

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23261

May 21, 2001

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Serial No. 01-294  
NL&OS/ETS R0  
Docket Nos. 50-338  
50-339  
License Nos. NPF-4  
NPF-7

Gentlemen:

**VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY**  
**NORTH ANNA POWER STATION UNITS 1 AND 2**  
**IMPLEMENTATION OF PROPOSED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION CHANGES**  
**INCREASED FUEL ENRICHMENT AND**  
**SPENT FUEL POOL SOLUBLE BORON AND FUEL BURNUP CREDIT**

In a September 27, 2000 letter (Serial No. 00-491), Virginia Electric and Power Company (Dominion) requested amendments, in the form of changes to the Technical Specifications to Facility Operating Licenses Numbers NPF-4 and NPF-7 for North Anna Power Station Units 1 and 2, respectively. The proposed changes will 1) increase the fuel enrichment limit to 4.6 weight percent Uranium<sup>235</sup>, 2) establish Technical Specifications Limiting Conditions for Operations for Spent Fuel Pool (SFP) boron concentration and fuel storage restrictions, and 3) eliminate the value for the allowance for uncertainties in the calculation for Keff in the SFP criticality calculation. During an April 23, 2001 telephone conference call, the NRC requested additional information regarding control of spent fuel pool decay heat loads with the increased fuel enrichment. Dominion performs a decay heat load analysis as part of each reload to ensure that the decay heat load is bounded by Section 9.1 of the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR). If the decay heat load is not bounded by the existing Section 9.1, a safety evaluation will be performed and Section 9.1 of the UFSAR is updated as necessary.

In addition, due to the extensive fuel shuffle required to implement the spent fuel storage restrictions for the increased fuel enrichment, a ninety-day implementation period was requested in the initial submittal. Since that time, North Anna experienced a fuel handling issue with spent fuel that will delay our ability to implement the spent fuel pool storage restrictions created by the proposed Technical Specification changes. Therefore, in order to permit adequate time to obtain new fuel handling tools and shuffle the spent fuel pool in an orderly fashion, we request that the implementation date for the proposed Technical Specifications be extended to December 31, 2001, to permit a phased implementation of the Technical Specification changes. This will permit receipt

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and storage of fuel at the higher enrichment in new fuel storage locations prior to completion of the spent fuel moves to meet the spent fuel pool storage restrictions.

If you have any further questions or require additional information, please contact us.

Very truly yours,



Leslie N. Hartz  
Vice President - Nuclear Engineering and Services

Commitments made in this letter:

1. None

cc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II  
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Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Mr. M. J. Morgan  
NRC Senior Resident Inspector  
North Anna Power Station

Commissioner  
Bureau of Radiological Health  
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Old Dominion Electric Cooperative  
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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA    )  
  )  
COUNTY OF HENRICO            )

The foregoing document was acknowledged before me, in and for the County and Commonwealth aforesaid, today by Leslie N. Hartz, who is Vice President - Nuclear Engineering & Services, of Virginia Electric and Power Company. She has affirmed before me that she is duly authorized to execute and file the foregoing document in behalf of that Company, and that the statements in the document are true to the best of her knowledge and belief.

Acknowledged before me this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2001.

My Commission Expires: May 31, 2002.

Vicki L. Hull  
Notary Public

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