

March 22, 1988

Docket Nos. 50-338
and 50-339

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Mr. W. L. Stewart
Vice President - Nuclear Operations
Virginia Electric and Power Company
Post Office Box 26666
Richmond, Virginia 23261

Dear Mr. Stewart:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT
IMPACT RELATING TO EXEMPTION FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR 50.47
AND APPENDIX E - NORTH ANNA POWER STATION UNITS NO. 1 AND 2 (NA-1&2)
(TAC NOS. 66647 AND 66648)

Enclosed is a copy of a "Notice of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" for your information. This notice relates to your application dated October 9, 1987, regarding your request for an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.47 and Appendix E. Information to support this request was previously provided by you by letters dated August 3, 1987 and September 11, 1987.

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

Sincerely,

/s/

Leon B. Engle, Project Manager
Project Directorate II?
Division of Reactor Projects-I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

LAI PDR I-2
D. Miller
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Mr. W. L. Stewart
Virginia Electric & Power Company

North Anna Power Station
Units 1 and 2

cc:

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County Administrator
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P.O. Box 160
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Senior Resident Inspector
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Mineral, Virginia 23117

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY AND
OLD DOMINION ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
NORTH ANNA POWER STATION, UNITS NOS. 1 AND 2
DOCKET NOS. 50-338 AND 50-339
NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.47 and Appendix E to Virginia Electric and Power Company and Old Dominion Electric Cooperative (the licensee), for the North Anna Power Station, Units 1 and 2 (NA-1&2), located in Louisa County, Virginia.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

Identification of Proposed Action:

By letter dated October 9, 1987, the licensee requested an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.47 and Appendix E to conduct an annual exercise of the North Anna Emergency Plan in 1987. The licensee had planned to conduct an exercise of its emergency plan on August 4, 1987 with the partial participation of State and local emergency response organizations. The scheduled exercise was an annual licensee off-year exercise and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was not scheduled to observe the exercise. The previous emergency preparedness exercise at the North Anna Power Station, conducted on June 18, 1986, was a full participation biennial exercise. The licensee requests that an exemption be granted because the requirement to perform an exercise of the North Anna Emergency Plan in 1987 is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the emergency planning rule in that the emergency plan was adequately

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exercised and demonstrated in 1987 in the licensee's response to the Unit 1 steam generator tube rupture (SGTR) event that occurred on July 15, 1987. The schedule for future exercises will not be affected by this one-time exemption.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption is needed to avoid the duplication of conducting another exercise, and to avoid the unnecessary use of Company, State and local resources, that would only confirm the adequacy of the plan, as well as the Company's capability to implement the plan. These capabilities were demonstrated during the July 15, 1987 SGTR event.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

A 1987 annual emergency plan exercise would not be conducted for the North Anna Power Station if the requested exemption is granted by the NRC. Whether or not an exercise is conducted, the environment is not impacted since neither case involves the release of radioactive or nonradioactive effluents. Furthermore, the NRC had determined that an environmental impact statement for 10 CFR 50.47, "Emergency Plans," and 10 CFR 50 Appendix E, "Emergency Planning and Preparedness for Production and Utilization Facilities," in which the requirement for an annual emergency plan exercise is contained, was not required (45 FR 55402, August 19, 1980). Specifically, the NRC's "Draft Negative Declaration; Finding of No Significant Impact" (45 FR 3913, January 21, 1980), states that "..... the impacts on the human environment of the proposed rule will be insignificant....." Similarly, not conducting an annual emergency plan exercise as required by the rule will have no impact on the human environment.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since we have concluded that the environmental impacts of the proposed action are not significant, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. Since the staff has determined that granting this exemption would not result in any environmental impacts, denial of this request would only result in requiring the licensee to demonstrate certain capabilities under "drill" conditions that were already successfully demonstrated under "actual" conditions. Also, denial of this request would result in the additional expenditure of State and local emergency response agencies' and Company resources over that which has already been expended in responding to the SGTR event.

Alternative Use of Resources:

The proposed action does not involve the use of environmental resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement (as amended) for the North Anna Power Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2.

Agencies and Persons Contacted:

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

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

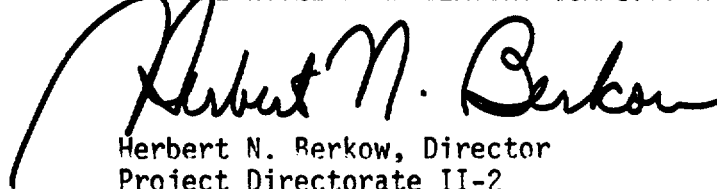
The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

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 the requirement of 10 CFR 50.47 and Appendix E dated October 9, 1987, as well as previous submittals dated August 3, 1987 and September 11, 1987, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the Board of Supervisors Office, Louisa County Courthouse, Louisa, Virginia 23093, and the Alderman Library, Manuscripts Department, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia 22901.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 22nd day of March, 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Herbert N. Berkow". The signature is written over the typed name and title.

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