

January 15, 2003

TO: Virginia Electric and Power Company

FROM: Stephen Raul Monarque, Project Manager, Section 1 /RA/
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: NRC STAFF QUESTIONS TO BE DISCUSSED DURING
CONFERENCE CALL ON NORTH ANNA POWER STATION,
UNIT 1

Virginia Electric and Power Company (VEPCO) has informed the NRC staff that there is an unidentified leakage occurring within the containment at North Anna Power Station, Unit 1. As such, the NRC staff has scheduled a conference call for January 15, 2003, with VEPCO to obtain additional information regarding this leakage. The NRC staff is providing VEPCO with the following questions that will be discussed during the conference call.

1. What, if any, are the safety implications from the change in unidentified leak rate?
2. What is the detection sensitivity of the equipment used to monitor unidentified leakage?
3. How does the increase in unidentified leakage fit within the context of your justification for continued operation, dated October 18, 2002?
4. Has there been an increase in the radiation, humidity, or sump levels within the containment? If so, what is the change in each and what are the implications of these changes?
5. Have you determined the source of the increase in unidentified leakage? What is the basis for your determination?
6. Has boric acid or iron oxide been detected by the filter paper or process radiation monitors?
7. What are your plans if the leakage continues to increase?
8. Does this leakage have any impact upon your decision as to when you will start your next outage?