

November 10, 1988

Docket No. 50-281

Mr. W. R. Cartwright
Vice President - Nuclear
Virginia Electric and Power Company
5000 Dominion Blvd.
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060

Dear Mr. Cartwright:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT
IMPACT RELATING TO EXEMPTION FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF APPENDIX J,
10 CFR PART 50 - SURRY POWER STATION, UNIT 2 (TAC NO. 69222)

Enclosed is a copy of a "Notice of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No
Significant Impact" for your information. This notice relates to your applica-
tion dated August 12, 1988, as supplemented August 15 and 31, 1988, regarding
your request for exemption from the requirements of Section III.A.6(b) of
Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 for Surry Unit 2. In addition, you had previously
provided information on this subject by letter dated February 29, 1988.

The notice is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for
publication.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Chandu P. Patel, 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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Les
with dms
Patel

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C/P
cc

Mr. W. R. Cartwright
Virginia Electric and Power Company

Surry Power Station

cc:

Mr. Michael W. Maupin
Hunton and Williams
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Resident Inspector
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Surry, Virginia 23883

Mr. Sherlock Holmes, Chairman
Board of Supervisors of Surry County
Surry County Courthouse
Surry, Virginia 23683

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Virginia Corporation Commission
Division of Energy Regulation
Post Office Box 1197
Richmond, Virginia 23209

Regional Administrator, Region II
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
101 Marietta Street N.W., Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

C. M. G. Buttery, M.D., M.P.H.
Department of Health
109 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONVIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANYDOCKET NO. 50-281ENVIRONMENTAL 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. 2, located in Surry County, Virginia.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption would grant a one-time relief from the schedular requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, paragraph III.A.6(b) to perform a Type A test every outage until two consecutive tests meet the acceptance criteria. The requested exemption would allow the licensee to resume their normal retest schedule in accordance with paragraph III.D. of Appendix J.

The licensee's request for exemption and bases therefore are contained in a letter dated August 12, 1988, as supplemented on August 15 and 31, 1988. The licensee had previously submitted information on this subject by letter dated February 29, 1988.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption would allow a one-time relief from performing a Type A test for the current refueling outage and enable Surry Unit 2 to resume the normal retest schedule specified in Section III.D. of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, and therefore prevent unnecessary pressurization of the containment to design pressure basis.

The purpose of the Type A 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. The last three Type A tests that the licensee performed have demonstrated that containment integrity has not significantly degraded over the operating cycle. In addition, the licensee has replaced containment sump isolation valves which were major contributors to containment leakage problems, and resolved the staff's concern about leakage from water-filled containment penetrations which are expected to operate during post-accident conditions. Therefore, the licensee has requested a one-time exemption from the schedular requirements of paragraph III.A.6(b) of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption would allow a one-time relief from the schedular requirements to perform a Type A test every outage until two consecutive tests meet the acceptance criteria. The licensee's last three Type A tests have demonstrated that there has been no significant degradation of containment integrity over the operating cycle. 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 Commission 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 2 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 2.

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

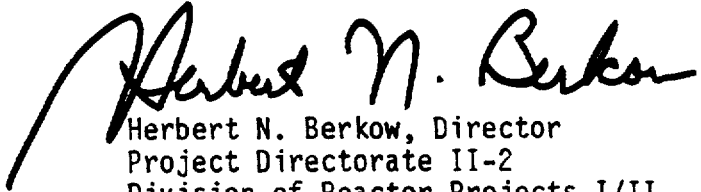
Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for exemption from 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, dated August 12, 1988, as supplemented on August 15 and 31, 1988, and previous information submitted by letter dated February 29, 1988, 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 10th day of November, 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Herbert N. Berkow". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "H".

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