Funding the Zion Station Decommissioning and Site Restoration Project

- The Zion Station decommissioning is a commercial project and not a government funded or public works project.
- The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is the principal Federal governmental regulatory organization that ZionSolutions is accountable to for employee and public health and safety. ZionSolutions holds two 10 CFR 50 reactor licenses for Zion issued by the NRC for the purpose of the Zion Station decommissioning.
- Nuclear Decommissioning Trusts were established and maintained by Exelon in accordance with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and NRC regulations.
- The Trusts were funded by ratepayer contributions over the life of the plant.
- The value of the Trusts has grown as the result of investment returns.
- Ratepayer contributions into the Trusts ceased in 2006.
- ZionSolutions acquired the plant from Exelon on September 1, 2010 (excluding the spent fuel, switchyard, and land).
- ZionSolutions assumed the risk and liability to complete the Zion Station decommissioning for the value of the Trusts that were transferred from Exelon to ZionSolutions on September 1, 2010. Ratepayer responsibility for future decommissioning costs was eliminated.
- ZionSolutions additionally provided a $200 Million Letter of Credit and an easement for disposal of radioactive low-level waste at EnergySolutions’ Clive, Utah disposal facility as additional financial assurances for decommissioning.
- The NRC regulates Nuclear Decommissioning Trusts. In accordance with NRC requirements, the Zion Trusts are held by a third party trustee and managed by independent fund managers in compliance with established investment guidelines.
- ZionSolutions must request disbursements from the Trusts only after work has been accomplished. No funds can be withdrawn in advance of performing work.
- The NRC monitors and regulates withdrawals from the Trusts. ZionSolutions may not withdraw funds for any purpose other than prudent decommissioning costs and may not withdraw funds if such withdrawal results in an insufficient amount remaining in the Trusts to reasonably complete any remaining work. Reports and certifications are provided to the NRC periodically per their guidelines.
- ZionSolutions must maintain adequate financial assurances to cover the cost of decommissioning and must report the adequacy of Trusts to the NRC on an annual basis.
- If there are excess trust funds at the completion of the project, the excess funds are transferred back to Exelon (for distribution to ratepayers) along with the NRC licenses, land, and the spent fuel.

Decommissioning activities would create significant economic benefits for the state and the 7-county region in northeastern Illinois. Over the ten years that the project is estimated to take, direct economic activities would generate approximately $390 million in new economic output, 1,570 man-years of employment, and almost $150 million in employment compensation throughout the Illinois economy.

For more information:

Larry Booth  
Community Outreach Manager  
lwbooth@energysolutions.com  
phone 224-789-4015  
www.zionsolutionscompany.com  
www.energysolutions.com