NINE MONTHS’ PERFORMANCE

Revenue and Expense Analysis

Revenues: For the nine months ended September 30, 2021 (YTD 2021), total revenues were $535.1 million compared with $486.9 million for the same period in 2020 (YTD 2020). Participant revenues and other revenues increased $31.5 million and $16.8 million, respectively. Participant revenues increased due mainly to Participant billings for certain expenses, primarily fuel, as mentioned below, and deferred inflows of resources mainly related to timing differences between amounts billed and expenses determined in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

The increase in other revenues was primarily due to a $12.0 million increase in off-system sales mainly due to higher market prices and volume, a $7.2 million increase in debt service billings under the Vogtle Units 3&4 Power Purchase Agreements and a $6.4 million distribution received from The Energy Authority. These factors were partially offset by an $8.5 million decrease in Pseudo Scheduling and Services Agreement energy sales.

Operating expenses: YTD 2021 operating expenses increased 5.7% to $447.4 million, compared with $423.4 million in YTD 2020 primarily related to these components:

- A $29.6 million increase in total fuel expense was due mainly to a $19.1 million increase in coal expense related to a significant increase in generation. Natural gas expense increased $8.6 million due to increased gas prices, which was partially offset by a 14.9% decrease in generation from the Wansley Combined Cycle Facility, due to the cost impact of higher gas prices on the economic dispatch of the unit.
- Purchased power decreased $4.5 million primarily due to a combination of higher gas prices and reduced scheduled unit outages.

Non-operating expense (income), net: Net non-operating expense, which includes interest expense and other related components such as amortization of debt discount and expense, investment income, the net change in the fair value of financial instruments and interest capitalized. The rate is net of subsidies on Build America Bonds.

Operations

Energy delivered to MEAG Power Participants during YTD 2021 increased 5.8% from YTD 2020 due mainly to load recovery from COVID-19 and new customer loads. Total power cost to the Participants, including hydro energy purchased from the Southeastern Power Administration, was 6.49 cents/kilowatt-hour (kWh) for YTD 2021, compared with 6.73 cents/kWh for YTD 2020. The decrease was mainly due to the increase in energy delivered, which was partially offset by higher Participant billings for fuel (see “Operating expenses”).
Key Recent Developments Pertaining to Vogtle Units 3&4

Key recent developments pertaining to Vogtle Units 3&4 are outlined below. For additional information and definition of certain terms, see MEAG Power’s 2020 Annual Information Statement.

Construction Budget and Schedule for Vogtle Units 3&4:
Based on the construction cost estimate set forth in the Vogtle Construction Monitoring (VCM) 25 Report, as well as other construction cost estimate and contingency information, and based on in-service dates of September 2022 and June 2023 for Vogtle Unit 3 (Unit 3) and Vogtle Unit 4 (Unit 4), respectively, it is estimated that the Vogtle Units 3&4 Project Entities’ (Project Entities) in-service cost will be, in the aggregate, approximately $7.0 billion, including construction and financing costs through the estimated in-service dates, initial fuel load costs, and switchyard and transmission costs and contingencies established by Georgia Power Company (GPC) at the project-level for all Vogtle Co-owners. Additional financing needs relating to reserve funds and other fund deposits required under MEAG Power’s and the Project Entities’ financing documents result in a current estimate of total financing funds and other fund deposits required under MEAG Power’s and the Project Entities’ aggregate 19.9% share of these costs and contingencies of approximately $131.2 million will be reduced to the Project Entities’ aggregate 22.7% share of these costs and contingencies identified during the fourth quarter of 2021 by GPC. As discussed below, a portion of these costs is subject to reduction in accordance with the 2019 Global Amendments to the Vogtle Joint Ownership Agreements (Global Amendments).

During the first quarter of 2021, GPC assigned approximately $42 million of the remaining construction contingency previously established and an additional approximately $746 million to the base capital cost forecast for costs primarily associated with the schedule extensions for Unit 3 to December 2021, construction productivity, support resources and construction remediation work. In addition, GPC increased the total capital cost forecast as of March 31, 2021, by adding approximately $105 million to the remaining project-level construction contingency. The Project Entities share of this amount was approximately $24 million. As of June 30, 2021, GPC assigned all of the remaining construction contingency previously established and an additional approximately $746 million to the base capital cost forecast for costs primarily associated with the schedule extensions for Units 3 and 4, construction remediation work for Unit 3, and construction productivity and support resources for Units 3 and 4. GPC also increased the total capital cost forecast as of June 30, 2021, by adding approximately $260 million to replenish construction contingency at the project-level. As a result of the factors discussed below, during the third quarter 2021, all of the remaining construction contingency previously established in the second quarter 2021 was assigned to the base capital cost forecast. During the fourth quarter of 2021, GPC increased the base capital cost forecast for costs primarily associated with the schedule extensions for Vogtle Units 3&4, construction productivity and support resources for each unit, and construction remediation work for Unit 3 by approximately $278 million. GPC also increased its total capital cost forecast for Vogtle Units 3&4 as of September 30, 2021, by adding approximately $300 million to replenish construction contingency. Together, costs and contingencies identified during the fourth quarter of 2021 by GPC total approximately $578 million. The Project Entities’ aggregate 22.7% share of these costs and contingencies of approximately $131.2 million will be reduced as a result of the terms of the Global Amendments, which specify the Project Entities’ responsibility for cost increases over the VCM 19 Report from $800 million to $1.6 billion at 18.52% and 14.34% for cost increases from $1.6 billion to $2.1 billion. The amount of reduction cannot be calculated until a determination is made as to the costs of construction.

The Vogtle Co-owners disagree as to the timing of the commencement of GPC’s enhanced payment obligations and the reduction of the other Vogtle Co-owner payment obligations under the Global Amendments and the one-time tender to GPC of a portion of the Vogtle Units 3&4 Project Entities’ interests in the units. On October 29, 2021, MEAG Power, the Project Entities and the other Vogtle Co-owners entered into an agreement to clarify the process for the tender provisions of the Global Amendments, which will provide additional time to resolve that matter.

There can be no assurance that the contingencies established by GPC at the project-level for all Vogtle Co-owners or established in the future by the Project Entities will be sufficient to fund any such cost increases. MEAG Power will continue to evaluate information available to it regarding the construction schedule and budget for Vogtle Units 3&4.

As part of its ongoing processes, Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (Southern Nuclear) continues to evaluate cost and schedule forecasts on a regular basis to incorporate current information available, particularly in the areas of engineering support, commodity installation, system turnovers and related test results, and workforce statistics. Southern Nuclear establishes aggressive target values for monthly construction production and system turnover activities. Southern Nuclear’s site work plans continue to reflect this approach in support of safely completing Units 3 and 4, while achieving the required construction quality.

Since March 2020, the number of active COVID-19 cases at the site has fluctuated and impacted productivity levels and pace of activity completion. Through June 2021, the site experienced an overall decline in the number of active cases since the peak in January 2021. During the third quarter 2021, the site experienced a similar peak in August 2021; however, the number of active cases since this peak has declined.

In 2021, Southern Nuclear has been performing additional construction remediation work necessary to ensure quality and design standards are met as system turnovers are completed to support hot functional testing, which was completed in July 2021, and fuel load for Unit 3. As a result of challenges including, but not limited to, construction productivity, construction remediation work, the pace of system turnovers, spent fuel pool repairs, and the timeframe and duration for hot functional and other testing, at the end of the second quarter 2021, Southern Nuclear further extended certain milestone dates. Through the third quarter 2021, the project continued to face challenges including, but not limited to, construction productivity, construction remediation work, and the pace of system turnovers. An in-service date in the third quarter 2022 for Unit 3 is projected by GPC, although any further delays could result in a later in-service date.

As the result of productivity challenges, at the end of the second quarter 2021, Southern Nuclear also further extended milestone dates for Unit 4. These productivity challenges continued into the third quarter 2021 and some craft and support resources were diverted temporarily to support construction efforts on Unit 3. The in-service date for Unit 4 primarily depends on overall construction productivity and production levels significantly improving, as well as appropriate levels of craft laborers, particularly electricians and pipefitters, being added and maintained. GPC projects an in-service date in the second quarter 2023 for Unit 4, although any further delays could result in a later in-service date.
As construction, including subcontract work, continues and testing and system turnover activities increase, ongoing or future challenges with management of contractors and vendors; subcontractor performance; supervision of craft labor and related productivity, particularly in the installation of electrical, mechanical, and instrumentation and controls commodities, ability to attract and retain craft labor, and/or related cost escalation; procurement, fabrication, delivery, assembly, installation, system turnover, and the initial testing and start-up, including any required engineering changes or any remediation related thereto, of generating unit systems, structures, or components (some of which are based on new technology that only within the last few years began initial operation in the global nuclear industry at this scale), including the spent fuel pools, any of which may require additional labor and/or materials; or other issues could continue or arise and change the projected schedule and estimated cost. In addition, the continuing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are uncertain at this time as to potential delay in construction and testing activities at Vogtle Units 3&4.

There have been technical and procedural challenges to the construction and licensing of Vogtle Units 3&4, at the federal and state level, and additional challenges may arise. GPC reports that there are processes in place that are designed to ensure compliance with the requirements specified in the Westinghouse Design Control Document and the Combined Construction and Operating Licenses, including inspections by Southern Nuclear and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that occur throughout construction. In connection with the additional construction remediation work referenced above, Southern Nuclear reviewed the project’s construction quality programs and, where needed, is implementing improvement plans consistent with these processes. In June 2021, the NRC began a special inspection to review the root cause of additional construction remediation work associated with Unit 3 electrical cable separation and electrical raceway seismic/structural conditions and the corresponding corrective action plans. On August 26, 2021, the NRC issued an inspection report with initial findings. Southern Nuclear had already identified and self-reported many of the issues in this report to the NRC and implemented corrective-action plans to resolve these issues. On November 18, 2021, the NRC announced that it had finalized its findings and will increase oversight and schedule a supplemental inspection at Unit 3. Findings resulting from this or other inspections could require additional remediation and/or further NRC oversight. In addition, certain license amendment requests have been filed and approved or are pending before the NRC. On March 15, 2021, the NRC denied the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League’s (BREDL) December 2020 motion to reopen proceedings on BREDL’s petition challenging a requested license amendment, which has been issued by the NRC staff.

Various design and other licensing-based compliance matters, including the timely submittal by Southern Nuclear of the Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC) documentation for each unit and the related reviews and approvals by the NRC necessary to support NRC authorization to load fuel, have arisen or may arise, which may result in additional license amendments or require other resolution. If any license amendment requests or other licensing-based compliance issues, including inspections and ITAACs, are not resolved in a timely manner, there may be delays in the project schedule that could result in increased costs.

The ultimate outcome of these matters cannot be determined at this time; however, the above factors and other construction and completion risks pertaining to Vogtle Units 3&4 could continue to impact the in-service dates and cost of Vogtle Units 3&4.

Recent Financings: To finance additional construction costs and to provide a portion of the funds required to refund certain outstanding Vogtle Units 3&4 Bonds, on July 20, 2021, MEAG Power issued:
- $83.0 million of its Plant Vogtle Units 3&4 Project M Bonds, Series 2021A,
- $150.4 million of its Plant Vogtle Units 3&4 Project J Bonds, Series 2021A and
- $64.0 million of its Plant Vogtle Units 3&4 Project P Bonds, Series 2021A.
The Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG Power) is a nonprofit, statewide generation and transmission organization. Recognized as one of the leading joint action agencies in the country, MEAG Power is among the top public power companies nationwide in terms of annual net generation, megawatt-hour sales and electric revenue. Its diverse, clean energy portfolio — delivering 69% emissions-free energy in 2020 — compares favorably with both the state and national averages. Created by the Georgia General Assembly in 1975, MEAG Power provides reliable, competitive wholesale electricity to its 49 member communities (Participants), who own their local distribution systems. MEAG Power also monitors and advocates on energy issues at the state and federal levels on behalf of its Participants.