

March 17, 2005

Mr. Kevin Magerr
Environmental Engineer
US EPA Region 3
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF COMMENT PERIOD ON THE DRAFT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR AN EARLY SITE PERMIT AT
THE NORTH ANNA ESP SITE

Dear Mr. Magerr:

By letter dated February 23, 2005, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requested a time extension of 15 days to complete its review of NUREG-1811, "Draft Environmental Impact Statement for an Early Site Permit (ESP) at the North Anna ESP Site" (DEIS). If granted, this extension would change the end of the comment period from March 1 to March 16, 2005. On March 1, 2005, the EPA submitted comments and stated that it will be providing additional comments.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) published the draft EIS for comment in December 2004. Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Section 51.73 (10 CFR 51.73) specifies a minimum comment period of 45 days. However, the NRC staff extended this comment period to 75 days at the time the DEIS was published. Unfortunately, the comment period has closed. However, the NRC will consider EPA's comments submitted after the close of the comment period as the schedule permits.

If you have any questions regarding this request for extension, please contact Mr. Jack Cushing, Environmental Project Manager, at 301-415-1424, or by e-mail at jxc9@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No.: 52-008

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl.: See next page

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