

1. C: DOE must consider the Environmental Justice requirements of Executive Order 12898 in its decision making.

R: Low income and minority populations exist within the census tracts in a 50-mile radius of the Project site. In reviewing the NRC EISs, DOE considered the environmental impacts of the action and whether these populations would suffer disproportionately high and adverse environmental impacts. The NRC EISs analyzed the potential effects of the plant during construction and operation and the mitigations to be enacted by the Project operators. NRC determined and DOE concurs that the potential adverse effects would be generally small and would not disproportionately affect the census tracts with higher low-income and minority populations.

2. C: The design chosen for the new units fails to avoid, reduce or sequester air pollutants and anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases, and the uranium fuel cycle uses fossil fuels that contribute to global warming.

R: The NRC SEIS included a comparison of emissions from a nuclear power plant (including the fuel cycle processes) to those from similarly sized fossil fuel plants and demonstrated that the nuclear plant has approximately 1/10th the annual CO₂ emission rate of a natural-gas-fired power plant and 1/20th the emissions of a coal-fired power plant (See Table 7–1, Comparison of Annual CO₂ Emission Rates).

3. C: The Vogtle Electric Generating Plant will not meet Clean Air Act standards. Without maximum achievable control technology, routine emissions from the plant would be excessive especially when considered in addition to the existing site-wide radioactive emission levels.

R: The Project is required to meet Clean Air Act standards and obtain a permit for operations that generate non-radioactive pollutants, such as emergency generators. EPA has determined that the radionuclide emissions of the plant are best regulated by the authority given to NRC. On September 5, 1995 (60 FR 46206), EPA amended the Clean Air Act's National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPS) for radionuclide emissions to exempt nuclear power reactors which are licensed by the NRC. On December 30, 1996 (61 FR 68972), EPA amended the 40 CFR 61 Subpart I Radionuclide NESHAP so that it no longer applies to operations licensed by the NRC or NRC Agreement States. EPA has concluded that the NRC regulatory program controlling air emissions of radionuclides from nuclear power

reactors will ensure that resultant doses will consistently and predictably be below the levels which EPA has determined are necessary to provide an ample margin of safety to protect public health.

4. C: Southern Nuclear does not properly account for the higher levels of morbidity and mortality in females and infants caused by low levels of radiation.

R: While children and fetuses are more sensitive to the effects of radiation, the radiation protection standards applicable at the site for members of the general public take into account the differences in sensitivity due to age and gender, including females and infants.

Decision

DOE has decided to select the Proposed Action to issue loan guarantees to one or more of the following applicants for the construction and start-up of the proposed VEGP Units 3 and 4 in Burke County, Georgia, as identified in DOE/EIS–0476 and authorized under the NRC COLs NPF–91 and NPF–92: Georgia Power Company; Oglethorpe Power Corporation; and Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia and its subsidiaries. Approval of loan guarantees for the Project responds to the DOE purpose and need pursuant to Title XVII, Section 1703 of EPAct 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16511–16514), which authorizes the Secretary of Energy to make loan guarantees for projects that (1) avoid, reduce, or sequester air pollutants or anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases, and (2) employ new or significantly improved technologies as compared to commercial technologies in service in the United States at the time the guarantee is issued. The Section 1703 DOE loan guarantee program aims to accelerate the commercialization of innovative, environmentally-friendly technologies that will support clean, affordable, and reliable supplies of energy. The purpose and need for DOE's loan guarantee action is to comply with DOE's mandate under Title XVII of EPAct 2005 by selecting projects that meet the goals of the Act.

Mitigation

The Project for which DOE has decided to issue loan guarantees includes all mitigation measures, terms, and conditions applied by the NRC in its COLs NPF–91 and NPF–92, as well as mitigation and avoidance measures imposed by the USACE in its Nationwide Permit No. 12 for the proposed transmission line. The mitigation measures, terms, and

conditions represent practicable means by which to avoid or minimize environmental impacts from the selected alternative. NRC is responsible for ensuring compliance with all adopted mitigation measures, terms, and conditions for the Project set forth in the NRC COLs NPF–91 and NPF–92. Sections 4.10 (Measures and Controls to Limit Adverse Impacts During Site-Preparation Activities and Construction) and 5.11 (Measures and Controls to Limit Adverse Impacts During Operation) of the adopted NRC EISs (DOE/EIS–0476) contain the mitigation measures, terms, and conditions developed in accordance with NEPA.

DOE's loan guarantee agreements require the loan guarantee recipients to comply with all applicable laws, authorizations, and approvals, including the terms of the NRC COLs NPF–91 and NPF–92 and the USACE permit for the proposed transmission line, including mitigation measures contained therein. Any additional future requirements imposed by the NRC would also be required by the loan guarantee agreements for the Project. A recipient's failure to comply with applicable laws, authorizations, and approvals would constitute a default, upon which DOE would have the right under the loan guarantee agreement to exercise usual and customary remedies. To ensure a recipient complies with the requirements of the loan guarantee agreement, the Loan Programs Office proactively monitors all operative loan guarantee transactions.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 19, 2014.

Peter W. Davidson,

Executive Director, Loan Programs Office.

[FR Doc. 2014–04023 Filed 2–24–14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–10–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Electricity Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Electricity Advisory Committee (EAC). The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Wednesday, March 12, 2014: 12:00 p.m.–5:45 p.m. (EST), Thursday, March 13, 2014: 8:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m. (EST).

ADDRESSES: National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, 4301 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22203.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Matthew Rosenbaum, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, Room 8G-017, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585; Telephone: (202) 586-1060 or Email: matthew.rosenbaum@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Purpose of the Committee:* The Electricity Advisory Committee (EAC) was re-established in July 2010, in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App. 2, to provide advice to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in implementing the Energy Policy Act of 2005, executing the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, and modernizing the nation's electricity delivery infrastructure. The EAC is composed of individuals of diverse backgrounds selected for their technical expertise and experience, established records of distinguished professional service, and their knowledge of issues that pertain to electricity.

Tentative Agenda: The meeting of the EAC is expected to include discussion of the activities of the Energy Storage Technologies Subcommittee, the Smart Grid Subcommittee, and the Transmission Subcommittee, as well as discussions of distributed resource integration and lessons for grid resilience.

Tentative Agenda: March 12, 2014

12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m. EAC Leadership Committee Meeting
 12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m. Registration and Public Sign-up for comments on Day 2
 1:00 p.m.–1:10 p.m. Welcome and Developments since the June 2013 Meeting
 1:10 p.m.–1:30 p.m. Update on DOE's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE) 2014 Programs and Initiatives
 1:30 p.m.–2:15 p.m. Keynote: Melanie Kenderdine, Energy Counselor to the Secretary of Energy
 2:15 p.m.–2:30 p.m. Break
 2:30 p.m.–3:50 p.m. Panel—Distributed Resource Integration
 3:50 p.m.–4:10 p.m. EAC Member Discussion—Distributed Resource Integration Issues
 4:10 p.m.–4:20 p.m. Break
 4:20 p.m.–5:10 p.m. EAC Smart Grid Subcommittee Paper and Plans
 5:10 p.m.–5:30 p.m. EAC Member Discussion of Smart Grid Subcommittee Plans

5:30 p.m.–5:45 p.m. Wrap-up and Adjourn Day One of EAC Meeting

Tentative Agenda: March 13, 2014

8:00 a.m.–9:20 a.m. Panel—Post-Sandy: Lessons for Grid Resilience
 9:20 a.m.–9:40 a.m. EAC Discussion of Storm Panel Topics
 9:40 a.m.–10:30 a.m. EAC Transmission Subcommittee Activities and Plan
 10:30 a.m.–10:50 a.m. EAC Member Discussion of Transmission Subcommittee Plans
 10:50 a.m.–11:10 a.m. Break
 11:10 a.m.–11:30 a.m. DOE Energy Storage Program Update
 11:30 a.m.–12:20 p.m. EAC Storage Subcommittee Activities and Plan
 12:20 p.m.–1:40 p.m. Lunch on your own (Local Restaurants)
 1:40 p.m.–2:00 p.m. EAC Discussion and Decision on Storage Subcommittee Plans and Recommendations
 2:00 p.m.–2:15 p.m. Public Comments (Must register to comment at time of check-in)

2:15 p.m.–2:30 p.m. Wrap Up and Adjourn EAC Meeting

The meeting agenda may change to accommodate EAC business. For EAC agenda updates, see the EAC Web site at: <http://energy.gov/oe/services/electricity-advisory-committee-eac>.

Public Participation: The EAC welcomes the attendance of the public at its meetings. Individuals who wish to offer public comments at the EAC meeting may do so on Thursday, March 13, 2014, but must register at the registration table in advance. Approximately 15 minutes will be reserved for public comments. Time allotted per speaker will depend on the number who wish to speak but is not expected to exceed three minutes. Anyone who is not able to attend the meeting, or for whom the allotted public comments time is insufficient to address pertinent issues with the EAC, is invited to send a written statement to Mr. Matthew Rosenbaum.

You may submit comments, identified by “*Electricity Advisory Committee Open Meeting*”, by any of the following methods:

- *Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier:* Matthew Rosenbaum, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, Room 8G-017, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585.

- *Email:* matthew.rosenbaum@hq.doe.gov. Include “Electricity Advisory Committee Open Meeting” in the subject line of the message.

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. *Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and identifier. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://energy.gov/oe/services/electricity-advisory-committee-eac>, including any personal information provided.

- *Docket:* For access to the docket, to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://energy.gov/oe/services/electricity-advisory-committee-eac>.

The following electronic file formats are acceptable: Microsoft Word (.doc), Corel Word Perfect (.wpd), Adobe Acrobat (.pdf), Rich Text Format (.rtf), plain text (.txt), Microsoft Excel (.xls), and Microsoft PowerPoint (.ppt). If you submit information that you believe to be exempt by law from public disclosure, you must submit one complete copy, as well as one copy from which the information claimed to be exempt by law from public disclosure has been deleted. You must also explain the reasons why you believe the deleted information is exempt from disclosure.

DOE is responsible for the final determination concerning disclosure or nondisclosure of the information and for treating it in accordance with the DOE's Freedom of Information regulations (10 CFR 1004.11).

Note: Delivery of the U.S. Postal Service mail to DOE may be delayed by several weeks due to security screening. DOE, therefore, encourages those wishing to comment to submit comments electronically by email. If comments are submitted by regular mail, the Department requests that they be accompanied by a CD or diskette containing electronic files of the submission.

Minutes: The minutes of the EAC meeting will be posted on the EAC Web page at <http://energy.gov/oe/services/electricity-advisory-committee-eac>. They can also be obtained by contacting Mr. Matthew Rosenbaum at the address above.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 19, 2014.

LaTanya R. Butler,

Deputy Committee Management Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

DOE/NSF High Energy Physics Advisory Panel

AGENCY: Office of Science, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of Open Meeting.