-Hotel-Augusta-Georgia/index.do).

**2) Attend the Vogtle Early Site Permit Mandatory Hearing, March 23-25, 2009 in Waynesboro:**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board judges will hold a mandatory hearing to discuss all issues related to the early site permit for Plant Vogtle; this is a different hearing than the evidentiary hearing held the week before in Augusta.

**When:** March 23-25, 2009 beginning at 8:30am. You can attend during any point of the hearings for whatever length of time your schedule allows.

**Where:** Augusta Technical College Waynesboro/Burke Campus Auditorium, 216 Highway 24 South, Waynesboro, Georgia. See <http://www.augustatech.edu/>.

**3) Submit Public Comments on March 22 or 23 in Waynesboro:**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board judges will hear your concerns about building more reactors here in Georgia. This is a unique opportunity to address the Board in person and is your last opportunity to do so.

**When:** Sunday, March 22 from 3-5pm and Monday, March 23 from 7-9pm

**Where:** Augusta Technical College Waynesboro/Burke Campus Auditorium, 216 Highway 24 South, Waynesboro, Georgia. See <http://www.augustatech.edu/>.

**How:** The judges encourage (and will give priority to those) that pre-register by **5pm Friday March 13, 2009** so they can determine if both sessions are needed. You will still be able to speak even if you do not pre-register but please arrive at the beginning of the session. You will likely have 5 minutes to address the judges. You can also submit written comments in person. Please specify the session (Sunday or Monday) and submit your RSVP to:

- **By Mail:** Administrative Judge G. Paul Bollwerk, III, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, Mail Stop T-3 F23, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001
- **By Fax:** (301) 415-5599 [verification at (301) 415-6094]
- **By Email:** [wen.bu@nrc.gov](mailto:wen.bu@nrc.gov), [emily.krause@nrc.gov](mailto:emily.krause@nrc.gov), & [paul.bollwerk@nrc.gov](mailto:paul.bollwerk@nrc.gov)

#### **4) Can't Attend? Please Submit Written Comments Soon:**

Written comments may also be submitted; we encourage you to send these comments in as soon as possible as the judges are expected to make a decision by mid-June 2009.

**How:** Submit your written comments to:

- **By Mail:** Office of the Secretary, Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001
- **By Fax:** (301) 415-1101 [verification at (301) 415-1966]
- **By E-mail:** [hearingdocket@nrc.gov](mailto:hearingdocket@nrc.gov)

***And a duplicate copy also needs to be sent to one of the following:***

- **By Mail:** Administrative Judge G. Paul Bollwerk, III, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, Mail Stop T-3 F23, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001
- **By Fax:** (301) 415-5599 [verification at (301) 415-6094]
- **By Email:** [wen.bu@nrc.gov](mailto:wen.bu@nrc.gov), [emily.krause@nrc.gov](mailto:emily.krause@nrc.gov), & [paul.bollwerk@nrc.gov](mailto:paul.bollwerk@nrc.gov)

**\*Please note:** Any updated/revised scheduling information regarding the March hearings or public comment periods can be found by calling (800) 368-5642, extension 5036 or (301) 415-5036 (available seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day) or on the NRC website at [www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/index.cfm](http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/index.cfm).

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The first step Georgia utilities are taking to try to get federal approval to build new nuclear reactors along the Savannah River is to apply for an “early site permit.” ***If the permit is issued, concerns such as water, land, public health, and safety cannot be brought up again even if we learn new information.*** For example, the new reactors will require tens of millions of gallons of water above and beyond the tens of millions Vogtle is already pulling from the Savannah River—this issue cannot be revisited again if the “early site permit” is granted. Together, Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League, Center for a Sustainable Coast, Georgia WAND (formerly Atlanta WAND), Savannah Riverkeeper, and Southern Alliance for Clean Energy challenged the permit with legal representation from Emory University School of Law’s Turner Environmental Law Clinic.

For more information on nuclear power, see <http://www.cleanenergy.org/index.php?/Learn-About-Nuclear-Plants.html>.

For the NRC’s information on the Vogtle application process, see <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/esp/vogtle.html>.