

COMMENTS OF GLENN CARROLL
FOR NUCLEAR WATCH SOUTH AND GEORGIA WAND

Good morning, Commissioners.

I am Glenn Carroll, Coordinator of Nuclear Watch South. With me today is Kim Scott, Executive Director of Georgia WAND.

I hope all of you have read Nuclear Watch South and Georgia WAND's Petition to Hold in Abeyance which we filed October 27.

We are disappointed that our request for you to amend the Procedural and Scheduling Order, to hold the Vogtle prudency review in abeyance, until newly elected commissioners are installed, is not on the Energy Committee agenda today.

Your lack of responsiveness is even more regrettable considering the magnitude and importance of the Vogtle prudency review, and the impact this Commission's decision will have on all Georgia Power customers, especially residential and small commercial customers who have borne the brunt of paying \$3.9 billion dollars in project financing costs for the past 12 years.

Allowing un-elected Commissioners Echols and Johnson to participate in any phase of this case is reckless, unnecessary, and unduly jeopardizes the authority and legitimacy of any decision this Commission makes as presently constituted. Both commissioners' terms expired on December 31, 2022. Commissioner Johnson's term was by *interim appointment* and we are unaware of any instance when an appointed official continued to serve after their term ended.

It is unfortunate that the federal courts have yet to address the election issues which were raised in 2022 and which are currently affecting Districts 2 and 3.

3.9 million Georgia voters should not have their voting rights denied for this long.

Delaying the Vogtle prudency review will have a miniscule impact on the project, in contrast to blowing up Vogtle costs from \$14 billion dollars to over \$35 billion during seven years of delays, construction mistakes and cost overruns.

To rush to a decision after seven years of scheduling and construction delays, while Vogtle 4 is still not finished and replacing a reactor coolant pump, invites legal challenges that could cause years of additional delays and prevent implementation of *any* decision.

Nuclear Watch South and Georgia WAND's Petition to Hold in Abeyance is reasonable and prudent in light of these unprecedented circumstances now surrounding the largest construction project in U.S. history. The failure to elect District 2 and 3 commissioners coupled with Georgia Power submitting its request for the highest rate increase ever creates a perfect storm which puts this commission and the citizens of Georgia, whom you serve, at great risk.

We ask the Commission to please reconsider your decision to ignore our Petition to Hold in Abeyance and address the difficult, yet appropriate and prudent, request to wait on Vogtle prudency review until after PSC District 2 and 3 seats have been properly filled.

Thank you.