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To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, January 26, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: Gov. Haley asks SC prosecutor to sue feds over MOX project

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=QoSOWBkQ

Meg Kinnard

Gov. Nikki Haley is seeking to sue the U.S. Department of Energy for the agency's failure to meet a Jan. 1 nuclear fuel deadline. In a letter obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press, Haley told state Attorney General Alan Wilson to proceed with legal action against the agency to collect a \$1 million daily fine.

Note: Haley warned Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz in December the state would be forced to sue if his agency didn't start making payments.

WLTX: Last Building Sold to Bull Street Development

<http://www.wltx.com/story/news/local/2016/01/26/last-building-sold-bull-street-development/79349556/>

Joyce Koh

The state fiscal accountability authority, headed by Governor Nikki Haley, approved the sale of a dilapidated department of mental health building off of Bull Street Tuesday morning. The Bull Street development agreed to purchase the 16 acre parcel of the William Hall Psychiatric institute at more than 200 thousand per acre.

Note: "You're going to start to see us get read of land, those buildings, because it's better in the private sector," Haley said. "It can make more money in the private sector. we can have more amenities that come to the areas when we do things like this. Government doesn't need to be in the property business."

Associated Press: South Carolina Senate takes up road money proposals again

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=36RzAy8N

Jeffrey Collins

South Carolina senators planned to show this week they are serious about passing a bill to get more money to the state's roads and bridges. A flurry of committee meetings and floor work began Tuesday with a subcommittee trying to approve a bill to change the board that runs the South Carolina Department of Transportation.

Note: Peeler, Gov. Nikki Haley and other Republicans said a road bill must change the DOT's board and have a comparable tax cut if gas taxes are raised.

Textile World: 3i Products Establishing Lancaster County Operations

<http://www.textileworld.com/textile-world/2016/01/3i-products-establishing-lancaster-county-operations/>

3i Products Inc., a company that specializes in the manufacturing and distribution of indoor and outdoor cushions and pillows, is establishing operations in Lancaster County. The \$3 million investment is expected to create 100 new jobs in Lancaster, S.C. over the next five years.

Note: "Each time a company decides to move here, it reaffirms the fact that Team South Carolina's approach to attracting businesses and building a world-class workforce is working. We're excited to welcome 3i Products to the South Carolina family and to celebrate the 100 new jobs this investment will bring to Lancaster County." –Gov. Nikki Haley

S.C. General Assembly News:

Associated Press: House measure aims to limit ceremony, keep chamber on task

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=CH5MRg4B

Seanna Adcox

Some South Carolina House members say they're spending too much time introducing school groups, beauty pageant winners and other constituents who drop by the Statehouse, and they want to increase their

productivity by limiting those formalities. A proposal advanced to the House floor Tuesday would create a 15-minute time slot on the calendar for "special introductions," with each limited to 90 seconds.

Associated Press: Senators advance bill protecting people who film officers

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=aZlkgnTO

Seanna Adcox

A bill specifying that people have the right to film or photograph officers without threat of arrest has advanced in the South Carolina Senate. The measure approved Tuesday by the Judiciary Committee follows the death last April of an unarmed black motorist in North Charleston. The officer was quickly charged with murder after a bystander's video showing him repeatedly shooting Walter Scott in the back.

Post and Courier: Upstate lawmaker defends journalist registry bill

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160126/PC1603/160129537>

Cynthia Roldan

The Upstate lawmaker who introduced a bill calling for a registry of journalists said he was aiming to "educate the populace" of slanted and biased reports in the media. Laurens Republican Rep. Mike Pitts held a press conference Tuesday, a week after his introduction of the "South Carolina Responsible Journalism Registry Law" went viral.

S.C. Political News:

Greenville News: Johnny Edwards to run against Sen. Mike Fair

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/01/26/johnny-edwards-run-against-sen-mike-fair/79338216/>

Tim Smith

Johnny Edwards, a Greenville businessman who once chaired the state's highway commission, says the state can improve its existing roads and bridges with the money it has and lawmakers do not need to raise the state's gas tax or borrow money through bonds.

Aiken Standard: Aiken GOP to host Republican presidential forum days before South Carolina primary

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160126/AIK0101/160129601>

Maayan Schechter

The Aiken GOP will host a Republican presidential forum ahead of the South Carolina Republican primary in February. The 2016 Last Word in the South Presidential Forum will be held Tuesday, Feb. 16, four days before the primary, at the USC Aiken Convocation Center, 375 Robert M. Bell Parkway. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Fed: S.C.'s job growth rate in 2015 will be hard to top

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160126/PC05/160129542>

Warren L. Wise

South Carolina's 14-year-low jobless rate may have hit the bottom. The unemployment level remained unchanged at 5.5 percent in December as the state churned out more than 10,000 new jobs, according to the Department of Employment and Workforce.

Associated Press: SC unemployment rate stayed at 5.5 percent during December

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=wFznRy0h

South Carolina's unemployment rate stayed right where it was last month to end 2015. The state Department of Employment and Workforce said Tuesday that South Carolina's jobless rate was 5.5 percent in December, the same as November. While unemployment was unchanged, the number of people working in the state went up by more than 10,000 in December.

Associated Press: SC flood victims getting an additional \$10M in aid

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6QMtzBn7

South Carolinians who were originally refused help following last October's historic floods will be getting about \$10 million in aid. The State of Columbia reports that the money became available (<http://bit.ly/1SIdaPb>) through a program in which Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster applications were reviewed a second time.

Local News:

Greenville News: Upstate Forever weighs in on proposed coal ash landfill; Pickens County prepares for legal fight

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/01/26/upstate-forever-weighs-proposed-coal-ash-landfill-pickens-county-prepares-legal-fight/79361598/>

Ron Barnett

The conservation group Upstate Forever has joined the fight to keep a company from opening a coal ash landfill in Pickens County, even as the County Council voted to hire an attorney with environmental expertise to try to shut down the plan.

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