



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

JUN 25 1980

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*50-281*

Mr. Harry B. McDonald  
66435 Desert View  
Desert Hot Springs, California 92440

Dear Mr. McDonald:

Your letter to Secretary Duncan of the Department of Energy has been referred to me for reply. The Department of Energy has advised us that they have informed you of this action. In your letter you indicated that an operating license should be issued for North Anna Power Station, Unit 2 and that Surry Unit 2 be permitted to start up.

With respect to North Anna Power Station, Unit 2, an operating license was issued on April 11, 1980. This license permitted The Virginia Electric and Power Company (VEPCO) to achieve criticality of North Anna Unit 2 and to operate at power levels not exceeding five percent. As a result, North Anna Unit 2 achieved criticality on June 12, 1980 and completed zero power physics testing on June 19, 1980. VEPCO has advised us that they will be able to proceed to full power in mid to late July, 1980.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff is presently pursuing the preparation of a Supplement of a Safety Evaluation Report for the North Anna Power Station Unit 2, and we anticipate publication of that document in mid-July. The decision, however, to issue a full power operating license as indicated in the Policy Statement on the TMI-2 accident issued by the Commission on October 4, 1979, will require action by the Commission itself. In this regard, we expect to discuss with the Commissioners in late July or early August, the issuance of a full power license for North Anna Power Station, Unit 2.

The Surry, Unit 2 steam generator repair program was completed during the fall of 1979. However, the plant has remained shut down for other reasons such as modifications to piping supports resulting from reanalysis for seismic loading. VEPCO expects to have Surry, Unit 2 back to power in August, 1980.

I trust you will find this information useful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "B. J. Youngblood".

B. J. Youngblood, Chief  
Licensing Branch No. 1  
Division of Licensing