MEAG Power announces first nuclear concrete placed at Plant Vogtle expansion

*Significant milestone for project vital to Georgia’s energy future*

**ATLANTA,** March 14, 2013 - The placement of basemat structural concrete for the nuclear island at the Vogtle Unit 3 nuclear expansion site is a significant achievement in the building of the first new nuclear units in the United States in 30 years.

“This historic moment marks yet another important milestone for the Vogtle expansion project and reflects the tremendous progress being made at the site,” said MEAG Power President and Chief Executive Officer Bob Johnston. “I know our Participant communities join me in congratulating all those who have worked so hard and collaborated to make this step a reality. The team including Southern Nuclear, CB&I, Westinghouse Electric Company and our co-owners: Georgia Power, Oglethorpe Power Corporation, and Dalton Utilities are excited to be a part of such a significant project which will bring more emissions-free nuclear power to our state.”

The basemat concrete placement was completed in approximately 41 hours and encompassed approximately 7,000 cubic yards of concrete, which will serve as the foundation for all of the nuclear island structures, including the containment vessel and the shield building. The area covered measured approximately 250 feet long and 160 feet wide at its widest point, and the concrete measured up to six feet in thickness.

MEAG Power is involved in building both Plant Vogtle Units 3&4 near Waynesboro.

To date, the full outlines of the nuclear islands for Units 3&4 have been completed to grade level. The first components for erecting the Unit 3 containment vessel are completed and staged for installation once the basemat concrete has cured, including the CR10 cradle and the Unit 3 containment vessel bottom head. The primary focus throughout all the construction is on safety, quality and compliance.

The construction of Vogtle 3&4 is the largest job-producing project in Georgia, employing approximately 5,000 people during peak construction and creating 800 permanent jobs when the
plant begins operating. “Once complete,” added Bob Johnston, “the new units will generate low cost power that will help our Participant communities continue providing some of the most competitive electric utility rates in the region.”

Unit 3 is scheduled to go on line in 2017, and Unit 4 will follow in 2018.

Southern Nuclear, a subsidiary of Southern Company, is overseeing construction and will operate the two new 1,100-megawatt AP1000 units for MEAG Power and co-owners Georgia Power, Oglethorpe Power Corporation, and Dalton Utilities. MEAG Power owns 22.7 percent of the new units.

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 $753 million and 10.7 million megawatt-hours of delivered energy in 2011.