

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Oklo Inc.,	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	Docket No. EL26-101-000
	)	
PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.,	)	
Respondent.	)	

**MOTION FOR LEAVE TO ANSWER AND ANSWER
OF PJM INTERCONNECTION, L.L.C.**

PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. (“PJM”), pursuant to Rules 212 and 213 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“Commission”) Rules of Practice and Procedure,¹ respectfully submits this Motion for Leave to Answer and Answer to the answer filed September 14, 2026, in this proceeding² by Oklo Inc. (“Oklo”).

At bottom, the question before the Commission in this proceeding is whether PJM followed its Tariff in determining that the Application associated with PJM Project Identifier No. C01-1735 (“Oklo Project”) should be rejected. As PJM has made clear, the answer is yes.³ By Oklo’s own admission, the Oklo Project is an “early-stage potential generation project” that “remains under development, and . . . should not be understood as a deployment announcement, final investment decision, *or commitment to a particular generation configuration*.”⁴ Yet despite these public statements to the contrary, Oklo

¹ 18 C.F.R. §§ 385.212, 385.213.

² PJM Interconnection, L.L.C., Motion for Leave to Answer and Answer of Oklo Inc., Docket No. EL26-101-000 (Sep. 14, 2026) (“Oklo Answer”). Capitalized terms not defined herein shall have the meaning set forth in the PJM Open Access Transmission Tariff (“Tariff”).

³ See Answer of PJM Interconnection, L.L.C., Docket No. EL26-101-000 (Sep. 4, 2026) (“Complaint Answer”).

⁴ See *Oklo claims PJM improperly dropped its Virginia project*, NuclearNewswire (Sep. 2, 2026), <https://www.ans.org/news/article-8362/oklo-claims-pjm-improperly-dropped-its-virginia-project/>

continues to claim that it must be reinstated to Cycle 01 as its only recourse to “avoid harm” and “continue development on schedule.”⁵ As explained in the Complaint Answer and emphasized below, requiring PJM to reinstate a properly withdrawn New Service Request at this late stage, particularly given Oklo’s public acknowledgement that the scope of the Oklo Project is not yet finalized, will needlessly delay commencement of Phase I, and every subsequent Phase of Cycle 01 thereafter, and could delay subsequent Cycles as well.⁶

Oklo now claims that it was improperly withdrawn because PJM’s concerns regarding the stability of its dynamic model are “based on a different test” than the tests set forth in PJM’s Dynamic Model Development Guidelines (“DMDG”).⁷ Not only is this contention inaccurate, it ignores the fundamental premise of the DMDG: to ensure the integrity and useability of the study models Project Developers submit and PJM uses to build the overall Cycle study model.⁸

Tellingly, Oklo states that it “agrees that a project must demonstrate stability for all generators *under the tests that apply to that fuel type*.”⁹ This statement is half right. Project Developers must provide a model that demonstrates stability across the *entire*

[<https://perma.cc/YZ66-QUKA>] (quoting Oklo spokesperson regarding the Complaint and the Oklo Project) (attached hereto as Attachment A) (emphasis added). *See also Oklo Inc. v. PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.*, Emergency Complaint of Oklo Inc. Requesting Fast Track Processing and Motion for Shortened Answer Period, Docket No. EL26-101-000 (Aug. 28, 2026) (“Complaint”) (the filing referenced in Attachment A).

⁵ Oklo Answer at 3, 18.

⁶ *See* Complaint Answer at 28-31.

⁷ Oklo Answer at 1, 5-10.

⁸ *See* Complaint Answer at 6-8 (explaining use of dynamic model in performing stability studies).

⁹ Oklo Answer at 9 (emphasis added).

Maximum Facility Output (“MFO”) of their proposed Generating Facilities.¹⁰ PJM requires a stable model for every New Service Request so that it can efficiently build the model of the entire Cycle (i.e., the Base Case model), which is used in the interconnection studies throughout the process. In its cure response to the deficiency notice for the Oklo Project, Oklo provided a model that was not stable for the entire output of the project, i.e., for all the component parts of the project, likely because Oklo deleted modules associated with the synchronous resources from the cure model.¹¹ As a result, PJM could not validate the Oklo Project, and it was withdrawn. The Commission should therefore deny the Complaint.

I. MOTION FOR LEAVE TO ANSWER

While an answer to an answer is not a matter of right under the Commission’s regulations,¹² the Commission routinely permits such answers when the answer provides useful and relevant information that will assist the Commission in its decision-making process,¹³ assures a complete record in the proceeding,¹⁴ and provides information helpful to the disposition of an issue.¹⁵ This answer satisfies these criteria, and PJM therefore respectfully requests that the Commission accept this pleading.

¹⁰ See Complaint Answer at 17-18 (explaining full MFO testing).

¹¹ See Complaint Answer at 12, 17.

¹² 18 C.F.R. § 385.213(a)(2).

¹³ See, e.g., *Pioneer Transmission, LLC v. N. Ind. Pub. Serv. Co.*, 140 FERC ¶ 61,057, at P 94 (2012) (accepting answers that “provided information that assisted [the Commission] in [its] decision-making process”); *Tallgrass Transmission, LLC*, 125 FERC ¶ 61,248, at P 26 (2008) (same); *Midwest Indep. Transmission Sys. Operator, Inc.*, 120 FERC ¶ 61,083, at P 23 (2007) (permitting answers to protests when they provided information that assisted the Commission in its decision-making process).

¹⁴ See, e.g., *Pac. Interstate Transmission Co.*, 85 FERC ¶ 61,378, at 62,443 (1998), *order on reh’g*, 89 FERC ¶ 61,246 (1999); see also *Morgan Stanley Cap. Grp., Inc. v. N.Y. Indep. Sys. Operator, Inc.*, 93 FERC ¶ 61,017, at 61,036 (2000) (accepting an answer that was “helpful in the development of the record . . .”).

¹⁵ See, e.g., *CNG Transmission Corp.*, 89 FERC ¶ 61,100, at 61,287 n.11 (1999).

II. ANSWER

A. *Oklo Mischaracterizes the Fundamental Purpose of Dynamic Modeling.*

Oklo devotes much of its answer to claiming that PJM applied a “surprise test” to the Oklo Project when the DMDG imposes no further study requirements beyond the flat start test in section 7.3 and the voltage ride-through test in section 7.4.¹⁶ The Commission should not be swayed by Oklo’s rhetoric. As PJM has explained, the purpose of dynamic modeling is to use the individual Power System Simulator for Engineering (“PSSE”)¹⁷ models submitted by Project Developers to build a consolidated model of all the projects in a Cycle.¹⁸ PJM can only build such a consolidated model with projects that demonstrate stability across the full MFO. If PJM were to accept dynamic models that are not stable, the resulting Base Case model would not be stable and could not be used for the interconnection studies PJM performs throughout the Cycle process.¹⁹ Oklo’s contention that stability can be evaluated piecemeal and at various stages of the process is at odds with this fundamental premise and should be rejected.

Nor should the Commission give credence to Oklo’s claim that because the DMDG specifies three stability tests, no additional testing should be expected.²⁰ The DMDG “provides a guideline to develop the dynamic model representation” and is clear

¹⁶ Oklo Answer at 6-9.

¹⁷ PSSE is an engineering software package produced by Siemens. PJM uses this software to perform transient stability analysis. The DMDG states that “dynamic models and files provided must be compatible” with the PSSE software version being used for the applicable Cycle.

¹⁸ Complaint Answer at 15.

¹⁹ *Id.* at 15-16.

²⁰ Oklo Answer at 8.

that it “may not cover every specific scenario.”²¹ As noted in the Complaint Answer, PJM performs an industry-standard five-cycle, three-phase fault disturbance test on all projects (including Oklo’s other New Service Requests for which PJM was able to validate the Cycle 01 Applications and their models) to ensure that the model is workable to be included in the overall Cycle model used for the interconnection studies.²² As reflected PJM Manual 14B, which governs stability procedures for New Service Requests, this universally accepted analysis “is performed at the maximum MW output specified for the project.”²³ As a sophisticated commercial entity, Oklo surely understands that evaluating the stability of a Generating Facility dynamic model means evaluating stability across the entire output of that Generating Facility, as occurred for its other Cycle 01 Applications. Oklo’s allegations of a “new test” therefore ring false.

One area where PJM and Oklo agree is that Oklo’s model was stable at the time it submitted its initial Application.²⁴ In its attempt to resolve the DSTATE²⁵ issues identified in the deficiency notice, however, Oklo turned offline from the model all the generating units other than the inverter-based units. In reviewing Oklo’s deficiency

²¹ Interconnection Analysis and Interconnection Planning Analysis Departments, *PJM Dynamic Model Development Guidelines for Interconnection Analysis*, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C., section 2.0 (rev. 2.1, Mar. 10, 2026), <https://www.pjm.com/-/media/DotCom/planning/services-requests/pjm-dynamic-model-development-guidelines.ashx> [<https://perma.cc/96Z3-EGPN>].

²² Complaint Answer at 11. *See also Multiregional Modeling Working Group, Procedural Manual*, Eastern Interconnection Reliability Assessment Group, section 8.6, (ver. 44, July 16, 2026) https://www.rfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/MMWG_Procedural_Manual_v44.pdf [<https://perma.cc/2362-YEPH>] (describing the five-cycle, three-phase fault test as part of dynamics case acceptance criteria).

²³ Transmission Planning Department, *PJM Manual 14B: PJM Region Transmission Planning Process*, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C., Attachment G, section G.3.2 (rev. 59, Apr. 22, 2026) <https://www.pjm.com/-/media/DotCom/documents/manuals/m14b.pdf> [<https://perma.cc/Z85W-YY3K>].

²⁴ *See* Oklo Answer at 5, 10.

²⁵ DSTATes are dynamic hidden internal values (such as exciter states, generator rotor angles, etc.) that are not measured directly in a standard power flow.

response, PJM concluded that when the remaining units were turned online (as necessary to evaluate stability across the entire output) and the “disturbance” test was performed, the model became unstable.²⁶ This result stems not from PJM’s failure to correctly apply the DMDG to the Oklo Project or from the application of any “new test,” but from Oklo’s apparent decision not to check that its cure package model was stable across the entire MFO before submitting its cure package. The fact that Oklo’s original model—as well as the four other projects Oklo submitted that PJM validated in Cycle 01—satisfied the five-cycle, three-phase fault disturbance test strongly indicates that this test was not a “shadowy,” unknown criteria.²⁷ Other Project Developers in Cycle 01 should not be penalized for Oklo’s lack of due diligence.

B. Oklo’s Remaining Arguments Should Be Rejected.

In addition to mischaracterizing the DMDG’s stability requirements, the Oklo Answer includes a number of additional claims, all of which should be summarily rejected as they fail to meet Oklo’s burden under section 206 of the Federal Power Act.²⁸

- First, as referenced above, Oklo’s public statements about the Oklo Project conflict with its claims of urgency. Oklo has presented no evidence demonstrating that inclusion in Cycle 01 is critical. Oklo has referred to the Oklo Project as “an *early-stage potential* generation project in Virginia” that “remains under development,” and the Complaint “should not be understood as a . . . commitment to a particular generation configuration.”²⁹ Despite Oklo’s lack of commitment to the Oklo Project

²⁶ Complaint Answer at 12.

²⁷ Oklo Answer at 2.

²⁸ 16 U.S.C. § 824e(b).

²⁹ See *Oklo claims PJM improperly dropped its Virginia project*, NuclearNewswire (Sep. 2, 2026), <https://www.ans.org/news/article-8362/oklo-claims-pjm-improperly-dropped-its-virginia-project/>

- as proposed in its Application, Oklo claims that its Complaint is an effort to “preserve the project’s place in the PJM’s interconnection study process following its removal from Cycle 01.”³⁰ These public statements as to the Oklo Project being still so early in its development that it does not even have a particular configuration (something that is required in an Application)³¹ undercut completely Oklo’s claims of urgency and a dire need to be reinserted in Cycle 01. PJM thoroughly explained why reinserting Oklo into Cycle 01 would cause cascading delays both to Cycle 01 and subsequent Cycles.³² Oklo’s unsupported statement that it “has prepared additional models to demonstrate stability under various tests PJM might apply”³³ does little to counter the fact that Cycle 01 would have to be brought to a halt for more than 700 projects under development to accommodate review and reinsertion of the Oklo Project.³⁴ Nor is reinsertion into Cycle 01 Oklo’s only recourse. Oklo can resubmit its New Service Request in Cycle 02 or in the Expedited Interconnection Track.³⁵
- Second, Oklo’s interpretation of Tariff, Part VIII, Subpart, B, section 403(B) is incorrect.³⁶ The “Reasonable Efforts” requirement is not for PJM to “identify cures

[<https://perma.cc/YZ66-QUKA>] (quoting Oklo spokesperson regarding the Complaint and the Oklo Project) (emphasis added).

³⁰ *Id.*

³¹ See Tariff, Part VIII, Subpart B, 403(A)(1)(m) (requiring a multi-fuel Generating Facility to provide a detailed description of its equipment configuration); see also Tariff, Part IX, Subpart A, Form of Application and Studies Agreement, section 13(g) (requiring same). Oklo provided a proposed configuration for the Oklo Project as part of its Application, which PJM would have relied upon for model building and subsequent interconnection studies, including the upcoming Phase I System Impact Study.

³² Complaint Answer at 28-31.

³³ Oklo Answer at 16.

³⁴ Complaint Answer at 29-30.

³⁵ *Id.* at 30.

³⁶ Oklo Answer at 12-13.

outside of the 15 Business-Day review window.”³⁷ Rather, PJM is required to use Reasonable Efforts to review a deficiency response, and validate or reject based solely on that review.³⁸ The deficiency review process is not iterative—there is no second opportunity to cure.³⁹ This was an explicit design feature to avoid all Project Developers getting held up from timely consideration of their applications due to one Project Developer obtaining multiple opportunities to correct their identified deficiencies. Oklo’s expansive read of Section 403(B) is at odds with the plain meaning of the Tariff and should be rejected.

- Third, because Oklo’s deficiency response period closed on June 1, 2026, the June 24, 2026 comments posted in NextGen were advisory regarding the status of Oklo’s deficiency response.⁴⁰ The comments do not, as Oklo alleges, constitute “formal deficiencies.”⁴¹ NextGen is PJM’s online platform through which Project Developers submit and manage Applications and supporting information, receive PJM comments, respond to identified deficiencies, and monitor Application status. Once an Application is placed in “Data Deficient” status, NextGen identifies the deficient sections and data fields and makes the associated PJM comments available to the Project Developer. As such, NextGen serves as a log to reflect comments by PJM

³⁷ *Id.* at 13.

³⁸ Tariff, Part VIII, Subpart B, section 403(B)(1)(c).

³⁹ See Complaint Answer at 18 (citing IPRTF Filing at 45 n.143 (describing the deficiency review process pursuant to Tariff, Part VIII, Subpart B, section 403(B)(1) as “PJM is to use Reasonable Efforts to inform the Applicant of any Application deficiencies within 15 Business Days after the Application Deadline, with the Applicant then having 10 Business Days to respond and correct the deficiency. PJM is then to use Reasonable Efforts to review Applicant’s response within 15 Business Days, and then will either validate or reject the Application”)).

⁴⁰ See Complaint Answer at 25.

⁴¹ Oklo Answer at 3.

engineers as they evaluate materials in real time. For projects that remain in “Data Deficient” status after a deficiency review is completed, it is a helpful advisory tool for Project Developers seeking to resubmit Applications in subsequent Cycles. As PJM has explained, the purpose of the single deficiency review is to validate Applications and their dynamic models so that PJM can process Applications and build the Base Case model over a compressed timeframe.⁴² The Application stage of Cycle 01 included more than 800 projects,⁴³ and PJM could not reasonably engage in iterative discussions with every one of those Project Developers regarding every comment posted to NextGen. All comments posted to NextGen following the deficiency review and cure period are intended only to help Project Developers improve future Applications. Oklo cannot use those post-deficiency NextGen comments to claim a second round of deficiency review and cure period should have been provided.

- Finally, in the interest of efficiency and to prevent undue discrimination, PJM issued withdrawal notices for all Project Developers at the same time on August 3, 2026.⁴⁴

⁴² Interconnection Projects Department, *PJM Manual 14H: New Service Requests Cycle Process*, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C., section 2.9 (Aug. 19, 2026), <https://www.pjm.com/-/media/DotCom/documents/manuals/m14h.pdf> [<https://perma.cc/P92Y-JGP8>] (“During the Application Review Phase, and at least 30 days prior to initiating Phase I of the Cycle, PJM will post the Phase I base case data for review. Specifically, the PSSE summer peak base case model for the Cycle will be available to comply with Tariff, Part VII, Subpart E, section 318 or Tariff, Part VIII, Subpart E, section 416.”). Phase I will begin on September 28, 2026. See *Cycle Timeline*, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C., <https://www.pjm.com/planning> [<https://perma.cc/ELR3-HWF3>] (Scroll to Cycle Timeline chart at bottom of website page, select Cycle 1 in the “Select Cycle” window) (last visited Sep. 3, 2026).

⁴³ See *Over 700 New Generation Projects Accepted Into First Cycle of Reformed Interconnection Process More Than 200 GW in Planned Resources Move Forward To Address Growing Electricity Demand*, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. (Aug. 3, 2026), <https://www.pjm.com/-/media/DotCom/about-pjm/newsroom/2026-releases/20260803-over-700-new-generation-projects-accepted-into-first-cycle-of-reformed-interconnection-process.pdf> [<https://perma.cc/9K3B-YCL6>].

⁴⁴ See, e.g., Complaint at Attachment J (Email from nextgen-donotreply@pjm.com to mike@oklo.com, et al. regarding NextGen - C01-1735 has been withdrawn (Aug. 3, 2026, at 6:18 AM)) (noting NextGen conclusions in withdrawal notice).

Oklo’s claim that PJM “failed to timely communicate its withdrawal decision”⁴⁵ is without merit. The Tariff requires PJM to validate or reject an Application;⁴⁶ it does not require that PJM provide withdrawal notices on a rolling basis, nor would doing so further the goal of maximizing efficiency in the Cycle process. Releasing all withdrawal notices at the same time allowed PJM to ensure that it had fairly evaluated all Applications in a consistent manner. Moreover, once a withdrawal notice is recorded in NextGen, it automatically becomes available to the Project Developer. Releasing withdrawals on a rolling basis would inevitably trigger immediate disputes—as this proceeding demonstrates—requiring substantial PJM time and resources that would otherwise be devoted to completing the remaining Application reviews. Releasing all withdrawal notices on the same day was therefore necessary to prevent delay and ensure nondiscriminatory treatment of all Cycle 01 Project Developers.

⁴⁵ Oklo Answer at 15.

⁴⁶ Tariff, Part VIII, Subpart B, section 403(B)(1)(c).

III. CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, the Commission should deny the Complaint.

Respectfully submitted,

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September 18, 2026

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon each person designated on the official service list compiled by the Secretary in this proceeding.

Dated at Washington, D.C., this 18th day of September 2026.

/s/ Elizabeth P. Trinkle
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***Attorney for PJM Interconnection,
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Attachment A

NuclearNewswire Article Titled

“Oklo claims PJM improperly dropped its Virginia project”

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NEW REACTORS

Oklo claims PJM improperly dropped its Virginia project

Wed, Sep 2, 2026, 4:28PM | Nuclear News



A rendering of Oklo's Aurora powerhouse design. (Image: Oklo)

Last Friday, Oklo [filed an emergency request](#) with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission claiming that one of its potential generation projects has been “unjustifiably withdrawn” from the PJM Interconnection queue. Through that request, Oklo has asked FERC to direct PJM to reinstate its application with its original queue position.

In an interesting twist, the project at issue in this interconnection dispute was, until now, unknown to the public.

The background: While many of the project-specific details in the public-facing version of Oklo's FERC request are redacted, a handful of particulars are still available. For one, the request includes "150 MW of advanced nuclear generation, 300 MW of fuel cell generation, and 300 MW of natural gas generation."

While Oklo is pursuing three divergent reactor designs, language in the complaint implies that its flagship reactor (the Aurora powerhouse) is the design it plans to deploy in this project. The Aurora, a liquid metal-cooled, metal-fueled fast reactor, has been through several design iterations throughout its lifetime. It was originally envisioned as a 1.5-MWe reactor, and it is currently described as "scalable up to 75 MWe" by the company. If the deployed reactors are scaled to their maximum capacity, this project would entail two Aurora powerhouses.

Oklo [broke ground](#) on its first Aurora powerhouse, sited at Idaho National Laboratory, in September 2025. Its preliminary design safety agreement for the project was approved by the Department of Energy in [June 2026](#). That achievement was the third of five total milestones on the pathway to earning DOE authorization (as part of the [Reactor Pilot Program](#)) for the project. Last month, Oklo [achieved criticality](#) with a different reactor, named Groves, in Texas—also through DOE authorization.

The story is no less complicated with regard to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. More than a decade ago, Oklo entered into preapplication activities with the NRC for its 1.5-MWe version of Aurora. The license application for that project ultimately was [denied without prejudice by the NRC](#) in 2022.

Now, Oklo is in preapplication activities with the NRC once again—this time with a different design and with a DOE authorization likely soon in hand. The method by which these DOE activities will be leveraged by the NRC is a topic that is actively developing; the NRC is currently in progress on [an audit](#) of Oklo's work with the DOE on Aurora.

The Virginia project: Other than its generation makeup, Oklo's FERC complaint also refers to two points of interconnection: the Possum Point and Ladysmith substations, both of which are just north of Richmond, Va. Before now, there had been no public discussion of a potential Oklo project in the state.

When asked for clarification, Bonita Chester, Oklo's head of media and communications, confirmed to *Nuclear News* that "The complaint relates to an early-stage potential generation project in Virginia." She also emphasized that "The potential project remains under

development, and the filing should not be understood as a deployment announcement, final investment decision, or commitment to a particular generation configuration.”

The disagreement: Chester explained that, through its complaint to FERC, “Oklo is seeking to preserve the project’s place in the PJM’s interconnection study process following its removal from Cycle 01.”

The complaint itself provides more detail. According to Oklo, PJM’s decision to withdraw the Virginia project from its queue “reflects a misapplication of its own guidelines to this unique multi-technology facility and, even assuming *arguendo* that PJM properly applied its guidelines, the alleged deficiencies are technicalities that Oklo could have easily and rapidly cured if it had received proper notice.”

As for the actual source of the disagreement, the complaint chronicles a communication breakdown, in which meeting requests and status confirmation emails from Oklo purportedly went unanswered by PJM. “After six weeks of silence,” the complaint states, “PJM issued a withdrawal notice” that, from Oklo’s perspective, was more or less out of the blue. The company had not received notice that the project was at risk of withdrawal and had “cured every deficiency for which PJM issued a deficiency notice,” according to the complaint.

According to the complaint, the project’s mix of synchronous units of different fuel types (gas and nuclear) and inverter-based units (fuel cells) poses additional complexity from an interconnection perspective not only because synchronous and inverter technologies require different infrastructure, but also “because the existing rules were not designed with the project’s unique fuel mix in mind.”

Interconnection woes: The big-picture goal of getting electrons on the grid is a common refrain in the nuclear industry. That phrase serves as something of a reminder that the job is not just generating electrons; it is also no small task to get that power distributed.

Earlier this year, Constellation had to get FERC involved through a waiver request to speed up its connection of Crane to the PJM grid. That waiver request was [ultimately approved](#), but if it had not been, Constellation warned that the restarted plant would have sat dormant, ready to generate, for up to three years.

In April of this year, PJM [closed](#) its first full interconnection cycle since 2022. This cycle (which Oklo is now seeking to be added back to) was the first opportunity in four years for generation projects to submit an application to PJM. In those years of submission hiatus, PJM was dealing with its backlog of projects and revamping its application process.

Whether FERC will once again decide in favor of a nuclear industry complainant is yet to be seen. For its part, Chester said that Oklo “will share additional details if and when the [Virginia] project reaches the appropriation stage.”

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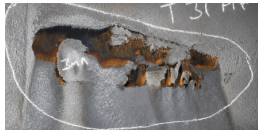
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