

Vepco

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23261

April 18, 1980

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director
Office of Inspection & Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3100
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Serial No. 360
PSE&C/WBR:mac:wang

Docket Nos. 50-404
50-405

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

On April 11, 1980, a report was made under the provisions of 10CFR50.55(e) concerning the potential for overflowing the steam generators by the excessive addition of main feedwater (MFW) or auxiliary feedwater (AFW). Excessive feedwater addition, as used here, is defined as a condition which would exist if MFW or AFW is continually added to the steam generators in an unplanned fashion at a rate greater than the core heat generation capability for converting it to steam. Overfill may be defined as a condition which results in liquid spillage into the steam lines.

The potential results of steam generator overfill are (1) steam line deformation and failure due to water accumulation in the lines, (2) steam generator blowdown due to steam line failure with the potential for core return to power from a safe shutdown condition, (3) excessive steam generator tube stress, (4) exceeding reactor vessel NDT limits and (5) containment overpressurization.

B&W has estimated the time to fill the steam generators is approximately 2-4 minutes with MFW and approximately 7-15 minutes with AFW. The 2-4 minutes for MFW addition is based on a single failure (ICS failure, etc.) which causes maximum MFW flow following a reactor trip.

As stated previously in other correspondence to the NRC, Vepco has undertaken a study of the feasibility of utilizing the existing North Anna Units 3 and 4 equipment and structures in the design and construction of coal units. In the event a decision is made to continue with the construction of North Anna Units 3 and 4 as nuclear units, we will inform you of the steps necessary to resolve this problem.

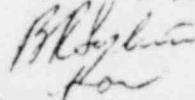
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We consider this to be an interim report for North Anna Units 3 and 4 under the provisions of 10CFR50.55(e). If you require additional information, please contact this office.

Very truly yours,



Sam C. Brown, Jr.
Senior Vice President - Power Station
Engineering and Construction

cc: Mr. Victor Stello, Director
Office of Inspection & Enforcement

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation