

January 16, 2007

APPLICANT: Dominion Nuclear

PROJECT: Project No. 741

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF NORTH ANNA SITE VISIT ON SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2006,
REGARDING COMBINED LICENSE PRE-APPLICATION SUBSURFACE
INVESTIGATION ACTIVITIES

On September 13 and 14, 2006, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted a visit at the North Anna site. The NRC staff from the headquarters office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) and Region II office conducted the visit to observe subsurface investigation activities being conducted by Dominion Nuclear (Dominion) to obtain geotechnical and seismic data in support of the anticipated combined license (COL) application for a new nuclear power plant. The staff's observations and acquired information are intended to support NRC's future review of a COL application for the North Anna site.

A list of NRC participants and persons with whom discussions were held is provided at the end of this summary. The Region II site visit summary and the presentation materials distributed during the visit are available through the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at ADAMS Accession Nos. ML062770189 and ML062890216. ADAMS is the system that provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. If you do not have access to ADAMS or have problems accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737 or pdr@nrc.gov.

Background

Dominion informed the NRC by letter dated July 17, 2006, of the intent to submit a COL application in November 2007 for a new nuclear power facility at the North Anna site. Dominion and its principal contractor, Bechtel Power Corporation, conducted the required geotechnical investigation studies at the site in preparation for the COL application.

Visit Highlights

On September 13, 2006, the NRC staff held an entrance meeting with representatives from Dominion and its contractors to become familiar with the North Anna subsurface investigation program, acquire the current status, and plan the visit activities. A summary of the program and the boring location plan are provided in the distributed presentation materials. During the visit, staff activities included: inspection of several borehole locations; observation of in-progress core boring activities; inspection of selected core samples, observation of a pre-shift work safety briefing; review of selected boring logs and Dominion/contractor procedures; and discussions with a number of Dominion/contractor personnel. The staff conducted an afternoon exit meeting on September 14, 2006.

The staff expressed an overall favorable response to Dominion's subsurface investigation program and found the site visit to be beneficial in that the observations and acquired information will assist the anticipated review of the North Anna COL application. During the exit meeting, the staff recommended that an observed shear wave anomaly, discussed with applicant personnel during the visit, be addressed in the COL application.

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