



made significant progress on that front with their entrance into a host community agreement. According to the Linn County Board of Supervisors, the agreement puts “residents and public safety first by ensuring that any project-related financial impacts to the county fall on the nuclear energy company, not taxpayers.”

The agreement also requires NextEra to make fixed annual payments to the county to support expenses incurred in connection with the project. This payment will support everything from infrastructure maintenance and improvement to community outreach programs.

V.C. Summer update: MOU signed with Brookfield

Santee Cooper, South Carolina’s state-owned electric and water utility, has announced that it has signed a memorandum of understanding with Brookfield Asset Management.

The MOU represents the next step in Santee Cooper potentially selling the two partially built AP1000 units at the V.C. Summer nuclear power plant to Brookfield. The two parties can now conduct a feasibility study on completing those units.

As of now, Santee Cooper is set to receive \$2.7 billion in cash should the parties reach a final investment decision and commit to completing the units. The utility would additionally maintain a targeted 25 percent ownership share of the plant—with proportional capacity once the units begin commercial operation.

The details of this deal are not set in stone; according to the utility, ownership benefits “could be adjusted depending on the final cost of completing the units.” Still, Santee Cooper president and CEO Jimmy Staton called it “a strong deal for our customers,” saying that the

cash payment from Brookfield will “significantly reduce the debt our customers have been paying.”

This move, the utility hopes, will create thousands of temporary construction jobs and hundreds of permanent operational jobs, bolster the state’s clean energy portfolio, and capitalize on the country’s current

nuclear momentum.

This MOU sets a deadline of June 26, 2026, for Brookfield to determine initial feasibility. It also establishes a path to final investment decision that is estimated to take 18–24 months.

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