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STATE OF VERMONT
LEGISLATIVE JOINT FISCAL COMMITTEE

DATE: November 10, 2008

TO: 2009-2010 Vermont General Assembly

FROM: Senator Susan Bartlett, Chair
Representative Michael Obuchowski, Vice Chair

RE: **Legislative background briefing on 2009 – 2010 Vermont General Assembly's role in the continued operation of Entergy Nuclear - Vermont Yankee. For Returning & Newly Elected Legislators, November 19th, 12:45 – 5:00 p.m., Room 11 at the State House**

As you may know, a discussion on Entergy Nuclear - Vermont Yankee's recertification will take place this coming 2009-2010 biennium in accordance with legislation enacted in 2006 [30 V.S.A. § 248(e)(2)¹].

Last session (2008), the legislature authorized the Legislative Joint Fiscal Committee to contract for nonpartisan expertise on the issues surrounding this responsibility and to provide information and analysis to the General Assembly during its deliberations. Synapse Energy Economics, Inc. has been contracted and begun to work with the Legislative Joint Fiscal Committee and the two chairs of the Natural Resources and Energy Committees (Special Committee on Nuclear Energy Analysis) to identify issues.

As legislators are already being exposed to considerable information on this issue, the Special Committee on Nuclear Energy Analysis have proposed a background briefing open to all returning and newly elected legislators to provide general information and analysis on the upcoming discussions and possible actions.

A briefing has been planned for Wednesday, November 19, 2008, from 12:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in room 11 of the State House. A brief outline of the session is on the reverse side of this letter and has been posted on the Legislative Joint Fiscal Office website (www.leg.state.vt.us/jfo/).

Mileage reimbursement will be available for current members. New members will begin the legislative new member orientation immediately following the briefing and receive reimbursement from that program. We believe this will be an exciting opportunity to introduce and discuss the issues, and we encourage you to attend!

¹ 30 V.S.A. § 248(e)(2) No nuclear energy generating plant within this state may be operated beyond the date permitted in any certificate of public good granted pursuant to this title, including any certificate in force as of January 1, 2006, unless the general assembly approves and determines that the operation will promote the general welfare, and until the public service board issues a certificate of public good under this section. If the general assembly has not acted under this subsection by July 1, 2008, the board may commence proceedings under this section and under 10 V.S.A. chapter 157, relating to the storage of radioactive material, but may not issue a final order or certificate of public good until the general assembly determines that operation will promote the general welfare and grants approval for that operation.