

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | PRESS ADVISORY 4/17/17

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PRESS CONFERENCE: 9:30AM, 4/18/17, 244 Washington Street SW, Atlanta, GA 30334

CITIZENS to PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION: NOT ONE MORE CENT FOR VOGTLE!  
Request Emergency Public Hearing to Cancel Vogtle 3 & 4 Construction

ATLANTA: Nuclear Watch South, a citizen advocacy group concerned with nuclear power and waste issues, is holding a press conference on Tuesday April 18, 2017, the deadline for filing 2016 federal and state income tax returns to draw attention to the “invisible” tax levied on all Georgia Power rate payers through surcharges on monthly power bills for Construction Work In Progress (CWIP). The press conference will take place at 244 Washington Street, S.W. Atlanta at 9:30 a.m. before the Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC) holds its regular Administrative Session at 10 a.m.

Nuclear Watch South has testified that Vogtle 3 & 4 are not needed as a generating source since before concrete was poured for the reactor expansion project, and before the Vogtle construction consortium began suing each other in court. The group's findings are based on Georgia Power's annual report performance figures, which show the company has been experiencing a downturn in sales and a large excess capacity for the past 10 years. Georgia Power has not refuted Nuclear Watch South's analysis. Vogtle, if completed, would add 6% capacity to Georgia Power's already bloated portfolio.

Given the global imbroglio that Vogtle 3 & 4 has become, bankrupting three 100-year-old global companies, the group has staked out Tax Day to submit a formal request for an emergency public hearing to the PSC and to seek relief from the upfront tax Georgia electricity customers have been required to pay for the ill-fated Vogtle project.

“Georgia Power has been making a risky high-stakes bet on nuclear energy with the public's money,” explains Glenn Carroll, coordinator of Nuclear Watch South. “The situation warrants an emergency public hearing to stem the hemorrhaging of public money for the unneeded, deeply troubled Vogtle project. Georgia Power and the PSC have both acknowledged the seriousness of the situation, but no dates or procedures have been set for confronting the issue.”

Atlanta Grandmothers for Peace are members of the Stop CWIP Coalition which is working to repeal the 2009 law that enables Georgia Power to charge rate payers Construction Work in Progress (CWIP) AKA Nuclear Construction Cost Recovery charges on monthly power bills. The average electric customer in Georgia has been forced to invest \$500 so far in the reactors which are only 36% complete, four years behind schedule and \$4 billion over budget.

“We have a moral obligation to the future,” says Atlanta Grandmothers for Peace President Bernice Bass. “If we set up gratuitous radioactive waste factories we recklessly threaten future generations. And,” she continues, “we would also condemn our grandchildren who are not even in school yet, to a lifetime of payments for those monsters!”

Senior electric customers have been complaining to the PSC for years about being forced to pay for something that may not come on-line until after they are dead. “This profitable company has been picking my pocket for several years to build their plant,” says disgruntled Georgia Power customer Robert Searfoss, 71, of Atlanta. “Let those executive fat cats use their own money to finish this if they want to. Not one more cent of my money to build their plant!”

Copies of the hearing request will be available at the press conference and online after the Tuesday morning filing.

References:

<http://www.nuclearwatchsouth.org/Vogle.html>

Nuclear Watch South Request for Emergency Public Hearing (embargoed until 11AM, 4/18/17)

[http://www.nuclearwatchsouth.org/pdfs/NWS\\_Request\\_for\\_Hearing.pdf](http://www.nuclearwatchsouth.org/pdfs/NWS_Request_for_Hearing.pdf)

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Nuclear Watch South is a grassroots, direct-action environmental organization which focuses on nuclear power, nuclear waste, nuclear weapons and renewable energy. Founded in 1977, the statewide group celebrates its 40th year in 2017.

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Glenn Carroll  
Coordinator  
NUCLEAR WATCH SOUTH

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# WANTED

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONERS  
WHO SERVE & PROTECT GEORGIA CITIZENS**

**TELL THE PSC:**

**“NOT ONE MORE CENT FOR VOGTLE!”**



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## **STOP GEORGIA POWER'S RISKY BET WITH OUR MONEY!!**

**Contact the PSC to demand an emergency public hearing before one more cent of our money is squandered on Georgia Power's risky high-stakes nuclear bet!**

The typical Georgia electricity customer has already invested \$500 for the notorious Vogtle 3 & 4 reactors under construction near Augusta through a tax on their electric bills.

Now the multinational companies partnering with Georgia Power to build Plant Vogtle are bankrupt. The reactors are only 35% complete. They are four years behind schedule and \$4 billion over budget.

We don't even need the power they would produce! Georgia Power is overbuilt and electricity demand is falling, despite more than one million new customers joining the grid.

**Stop the Nuclear Tax**  
sign the petition at [www.stopcwip.com](http://www.stopcwip.com)