VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23261

March 7, 1978

Mr. Edson G. Case, Acting Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Serial No. 067/012578
PO&M/DLB:dgt
Docket Nos. 50-280
50-281

Attention: Victor Stello, Jr. Director
Division of Operating Reactors

License Nos. DPR-32
DPR-37

Dear Mr. Case:

This is in response to your letter of January 25, 1978, concerning the design of the reactor vessel support system for Surry Power Station Unit Nos. 1 and 2. Your letter requested a response within 30 days indicating our intent to proceed with an evaluation of the overall asymmetric loss of coolant accident loads as described in your letter and attachments. You also requested that within 90 days we submit our detailed schedule for providing the required evaluation.

This letter is to notify you that a task group of utilities with Westinghouse plants has been formed, of which Virginia Electric and Power Company is a participant, to examine the complexity of primary system main coolant piping system breaks as outlined in your January 25, 1978 letter and to identify similarities between Westinghouse plants for the purpose of determining a consistent evaluation of this issue. The task group has met with Westinghouse and with the NRC during the past several months for the purpose of developing a program that is acceptable to both parties. Preliminary work is proceeding which will allow the task group to outline a realistic program within the 90 days you requested.

The exact content of this program is not known at this time, but its purpose will be to re-assure the original plant design and assure the safety of the plant should a pipe break occur at specified locations in the reactor coolant system. The particular resolution of this issue will vary from plant to plant, but as a minimum it will include an analytical evaluation that assesses the safety of the plant. If needed, this evaluation may be supplemented by a plant modification, probability analysis or augmented inservice inspection.

Very truly yours,

C. M. Stallings

C. M. Stallings
Vice President-Power Supply
and Production Operations

cc: Mr. James P. O'Reilly

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