

## NEWS RELEASE



### International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers® AFL-CIO-CLC

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#### **IBEW PRESIDENT EDWIN D. HILL ON NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION APPROVAL OF PLANT VOGTLE'S CONSTRUCTION LICENSE**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers President Edwin D. Hill issued the following statement:

“The approval by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission of the construction and operating license for the two-reactor Plant Vogtle expansion near Augusta, Georgia, is good news for all of America.

The process sets a valuable precedent for streamlining licensing for nuclear plants in a manner that combines comprehensive examination of safety and environmental factors with the need to get more reactors online and supplementing the strained energy grid in the United States. As we make the transition from fossil fuels to cleaner energy and debate the speed and process by which coal-fired generation recedes in importance, our nation must increasingly rely on nuclear power as a vital, proven technology.

The NRC's announcement also provides much needed good news on the jobs front. The project will directly create approximately 3,500 middle-class construction jobs in the Augusta region, with the potential for many more in related industries and in the community. Once the plant is completed, it will also provide some 800 job opportunities for highly skilled, trained personnel. Already, skilled union craftsmen and women have been on the site working under a project labor agreement that has the project ahead of schedule and under budget.

The energy industry will clearly be a major engine of job creation in the United States as we seek to utilize our home-grown resources and foster greater independence. It is a complex picture that will require moving forward in a variety of ways, from pipelines, exploration, development of renewable technology and an increased use of nuclear power. Today's announcement is a welcome and positive step forward."

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*The [International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers](#) (IBEW) represents approximately 725,000 members who work in a wide variety of fields, including manufacturing, utilities, construction, telecommunications, broadcasting, railroads and government.*