

Latest Vogtle report highlights progress, investments through December 2015

Friday, Feb. 26, 2016 – The Plant Vogtle expansion continues to be best-cost option for meeting Georgia's future energy needs, even with the construction cost increase resulting from Georgia Power's legal settlement with the project's contractors.



That's the key message emerging from the company's 14th Vogtle Construction Monitoring (VCM) report filed today with the Georgia Public Service Commission.

The report asks the commission to approve \$160 million in investments for Vogtle units 3 and 4 made by the company between July 1 and Dec. 31, 2015. To date, the PSC has unanimously reviewed and approved every dollar spent, \$3.1 billion, by Georgia Power over 13 VCM reports.

The report also highlights progress made at the site, the largest construction project in Georgia. In 2015, for example, more than 5,000 construction workers logged 11-plus million hours, working to safely construct the first new nuclear units in the United States in more than three decades. *(See sidebar story on this page for more details about construction progress.)*

As anticipated, the 14th VCM reflects the company's earlier adjustment of its construction and capital cost forecast from \$5.045 billion to \$5.44 billion.

The adjusted cost reflects \$395 million related to the settlement agreement with Westinghouse, the contractor, as well as previously announced change orders. There are no additional schedule changes or costs noted in the 14th VCM report.

As previously announced by the company, the settlement agreement with Westinghouse and its affiliates was extremely positive for the project and Georgia Power customers. The settlement reaffirms the current in-service dates of June 2019 for unit 3 and June 2020 for unit 4, adds additional contractual protections for customers, and increases efficiencies with Westinghouse and its affiliates as the primary project contractor.

The projected overall peak rate impact of the Vogtle nuclear expansion continues to be significantly less than when the project was originally certified due to lower financing rates and other benefits proactively pursued by company, as well as the fuel savings of nuclear. The project's remaining projected customer rate impact is still approximately 2.5 percent, an average of less than 1 percent per year through the expected completion dates.

Progress on Vogtle 3 and 4 is more than 60 percent complete based on contractual milestones. Once the units begin operating, Plant Vogtle is expected to generate more electricity than any other U.S. nuclear facility, enough to power more than 1 million homes and businesses.

Units 3 and 4 will provide electricity to customers for more than 60 years. The units' long life, low fuel costs and other economic benefits make them the best-cost option for meeting Georgia's future energy needs.

In the coming weeks, commissioners will establish a schedule for reviewing the 14th VCM. Meanwhile, the PSC also plans to move forward with a separate review of all capital costs spent to date for the Vogtle 3 and 4 expansion. Commissioners made this decision following Georgia Power's Jan. 21 PSC filing that detailed terms and conditions of the company's settlement agreement with Westinghouse.

Access the full report [here](#).