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**Media Contact: Frank Crane**

**Telephone: 770-563-1248**

**[www.meagpower.org](http://www.meagpower.org)**

**Reactor design certified by NRC; Vogtle units continue to move forward**

ATLANTA, December 22, 2011 – Plant Vogtle units 3 and 4 near Waynesboro, Georgia, took a major step forward today when the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) announced it has certified Westinghouse Electric Company’s AP1000 reactor design. MEAG Power is a 22.7% co-owner in the project.

“We are now one critical step closer to receiving the Combined Construction and Operating License (COL) for a U.S. nuclear plant,” said MEAG Power President and CEO Bob Johnston. “The units 3 and 4 planned at Plant Vogtle will be the first nuclear units built in 30 years and are on track to be completed in 2016 and 2017, respectively.”

The certification of the Westinghouse Electric Company’s AP1000 reactor design as safe and having met all regulatory requirements comes after intense scrutiny. The staff of the NRC spent months evaluating every aspect of the design including the ability of the reactor’s shield building to withstand the impact of an airliner.

Upon receipt of the COL, full construction can commence at the site. The NRC will determine when a public vote on the Vogtle COL will occur.

Southern Nuclear is overseeing construction and will operate the two new 1,100-megawatt AP1000 units for the co-owners which, in addition to MEAG Power, include Georgia Power, Oglethorpe Power Corporation and Dalton Utilities.

The Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG Power) is a public generation and transmission organization providing power to 49 Georgia communities with annual electric sales of \$742 million and 10.9 million megawatt-hours of delivered energy in 2010.

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Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia  
1470 Riveredge Parkway NW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30328-4686

1-800-333-MEAG 770-563-0300  
Fax 770-953-3141