



**Friends of the Earth  
For Immediate Release  
December 22, 2017**

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**New Aerial Photos of VC Summer Nuclear Scrapyard Released; Photos Confirm Site Abandonment; More Cranes Removed; No Sign of Work Activity to Protect Structures, Degradation Continues**

**[Aerial Photos of SCE&G/Santee Cooper VC Summer Nuclear Chaos Linked Here, Dec. 19 – Will be Used in Dockets before SC PSC as Project Owners are Not Providing Photos to the Public](#)**

***Victory for the Public! Friends of the Earth/Sierra Club Compliant seeking Review of Past Prudency Decisions (Cost Overruns) and Alternative Energy Allowed to Move Forward by SC PSC on Dec. 20 – [Order Linked Here](#)***

Columbia, SC – New aerial photos of the V.C. Summer nuclear construction project confirm that no activity is taking place at the nuclear reactor construction site and no visible efforts are being made to protect structures or reactor components.

The site continues slow degradation due to the decision by South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCE&G) to totally walk away from the shuttered site on December 31, 2017. The project was abruptly halted on July 31, 2017 and workers sent immediately off the site, leaving behind what has become an obscene symbol of the waste of \$9 billion, according to Friends of the Earth.

In a review of the new photos, taken on December 19, 2017 by High Flyer, no workers or work vehicles can be seen moving on the site though a few cars can be seen parked outside buildings adjacent to the construction site.

“The photos are provided as a public service and are being publicized as SCE&G and Santee Cooper would rather that the startling, anger-inducing photos not be seen by the public,” said Tom Clements, senior adviser with Friends of the Earth. “We think it important for people to see the enduring chaos at the site and that the site was haphazardly abandoned rather like the villages that endured forced, rapid evacuation near Fukushima and Chernobyl. This site evacuation obviously wasn’t due to nuclear meltdown but rather catastrophic and self-induced economic and management meltdown, which will also have a lasting impact,” added Clements.

The 16 new aerial photos, legally taken on December 19 by High Flyer, can be used with credit – see the “read me first” document posted with the photos on High Flyer’s Google drive:

<https://tinyurl.com/y77hzrtu>

or

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1ht6CUWmRZEDbI5oqFygcAeNWSXbUKqFH>

The reactor components and modules remain exposed to the weather as no type of cover has been constructed over the reactor shield buildings. The turbine building for unit 2 continues to have an unfinished roof and two costly steam generators still lay dumped on the ground in their shrink wrap.

Additional cranes have been removed and of the 13 cranes spotted earlier, only three remain, parked to the side of the construction site. The large “heavy lift derrick,” which lifted the heaviest of components, remains fixed in place on the site, a tall monitor to the failed project around it.

The photos were released two days after the South Carolina Public Service Commission rejected an effort by South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCE&G) to throw out a complaint by Friends of the Earth and the Sierra Club to review past prudency (cost overrun) decisions related to the failed nuclear project. That docket ([Docket 2017-207-E](#)) may be consolidated with any SCE&G filing to recover costs but the organizations’ “prudency review rights” and rights to push for alternative energy will now be protected in that event. The photos released today, or updated ones, are likely to be used in proceedings before the PSC as the photos remain the most recent aerial shots of the site.

For comparison, see earlier photos by High Flyer, from October 4, 2017:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/0BwkyYyn8X-ySbEQydzdTeV9QZVE>

Yet earlier photos or links to photos available on request.

**Note:** Aerial photos of the Vogtle reactor construction project in Georgia have just come in from High Flyer. Call for link to photos, which will be released soon.

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***Old St. Nuke Cries Out “SCE&G went Astray and Brings Us Nothing but Discomfort and No Joy”***