

# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



SENATE

JAMES T. EDMUNDS  
17TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
AMELIA, BRUNSWICK, CUMBERLAND,  
LUNENBURG, MECKLENBURG, NOTTOWAY,  
POWHATAN AND THE WESTERN PART  
OF CHESTERFIELD COUNTY  
P. O. BOX 387  
KENBRIDGE, VIRGINIA 23944

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:  
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
EDUCATION AND HEALTH  
GENERAL LAWS  
REHABILITATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
RULES

June 13, 1979

Mr. Joseph M. Hendrie  
Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Hendrie:

The NRC's action in imposing a three-month moratorium on the issuance of permits to nuclear facilities will cause Virginia to face a series of brown-outs and black-outs for the summer of 1979. Vepco has publicly estimated that without Surry 1 and North Anna 2 nuclear stations that their public energy supply will range from 1.9% to -7.3% this summer. At the lower end of that range Virginians will experience brown-outs and black-outs if Vepco cannot buy adequate power from other power suppliers on the East Coast grid.

Vepco has just filed for a \$62 million rate increase in Virginia. This huge financial burden will have to be borne by the rate payers across the State. If the NRC would reconsider its decision and allow these plants to be licensed, the Virginia rate payers would be relieved of an unnecessary burden.

This burden is unnecessary because the design of North Anna 2 is entirely different from the design of the Three Mile Island reactor that caused the three-month moratorium to begin with. Your action is equivalent to the grounding of all airplanes as a result of the DC-10's design and/or maintenance failures.

Sincerely,

*James T. Edmunds*  
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CC: The Right Honorable James Earl Carter, President  
The Honorable Harry F. Byrd, Jr.  
The Honorable John Warner  
The Honorable W. C. "Dan" Daniel  
The Honorable John N. Dalton  
Members of the State Corporation Commission