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Georgia WAND heads to Washington DC for "Nuclear Reality Check" Calling out U.S Department of Energy Projects that put environment, non-proliferation and taxpayer dollars at risk

ATLANTA - Eleven members of Georgia Women's Action for New Directions will visit Washington, DC April 3 through 6 to expose high-risk U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) nuclear projects, which they say will waste billions in taxpayer funds, damage the environment and undermine the nation's non-proliferation goals. The group will meet with many leading members of Congress, committee staffers, and agency officials with responsibility for nuclear policy and budgets to press for new funding priorities.

The Georgia delegation will be working with colleagues from a dozen other states who are participating in the 23rd annual Alliance for Nuclear Accountability (ANA) "DC Days." The activists expect to meet with Senators and Representatives from Georgia, leaders of congressional committees that oversee nuclear issues, and key federal agency staffers.

Georgia WAND members Lillie Wilson, Shirley Fields and Annie Laura Stephens in the Georgia delegation say they are deeply concerned about public health in their home county as well as the safety of the two new proposed reactors at Plant Vogtle, especially considering the threat of earthquakes as Georgia sits on a fault line. Georgia WAND also highlights the danger of investing in this high risk form of energy and the resulting rate hikes Georgia Power ratepayers have already been faced with.

Amanda Hill-Attkisson, Managing Director, Georgia WAND said, "The Department of energy is pursuing many unnecessary projects which place taxpayer dollars and nuclear non-proliferation at risk. We will encourage policy-makers to cut programs that fund dangerous new weapons and subsidize nuclear reactor construction. Instead, we will urge Congress to use the savings to reduce long-term liabilities by cleaning up the huge toxic and radioactive legacy of nuclear weapons research, design, testing and production."

The Alliance for Nuclear Accountability is a 25-year old network of several dozen local, regional and national organizations representing the concerns of communities downwind and downstream from U.S. nuclear weapons production and radioactive waste disposal sites.

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