

April 12, 2005

Mr. David A. Christian
Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer
Dominion Resources Services, Inc.
Innsbruck Technical Center
5000 Dominion Blvd.
Glen Allen, VA 23060-6711

SUBJECT: NORTH ANNA EARLY SITE PERMIT (ESP) QUALITY ASSURANCE
ASSESSMENT AND RESOLUTION OF CONFIRMATORY ITEM

Dear Mr. Christian:

Consistent with Commission procedures for inspections supporting the review of early site permit (ESP) applications, the staff has completed a review of the quality assurance (QA) measures applied to ESP activities conducted by Nuclear North Anna, LLC (Dominion), the applicant. The review was conducted to determine whether the QA measures employed by the applicant had been conducted without substantive deviation from the NRC guidance contained in Review Standard-002 (RS-002), Section 17.1.1.

The staff performed an inspection between November 17 and 20, 2003, as documented in Inspection Report 52-008/2003001 (ADAMS Accession No. ML040150170). The inspection focused on site characterization and procurement activities for the development of the ESP application and included a selected review of established procedures and instructions. Our examinations included a selective review of the applicant's activities and records relating to surveillance of contractors, such as audits, inspections, and reviews, and of the applicant's assessments pertaining to the acceptability and timeliness of contract implementation of delegated parts of the QA measures framework.

NRC Inspection Report 52-008/2003001 documented Open Item 52-008/2003001-01, "Quality assurance measures used to authenticate and verify data retrieved from Internet Web sites that support information in the site safety analysis report (SSAR) that could affect the design, construction, or operation of structures, systems, and components (SSCs) important to safety." This was also documented in Section 17, "Early Site Permit Quality Assurance Measures," of the draft safety evaluation report (DSER) for the North Anna ESP application (ADAMS Accession No. ML043020619) as Confirmatory Item 17.3-1.

The staff conducted a followup inspection of the confirmatory item on February 8, 2005, at, Bechtel Power Corporation, Dominion's primary contractor's office in Frederick, Maryland. In particular, the staff inspected QA measures applied to data supporting information in the SSAR. The staff determined, through review of supporting documentation, that the applicant had provided adequate QA measures to authenticate and verify data retrieved from Internet Web sites. The inspection focused on verifying the data used by the applicant to support information in the SSAR that could affect the design, construction, or operation of SSCs important to safety. Specifically, Bechtel either (1) obtained letters certifying the authenticity of the data from the

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organizations posting the data on the Internet, or (2) performed an engineering review of the data to verify their reasonableness. Qualified individuals performed these engineering reviews based on their experience with similar data and compared the data to similar data obtained from other sources. Accordingly, we conclude that the QA measures for the North Anna ESP application are consistent with the Commission's ESP QA guidance and consider Confirmatory Item 17.3-1 resolved.

The staff concludes that Dominion's QA measures, when properly implemented, are equivalent in substance to the requirements of Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 50 and comply with the guidance contained in RS-002, Section 17.1.1.

Should you require additional information, please contact Belkys Sosa, of my staff, at 301-415-2375.

/RA/

William D. Beckner, Program Director
New, Research and Test Reactors Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 52-008

cc w/atts: See next page

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organizations posting the data on the Internet, or (2) performed an engineering review of the data to verify their reasonableness. Qualified individuals performed these engineering reviews based on their experience with similar data and compared the data to similar data obtained from other sources. Accordingly, we conclude that the QA measures for the North Anna ESP application are consistent with the Commission's ESP QA guidance and consider Confirmatory Item 17.3-1 resolved.

The staff concludes that Dominion's QA measures, when properly implemented, are equivalent in substance to the requirements of Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 50 and comply with the guidance contained in RS-002, Section 17.1.1.

Should you require additional information, please contact Belkys Sosa, of my staff, at 301-415-2375.

/RA/

William D. Beckner, Program Director
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Docket No. 52-008

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*See previous concurrence

ADAMS ACCESSION NO. ML050810087

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DATE	04/11/2005	4/7/2005	4/8/2005	4/12/2005

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