

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23261

R. H. LEASBURG  
VICE PRESIDENT  
NUCLEAR OPERATIONS

October 25, 1982

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Attn: Mr. Steven A. Varga, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch No. 1  
Division of Licensing  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Serial No. 606  
NO/TMN/jmj/SP4  
Docket Nos. 50-280  
50-281  
License Nos. DPR-32  
DPR-37

Gentlemen:

CONTAINMENT PURGING/  
CONTAINMENT VACUUM AIR EJECTOR  
ISOLATION VALVES PROPOSAL  
SURRY UNITS 1 AND 2

During the containment purge valve operability qualification for Surry Power Station Unit Nos. 1 and 2, it was brought to our attention in your letter of October 3, 1981, "Status of Generic Item B-24 and completion of TMI Action Item II.E.4.2.5", that the eight-inch steam jet air ejector isolation valves in the Containment Vacuum System were to be included in our qualification program.

In our letter of December 31, 1981, Serial No. 709, it was requested that Surry Power Station Technical Specification 3.8.A.3 be revised to restrict the containment purge valve operation whenever the reactor coolant temperature is above 200°F. The specific requirement was intended as an interim change pending conclusion of the containment purge valve qualification program for the 36" containment purge valves. This effort has been completed. Although we have proven that the valves will operate through a range of dynamic forces of a design basis accident, it is not beneficial to implement the additional modifications to the mechanical and electrical systems in order to meet the guidelines set forth by the Standard Review Plan, section 6.2.4, Revision 1 and the Branch Technical Position CSB 6-4, Revision 1.

For the existing 8" steam jet ejector valve in the Containment Vacuum System, a high radiation signal will be wired to activate valve closure in the event of a high radiation signal during system operation. This valve is seismically qualified and has a closure time of less than five seconds. To ensure the prevention of a radioactive release, a new automatic isolation valve will be installed on the 8" line outside of the containment building. The new valve will have a closure time not greater than 5 seconds and will be qualified to seismic requirements. A control system will be provided for automatic isolation and remote manual operation.

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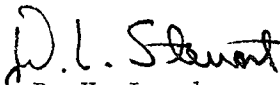
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VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY TO

The Containment Vacuum Air Ejector System in the proposed modified state will only be operated when the Reactor Coolant System is below a temperature of 350°F and a pressure of 450 psig. This is consistent with Engineered Safeguards Systems operability requirements.

There are no environmental qualification operability requirements related to harsh environment for the existing automatic isolation valve or the proposed new valve. This is because the containment vacuum system is not involved in safe shutdown of the facility in the event of an accident.

Very truly yours,

  
R. H. Leasburg

cc: Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Regional Administrator  
Region II  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Mr. Richard C. DeYoung, Director  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
Washington, D.C. 20555