



Savannah River Site Watch

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New Aerial Photos of VC Summer Nuclear Construction Site Obtained Day After Former SCANA CEO Agrees to Plead Guilty to Fraud for His Role in Failed Nuclear Reactor Construction Project; Photos Released by SRS Watch as a Public Service Given Failure of Other Parties to Do So

[Photos, by High Flyer, of the "Scene of the Crime" & Terms of Use Posted Here](#)

More Criminal Charges Must be Brought Against Former SCANA and Santee Cooper Officials

Columbia, SC – Just a day after the agreement by the former SCANA CEO to plead guilty for fraud for the failed construction of nuclear reactors at the V.C. Summer site north of Columbia, South Carolina, new aerial photos of the site have been obtained. The photos were taken on November 20, 2020 by High Flyer, a local pilot who prefers to remain anonymous and who has provided a very beneficial public service over the years via release of such photos.

The photos and terms of use are posted on High Flyer's Google drive. For many years, the public interest organization Savannah River Site Watch has publicized the aerial photos of VC Summer. Additionally, High Flyer photos have also been publicized of the twin nuclear construction at Plant Vogtle in Georgia and the terminated plutonium fuel (MOX) project at the US Department of Energy's Savannah River Site (SRS).

The photos of the derelict V.C. Summer site reveal that site is looking a bit weather-worn and appears much as it did when the project was terminated in 2017. The large crane (heavy lift derrick) - claimed to be the largest such crane in the world - remains at the site (and apparently unsold), the reactor buildings remain unprotected from the weather, the costly steam generator are still sitting outside, equipment remains in outside laydown yards and that temporary equipment storage structures remain. No vehicles or personnel can be seen.

SRS Watch believes that the photos will help the public and officials visualize just what a massive debacle the V.C. Summer construction project remains. "There are few sites in the world that so starkly remind us of billions of dollars thrown down a rat hole for the financial benefit of a few selfish

criminals,” said Tom Clements, director of SRS Watch. (Clements led the public interventions before the South Carolina Public Service Commission against the project in 2008 and 2017, with the environmental organization Friends of the Earth).

“We are grateful to the federal attorneys for pursuing fraud charges against former SCANA CEO Kevin Marsh and urge the court to sentence him to the maximum fine and prison term as allowed by law,” said Clements. Court documents released on November 24 - linked below - reveal the plea agreement with Marsh.

According to Clements, others who should face criminal charges include: Jimmy Addison (former SCANA CFO), SCANA lawyers Chard Burgess, Mathew Gissendanner, Belton Zeigler, Mitch Willoughby (now working on the current rate-hike case by Dominion Energy), Lonnie Carter, former head of Santee Cooper, 45% owner of the V.C. Summer project, and former Santee Cooper board chair Leighton Lord. Many others utility officials who were in on the fraudulent scam perpetrated against the people of South Carolina must also face charges, according to SRS Watch.

“I hope that Kevin Marsh and admitted felon Stephen Byrne continue to reveal to the federal attorney just how the fraudulent V.C. Summer scheme was pulled off,” said Clements. “I patiently await other charges that will come but the financial damage to the state of South Carolina and harm to an energy future based on solar power, efficiency and conservation must continue to be diligently addressed,” added Clements.

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Notes:

New photos of VC Summer reactor construction site – aka “The Scene of the Crime,” November 20, 2020, by High Flyer – view “read me first” before using photos:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bgaZ2Y4QBugVE0LZEfwPOML7u1yrMIDk?usp=sharing>

Kevin Marsh, former SCANA CEO, plea agreement in federal court, November 24, 2020:

<https://srswatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Marsh-plea-agreement-Nov-24-2020.pdf>

Cooperation agreement between SC federal attorney, SC attorney general and Dominion, dated December 28, 2018 but posted in the federal docket on Nov. 24, 2020:

<https://srswatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/cooperation-agreement-SCGA-US-fed-attny-Dominion-filed-Nov-24-2020.pdf>

SEC civil complaint against SCANA officials, February 27, 2020:

<https://www.sec.gov/litigation/complaints/2020/scana-complaint-022720.pdf>