



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

FEB 12 1990

Docket Nos. 50-280  
50-281

Mr. J. T. Rhodes, President  
and Chief Executive Officer  
Virginia Electric and Power Company  
P. O. Box 26666  
Richmond, VA 23261

Dear Mr. Rhodes:

On January 22 and 23, 1990, NRC senior managers met to review the performance of nuclear power plants licensed to operate by the NRC. This meeting is conducted semiannually to focus NRC resources on those plants and issues of greatest safety significance. At this meeting, the Surry facility was categorized as requiring close monitoring. Plants in this category have been identified as having weaknesses that warrant increased NRC attention from both Headquarters and the Regional Office until the licensee demonstrates a period of improved performance.

A summary of NRC discussions held relating to Surry is provided below:

Performance of the Surry plant has been discussed at the Senior Management Meeting since December 1988 as a result of NRC concerns related to significant events, escalated enforcement issues and lack of management aggressiveness in pursuing resolution of issues. Corporate and site management changes, coupled with a reorganization to a dedicated nuclear department, have had a positive impact on the station performance. Programmatic changes reflect an aggressive approach to problem resolution. Equipment upgrades such as the service water modification and additions to the operations and maintenance staffs are contributing to improved operating performance in the short term. Although performance has improved in most areas, Surry should concentrate on full implementation of programmatic changes and corrective actions to demonstrate continued improvement for the long run.

An NRC Commission meeting open to the public has been scheduled for February 15, 1990, to review the results of the latest meeting of NRC managers. Mr. Stewart D. Ebner, the Region II Administrator, has discussed the basis for our conclusions with regard to the Surry facility with members of your staff.

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Mr. J. T. Rhodes

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:  
James M. Taylor

James M. Taylor  
Executive Director  
for Operations

cc: See next page

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cc: · W. L. Stewart  
Senior Vice President-Power  
5000 Dominion Boulevard  
Glen Allen, VA 23060

· E. W. Harrell  
Vice President - Nuclear Operations  
Virginia Electric & Power Company  
5000 Dominion Boulevard  
Glen Allen, VA 23060

· J. P. O'Hanlon  
Vice President - Nuclear Services  
Virginia Electric & Power Company  
5000 Dominion Boulevard  
Glen Allen, VA 23060

· M. R. Kansler  
Station Manager  
Surry Power Station  
P. O. Box 315  
Surry, VA 23883

· R. F. Saunders, Manager  
Nuclear Licensing  
Virginia Electric & Power Co.  
5000 Dominion Boulevard  
Glen Allen, VA 23060

· Sherlock Holmes, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors of Surry County  
Surry County Courthouse  
Surry, VA 23683

· W. T. Lough  
Virginia Corporation Commission  
Division of Energy Regulation  
P. O. Box 1197  
Richmond, VA 23209

· Michael W. Maupin  
Hunton and Williams  
P. O. Box 1535  
Richmond, VA 23212

· C. M. G. Buttery, M.D., M.P.H.  
Department of Health  
109 Governor Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

· Attorney General  
Supreme Court Building  
101 North 8th Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

Commonwealth of Virginia

Mr. J. T. Rhodes

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NRC Resident Inspector  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Route 1, Box 166  
Surry, VA 23883