

June 20, 1990

Docket No. 50-280

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Mr. W. L. Stewart
Senior Vice President - Nuclear
Virginia Electric and Power Company
5000 Dominion Blvd.
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060

Dear Mr. Stewart:

SUBJECT: SURRY UNIT 1 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO
SIGNIFICANT IMPACT RELATING TO EXEMPTION FROM REQUIREMENTS
OF APPENDIX J, 10 CFR PART 50 (TAC NO. 75765)

Enclosed is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No
Significant Impact" for your information. This assessment relates to your
application dated January 8, 1990, as clarified March 20 and April 20,
1990, regarding your request for exemption from the requirements of Section
III.D.3 of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 for Surry Unit 1.

This assessment is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for
publication.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Bart C. Buckley, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects-I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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Surry Power Station

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONVIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANYDOCKET NO. 50-280ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ANDFINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering the issuance of an exemption from the requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 to Virginia Electric and Power Company (the licensee) for the Surry Power Station, Unit No. 1, located in Surry County, Virginia.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption would grant a one-time relief from the scheduler requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, paragraph III.D.3 to perform a Type C test within a 2-year interval. In addition, related changes to the Technical Specifications would be made. The requested exemption would allow the licensee to defer the Type C testing until the next refueling outage scheduled for early October 1990, but no later than December 31, 1990.

The licensee's request for exemption and bases therefore are contained in a letter dated January 8, 1990, as clarified on March 20 and April 20, 1990.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption would allow a one-time relief from performing a Type C test currently required to be performed no later than June 23, 1990, and enable Surry Unit 1 to continue normal plant operation and therefore prevent the premature shutdown of the Surry Power Station, Unit 1.

The purpose of the Type C testing is to measure and ensure that the leakage through the primary reactor containment does not exceed the maximum allowable leakage rate. It also provides assurance that periodic surveillance, maintenance and repairs are made to systems or components penetrating the containment. During the last two Type C tests, the licensee took corrective actions for valve repair and valve replacement to reduce valve leakage. In addition, the licensee has provided projected valve leakage estimates which the NRC has reviewed. The staff finds that the methodology used for estimating the leakage for the extended period is acceptable.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption would allow a one-time relief from the schedular requirements to perform a Type C test within a 2-year period. The licensee has taken corrective action to repair valves and replaced certain valves during the last two Type C tests to minimize valve leakage. The proposed exemption will not negatively impact containment integrity and will not significantly change the risk from facility accidents. Therefore, post-accident radiological releases will not be significantly greater than previously determined, nor does the proposed exemption otherwise affect radiological plant effluents, or result in any significant occupational exposure. Likewise, the proposed exemption would not affect nonradiological plant effluents and would have no other environmental impacts. Therefore, the staff concludes that there are no significant radiological or nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Because it has been concluded that there are no measurable impacts associated with the proposed exemption, any alternative to the exemption will have either no environmental impacts or greater environmental impacts.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. Such action would not reduce environmental impacts of the Surry Unit 1 operations and would result in reduced operational flexibility.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Surry Power Station, Unit 1.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The staff has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

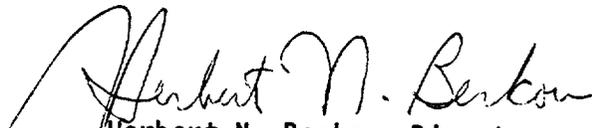
Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for exemption from 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, dated January 8, 1990, as clarified on March 20 and April 20, 1990, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W.,

Washington, D.C., and at the Swem Library, College of William and Mary,
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 20th day of June 1990.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Herbert N. Berkow". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects-I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation