



## News Release

### For Immediate Release

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### APPA APPLAUDS NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION DECISION TO APPROVE CONSTRUCTION OF FIRST NUCLEAR REACTORS IN DECADES

*February 9, 2012* – The American Public Power Association (APPA) today commended the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s (NRC’s) historic decision to approve construction of the first new nuclear reactors since 1978. The Vogtle Electric Generating plant, located near Waynesboro, Georgia, is jointly owned by Georgia Power, Oglethorpe Power Corporation, Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG), and Dalton Utilities. MEAG is a member of APPA.

“The NRC should be commended for their groundbreaking decision to approve these new nuclear units,” said Mark Crisson, President and CEO of APPA. “At a time when stringent environmental regulations are adversely impacting the existing industry capacity, this approval sends a strong message of support for the development of new, clean nuclear power to help meet our nation’s growing energy needs.”

Crison also pointed out the significant role of public power, as the consistently strong credit rating of public power utilities enabled the owners of the plant to obtain the financing necessary for the construction and operation of the new units.

The two new AP1000 reactors, designed to a standard that is the safest in U.S. history, will power more than 1 million homes and businesses in Georgia and create thousands of jobs in the state.

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*Based in Washington, D.C., APPA is the national service organization for the nation's more than 2,000 community- and state-owned not-for-profit electric utilities serving 46 million customers.*