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***"Introduction to the GE Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (ESBWR)"***

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GE's ESBWR is poised to meet the re-emerging demand for nuclear energy in the United States. After more than 10 years of design and economic improvement studies, the ESBWR is rapidly moving through the certification process with the US NRC. The ESBWR relies on passive safety systems, natural circulation and the economies of scale to provide a safe and economic plant design for the market. This talk will discuss the ESBWR design, the current certification program and the overall product plan for this new reactor design. The GE ESBWR is the reactor design proposed by Dominion for the COL for the new nuclear unit at the North Anna site.

Mr. Beard has worked in the nuclear industry for 23 years in a variety of positions, 20 of these with GE. Early in his career he was involved in the construction and startup of several GE BWR plants. During this same time he also supported various utilities during refueling and maintenance outages. More recently, he was a key member of GE's ABWR design team during the certification of the ABWR. Currently he is a member of the ESBWR design team and is responsible for the certification efforts of the ESBWR. Mr. Beard is also an active participant in several NEI task forces on new plant licensing issues.