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(60 FR 24803)

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VIRGINIA POWER

June 8, 1995

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Serial No. GL 95-020
NL&P/EJW

Dear Sir:

**CHANGES TO NUCLEAR POWER PLANT SECURITY REQUIREMENTS
ASSOCIATED WITH CONTAINMENT ACCESS CONTROL**

Virginia Electric and Power Company (Virginia Power) has reviewed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's proposed rule in the Federal Register (60 FR 24803) entitled "Changes to Nuclear Power Plant Security Requirements Associated with Containment Access Control," dated May 10, 1995. The proposed rule requested that comments be provided by June 9, 1995.

Virginia Power encourages and strongly supports the NRC's efforts to reduce regulatory burdens for licensees without degrading physical security programs. Elimination of 10 CFR 73.55(d)(8) is appropriate for two reasons. First, the requirement for locks and alarms is redundant with the provisions of 10 CFR 73.55(c) for vital areas. Second, eliminating the requirement for controlling access to containment using security personnel during periods of high traffic is appropriate since material access into the protected area would continue to be controlled. Existing NRC requirements for walkdown inspections and security searches will continue to provide an adequate level of physical protection for vital equipment located within the containment. Additionally, we support the proposed rule change because it would allow more efficient use of Company resources without adversely affecting the public's health and safety.

Additionally, we fully endorse the comments submitted separately to the NRC by the Nuclear Energy Institute. Should you have any questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,

M. L. Bowling, Manager
Nuclear Licensing and Programs

Acknowledged by card.....
JUN 20 1995
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cc: Thomas E. Tipton, Vice President
Operations & Engineering
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