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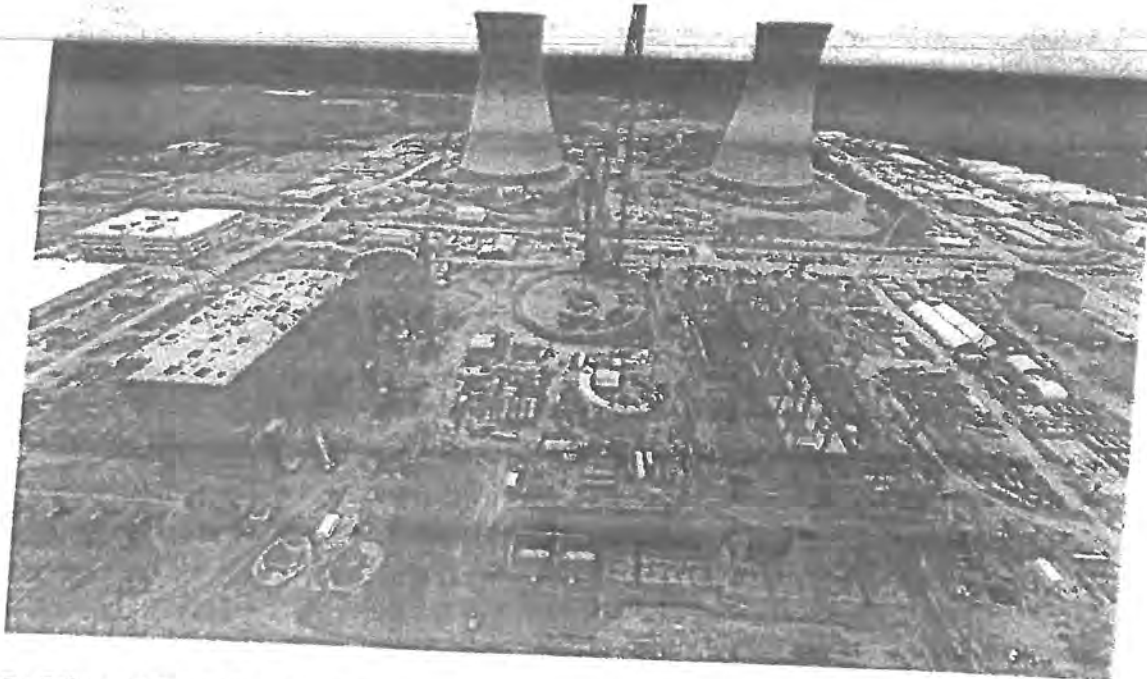
Georgia Power Signs New Contractor for Vogtle Expansion - Power Engineering

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# Georgia Power Signs New Contractor for Vogtle Expansion

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By Editors of Power Engineering

The uncertainty over who would oversee the expansion of the Vogtle nuclear plant has come to an end with the signing of a new primary contractor.

Southern Nuclear, a subsidiary of Southern Company and the operator of the two existing units at Vogtle, will now oversee construction activities at the site, Georgia Power announced. Georgia Power is also a subsidiary of Southern Company.

"We are already in the midst of a seamless transition for the thousands of workers across the site, allowing us to sustain the progress we are making every day on both units," said Mark Rauckhorst, executive vice president for the Vogtle 3 and 4 project. "We remain focused on safety and quality as we complete this transition."

Development of units 3 and 4 was originally overseen by Westinghouse, which has filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy protection after \$6 billion in losses. Vogtle will continue to license and implement the AP1000 nuclear technology developed by Westinghouse.

Georgia Power will also work with the project's co-owners, including Oglethorpe Power, MEAG Power and Dalton Utilities to complete a full-state schedule and cost-to-complete analysis of the project. Vogtle is now three years behind schedule and \$1.3 billion over budget. Toshiba, the corporate parent of Westinghouse, agreed to pay \$3.68 billion toward the construction of Vogtle.

Georgia Power said construction at Vogtle continued after the Westinghouse bankruptcy. Over the last month, new concrete placements were erected within the Unit 3 shield building and nuclear island, structural steel for the Unit 4 annex building was placed and the first of four 85,000-pound accumulator tanks were installed for the new units within the Unit 3 containment vessel.

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