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**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
G.P.S.C.**

Commissioner Stan Wise, Chairman
Commissioner Tim G. Echols, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Doug Everett
Commissioner Chuck Eaton
Commissioner Lauren "Bubba" McDonald, Jr.,
Georgia Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-5701

RE: Discussion Item: Progress Report from Georgia Power Company on Stewart County Site Investigation, Docket No. 40161.

Dear Commissioners,

Georgia Power Company ("Georgia Power" or "Company") has been made aware that the Georgia Public Service Commissioners ("Commission") intend to discuss the status of the Stewart County Site Investigation at their March 2, 2017, Energy Committee meeting. Pursuant to the Final Order in Georgia Power's 2016 Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP") ("2016 IRP Order"), the Company received authority to record through the end of the second calendar quarter of 2019 up to \$99 million for activities relating to the investigation of pursuing new nuclear generation at a site in Stewart County, Georgia. In accordance with the Commission's 2016 IRP Order, the Company is scheduled to file its annual report updating the Commission on the status of the investigation and development of the Combined License ("COL") at the Stewart County site later this month. However, in light of the Commissioners' desire to address this issue at the March 2nd Energy Committee, the Company feels it is appropriate to provide the Commission a status update in advance of its scheduled report filing. Additionally, by this letter, the Company hereby notifies the Commission in writing of its intention to suspend work on the investigation of pursuing a new nuclear generation option at the Stewart County site.

Evidence presented in the 2016 IRP demonstrated the importance of having nuclear power available as an option for customers. More importantly, the long lead time associated with new nuclear supported taking steps now to preserve that option so that customers received the benefits of a portfolio of diverse and reliable baseload resources. The Company is pleased to report that to date the activities at the Stewart County site have proceeded as planned. The development and site suitability work have been completed and activities at the site are concluding. The Company has also continued to work with the surrounding communities in

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partnership in this investigation as well. At this juncture the Company would normally transition away from physical site activities and focus on the development of the COL application.

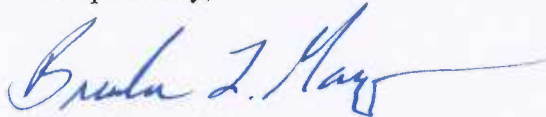
In the 2016 IRP, the Company presented several reasons that supported the Commission's decision to proceed now with site investigation and COL work at the Stewart County site for the benefit of customers. The purpose of the Company's request in the 2016 IRP was to ensure that the option to bring new nuclear to customers was available when needed. As part of its ongoing IRP planning, the Company regularly evaluates the various factors that determine when new nuclear is selected. Although a number of uncertainties still remain, the most recent forecasted expansion plan indicates that suspending investigation activities now is unlikely to delay the ability to deploy new nuclear when needed by customers. An evaluation of the status of new nuclear can be considered in the 2019 IRP where all other generation resources will also be evaluated with updated assumptions.

The Company appreciates the constructive regulatory relationship it has with the Commission. This cooperative framework ensures the flexibility to adjust to changing circumstances to provide customers with cost effective and reliable resource options. New nuclear is one of those options. Suspending work on the Stewart County investigation now recognizes that the need date for new nuclear generation has moved outside the current IRP planning horizon.

In closing, the Company understands the Commission relies upon evidence of record before proceeding with a motion to amend an existing grant of authority. With an appreciation of the desire by the Commission to gain clarity around site investigation spending at Stewart County expeditiously, it is our hope that this letter will help inform the Commission's decision on this matter.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,



Brandon F. Marzo

cc: Tom Bond
Jeff Stair
Sheree Kernizan
Rob Trokey
Parties of Record