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Date: 12/20/04 5:15PM
Subject: DRAFT SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT FOR THE NORTH ANNA EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION

This notice is being sent to interested persons to announce the issuance of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Draft Safety Evaluation Report (DSER), dated December 2004, in connection with the early site permit (ESP) application submitted by Dominion Nuclear North Anna, LLC (Dominion) for the North Anna ESP site.

The purpose of the DSER is to document the results of the staff's review of nuclear safety aspects of Dominion's ESP application, along with any open items resulting from matters that have not been resolved. Because the DSER contains open items, the NRC staff has not yet made a decision regarding whether, from a safety perspective, to recommend to the Commission that an ESP be issued for the North Anna ESP site. After the applicant responds to the open items, the staff will develop the final safety evaluation report (FSER), which is currently scheduled to be issued in June 2005. The FSER will provide information for the use of the Commission, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB), and the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) in their determinations regarding issuance of an ESP for the North Anna ESP site. The Commission's decision on whether to issue an ESP would follow the Commission's review of the FSER and the staff's final environmental impact statement, the findings of the ASLB, and the report of the ACRS.

The NRC will allow 21 days for Dominion to review the DSER for proprietary information. After the 21-day proprietary review waiting period, the DSER (less any proprietary information) will be made publically available in the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) at 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD, and on the NRC's ESP web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/esp.html>. A copy will also be made available at the Louisa County (Virginia) Public Library.

The document will also be available through the NRC's web-based Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), subject to the agency's restoration of 10 CFR Part 52 documents after review of such documents for sensitive information. The ADAMS accession number for the DSER package is ML043020619. The NRC maintains ADAMS, which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. These documents may be accessed through the NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, please contact the PDR Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737 or by email to pdr@nrc.gov.

Michael L (Mike) Scott
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 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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