



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

50-339
~~SECRET~~

MAR 26 1980

Mr. Kenneth B. McBride
657 E. Coral Key
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23452

Dear Mr. McBride:

Your letter of January 30, 1980 to President Carter, has just recently been referred to me for reply. In your letter, you urge that the NRC authorize VEPCO to operate all available nuclear units in order to provide the most economical electric service possible.

With respect to this matter, we are actively pursuing the preparation of a Safety Evaluation Report for the North Anna Power Station, Unit 2 and we anticipate publication of that document in the near future. The decision, however, to issue an operating license as indicated in the Policy Statement on the TMI-2 accident issued by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Commission) on October 4, 1979, will require action by the Commission itself. In this regard, we expect to discuss with the Commissioners in late March, the issuance of an authorization to load fuel and perform low power testing at the North Anna, Unit 2 facility.

North Anna, Unit 1 is presently operating at 100 percent power. VEPCO's Surry units are not available to presently operate because of maintenance requirements imposed by VEPCO.

I trust that the above information is responsive to your concern. Let me assure you that the review of the North Anna Power Station, Unit 2 application is being actively pursued.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven A. Varga".

Steven A. Varga, Acting Assistant Director
for Light Water Reactors
Division of Project Management

8004110 557

30
NRC



Kenneth B. McBride
657 E. Coral Key
Virginia Beach, VA. 23452

30 January 1980

Rosen

President of the United States of America
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing in regard to my ever increasing electric bill. As you may note, I am residing in Virginia Beach, Va. which is served by the Virginia Electric and Power Company (VEPCO). Regardless of the conservation measures which I have imposed upon myself and family, the electric bill keeps ever increasing due to fuel adjustment costs. VEPCO enclosed a statement concerning VEPCO's fuel adjustment factor and the importance of nuclear-generated electric energy. I would like to quote the following:

Nuclear power and your electric bill

The largest expense in serving you is the cost of the fuels used to generate your electricity. Nuclear fuel is much less costly than coal or oil, the other fuels used in this area. Even including the higher cost of building a nuclear plant, the cost of nuclear-generated energy is still considerably less.

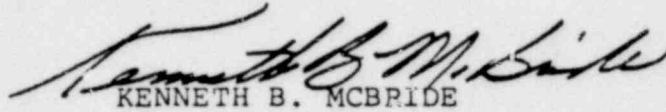
But at the start of the new year, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) was still delaying permission for VEPCO to operate half of its nuclear units. Without these nuclear units, VEPCO must use its oil- and coal-fired plants, or purchase power from neighboring utilities to meet your needs. This means higher fuel costs on your electric bill.

We pledge to continue to take every step necessary to get these nuclear plants operating as quickly as possible. Nuclear power means less use of America's fossil fuel reserves, less dependence on costly foreign oil, reduced federal deficits, and lower electric bills. And these are goals we should all be striving for in these high cost, energy-intensive times.

I agree with VEPCO completely. It is truly ludicrous for the NRC not to authorize VEPCO to operate all available nuclear units in order to provide the most economical electric service possible.

I plead with you not to allow simple minded emotionalism to dictate policy or negate action required in the best interest of the United States.

Sincerely,



KENNETH B. MCBRIDE

Copy to:
Senator Byrd
Senator Warner