

STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) ON SAVANNAH RIVER DEVELOPMENT,  
NOVEMBER 25, 1959

On the further development of the Savannah River resources, the evidence which has been presented shows unquestionably that the people will benefit more if the development is accomplished by private enterprise than by spending millions of dollars belonging to the taxpayers.

Private enterprise has indicated its willingness and desire to develop this water resource in a manner which will provide the people of the area with additional employment and at the same time help to carry the local and national tax burden. The steam plant proposed for construction on the Savannah River would produce 25 times as much electric power as the two proposed multi-purpose dams combined. No substantial impoundment of water would accompany private development of the River and industry would not be throttled by the government's 'control of water policy' so that the chances of creating an industrial desert would be averted.

Since no question of flood control has been raised, there is no logical reason for additional government spending for hydro-electric development in preference to that which private enterprise is willing and able to accomplish with more beneficial results.

END