

PROD & UTIL FAC. 50 -339

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Charles S. Robb

Office of the Lieutenant Governor Richmond 23219

November 7, 1979

Mr. Joseph M. Hendrie, Chairman United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission 1717 H Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20555



Dear Chairman Hendrie:

The recent decision by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to declare a moratorium on any new licensing of nuclear power stations compels me to write this letter.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's decision will impact millions of Virginians through increased cost of energy, from \$12 to \$14 million a month. As Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, I can not stand by idly and let this decision go unchallenged unless it is some safety matter I am not aware of. It is my understanding that VEPCO's North Anna Unit 2 has been ready for license and fuel loading since June, and with your recent decision, it appears it will delay the units' start-up to at least next spring. Also VEPCO has met all of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's criteria including an emergency evacuation plan and I know of no reason for any further delay.

A singling out of a plant that has the most up-to-date design of any power plant for such action is not being fair to the citizens of Virginia.

VEPCO's management has informed me that they have met or will meet all of the NRC's criteria as a result of the TMI analysis.

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Any information you can supply me as to why North Anna Unit 2 cannot be licensed by 1980, as the company had hoped, will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

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Charles S. Robb

CSR:er

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The Honorable Harley O. Staggers The Honorable John D. Dingell

The Honorable Bob Eckhardt

The Honorable Richardson Preyer

The Fonorable Anthony Toby Moffett The Honorable Albert Gore, Jr.

The Honorable Phil Gramm

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski

The Honorable Mickey Leland The Honorable James M. Collins