



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 17 TO LICENSE NPF-4

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY

NORTH ANNA POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 1

DOCKET NO. 50-338

Introduction

By letter dated March 27, 1980, the Virginia Electric and Power Company (the licensee) requested an amendment to Operating License No. NPF-4 for the North Anna Power Station, Unit No. 1 (NA-1). The amendment would make changes to Appendices A and B of the NA-1 Technical Specifications to reflect the licensee's management reorganization effective April 1, 1980.

Discussion and Evaluation

Prior to April 1, 1980, the licensee's two senior corporate officials concerned with plant operations did not have nuclear plant operations experience or formal training in nuclear engineering. Also, the staff management was simultaneously responsible for both fossil and nuclear operations.

The licensee's management reorganization will split fossil and nuclear responsibilities. Also, the management responsible for the licensee's nuclear operations in the new organization will have nuclear plant operation experience. In addition, the newly hired Executive Vice-President has hands-on experience in nuclear plant operations.

The proposed changes to Appendix A, Section 6 (Administrative Controls) of the NA-1 Technical Specifications formalizes the licensee's new corporate and plant organization. The new organization divides the fossil and nuclear organizations into separate groups, each with its own operations and technical staffs. This new organization places people with nuclear operations and technical training in line management.

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Our review of the organizational responsibility and managerial qualifications of the licensee's management reorganization conforms to the staff's draft criteria for utility management and technical competence, and, as such, we find this new organization to be acceptable.

The licensee's new organization reflects the staff's newly drafted criteria for a Safety Engineering Group, independent of the plant staff, but assigned onsite, to perform independent reviews of plant operation activities.

The main functions of this group are to evaluate the technical adequacy of all procedures and changes important to the safe operation of the facility, and an evaluation and assessment of the plant's operating experience and performance.

The licensee's new organization includes a group designated as the Safety Engineering Staff (SES) which will provide an independent check that the plant facilities are maintained and operated in a safe manner. The plant SES will be independent of the plant staff similar to that of the Quality Assurance organization which is technically responsible to offsite management. The plant SES will combine the review functions of engineering assessment, evaluation and dissemination of plant operating experience, and the functions of the Shift Technical Advisors. The SES group will functionally report to the Superintendent of Technical Support and technically offsite to the Director, Safety Evaluation and Control.

In Supplement No. 10 (issued April 10, 1980) to our Safety Evaluation Report for North Anna Power Station Unit 2, we stated that we found the licensee's onsite SES group to be acceptable for satisfying our requirement for issuance of an operating license. Therefore, we also find acceptable the inclusion of the SES group in the Appendix A Technical Specifications for NA-1.

The licensee also proposed changes to Appendix B, Section 5 (Administrative Controls) of the NA-1 Environmental Technical Specifications

to reflect the new management reorganization effective April 1, 1980. The position titles have been revised to be consistent with the positions outlined in the Appendix A specifications. We find these changes to be acceptable.

Based on our evaluation as stated above, we find the licensee's proposed administrative changes to the Appendices A and B Technical Specifications for NA-1 to be acceptable.

Environmental Consideration

We have determined that the amendment does not authorize a change in effluent types or total amounts nor an increase in power level and will not result in any significant environmental impact. Having made this determination, we have further concluded that the amendment involves an action which is insignificant from the standpoint of environmental impact and, pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4), that an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

Conclusion

We have concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) because the amendment does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of accidents previously considered and do not involve a significant decrease in a safety margin, the amendment does not involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (3) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Dated: May 19, 1980