



POWER NOTES - GEORGIA POWER EDITION

FALL 2017 ISSUE - POWER NOTES

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Loan Guarantee

The U.S. Department of Energy has increased their total loan guarantees to back construction of Units 3 and 4 at the Vogtle Plant to \$12 billion. This shifts some of the risk for this project from utility customers in Georgia to the American taxpayer. It appears that the loan guarantees only take effect if the owners of the plant default on their debt obligations.

Impact on Electric Rates

The total construction cost for the new units is now expected to exceed \$25 billion. Significant rate increases are expected for customers of Georgia Power, MEAG, Oglethorpe Power Corporation and Dalton Utilities - the owners of the ill-fated nuclear units. These increases will likely lead to higher rates for several decades.

Will you be better off on a different electric rate?

Possibly.

At UMS, we will continue to monitor Georgia Power electric rates as they change to account for construction costs. If changes in the design and structure of rates make a different rate better for your needs, **we'll be in touch.**



GA Power Contract with Bechtel

Since the bankruptcy of Westinghouse, the firm that was building the new nuclear generating units at the Vogtle Plant, Georgia Power has entered into a contract with Bechtel to manage the construction work required to finish building the units.

Bechtel opened several staffing centers and is actively seeking people to help finish construction of the project. If you know someone who might be interested, send them to:

<http://vogtle34.us/news/bechtel-employment-centers-open-september-18/>

Will the plants ever produce electricity?

No one knows for sure.

At UMS, we believe that unit 4 will never be completed while unit 3 may be completed. We make that prediction based on the extensive history of canceled plants in the nuclear industry. *See below for an example.*

VC Summer Plant Update

Things could be worse in Georgia. Two nuclear generating units at the VC Summer Plant were being constructed by Westinghouse for South Carolina Electric & Gas and Santee Cooper. Since the Westinghouse bankruptcy, plans have been canceled for those plants. Almost \$10 billion was invested in the failed projects for units that are less than half completed.

SCE&G customers have already paid \$1.7 billion toward the project through electric rates. SCE&G has requested the SC Public Service Commission to include their remaining losses in future electric rates. If approved, we estimate the average residential, commercial and industrial customer will pay the following amounts over several decades for units that will never produce power:

Residential	Commercial	Industrial
\$3,000	\$20,000	\$1,800,000

The Summer Plant did not have federal loan guarantees. A legal, political and lobbying fight is underway to determine who will pay for the plant. South Carolina has opened criminal investigations into SCE&G. According to news outlets, indictments of SCE&G executives are likely. Multiple shareholder class action lawsuits have been filed alleging SCE&G executives intentionally misled shareholders about the cost, schedule and status of the project. Bankruptcy is possible.



President George W. Bush Speaks at the World Energy Engineering Congress

Former President George W. Bush spoke at the World Energy Engineering Congress in Atlanta, Georgia on October 27th.

All UMS Customers were mailed two invitations to attend the Expo at the WEEC; we enjoyed seeing some of you there and encourage those of you who missed the event to join us next year.

UMS President, Brian Coughlan, had the opportunity to meet and take a photo with the former President.

We had several corporate office staff members and Account Managers present at our booth during the WEEC Expo.

As always, the WEEC offered very informative seminars and proved to be a great networking opportunity.



UMS Booth at the WEEC Expo

(front row, l-r) Janessa Goldstein - VP of Financial Operations, Nicolette Thomas - Analyst, Kristina Duerr - National Account Manager, Brian Coughlan - President; (back row, l-r) Mary Greblunas - Account Manager, Tanner Myers - Analyst, Paul Andrews - Sales Manager, Troy Tapp - Account Manager.

Mark your calendars! The 2018 WEEC will be held at the Charlotte Convention Center.



We will be mailing two invitations to all active customers in September 2018.

Several keynote speakers are under active consideration for the event. In recent years, speakers have included President George W. Bush, President Bill Clinton, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State Colin Powell and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

We hope to see you there! **October 17-19, 2018**

WANT TO WIN AN APPLE WATCH?

Keep an eye on your mailbox for the 2017 Customer Satisfaction Survey! Return the survey before December 1st, and be entered to win an Apple Watch. If you provide more feedback by completing the front and back page of the survey, your name will be entered three additional times!



Congratulations to Nicolette Thomas,

UMS Analyst, on passing the **Certified Lighting Efficiency Professional (CLEP) Course & Exam** offered by the Association of Energy Engineers!

Nicolette now holds several certifications:

BEP - Business Energy Professional*;
CEA - Certified Energy Auditor*;
CEP - Certified Energy Procurement Professional* and **CLEP**.

*Considered "In-Training" until completion of 3 years in industry.

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