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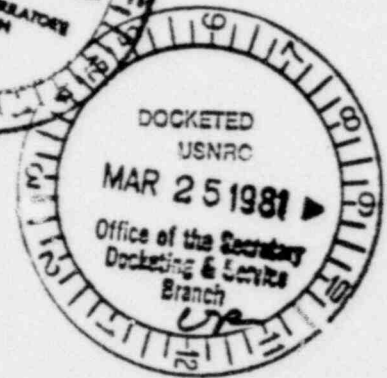
March 20, 1981

Alan S. Rosenthal, Esquire
Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal
Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dr. John H. Buck
Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal
Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dr. Lawrence R. Quarles
Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal
Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Virginia Electric and Power Company
(North Anna Power Station, Units 1 and 2)
Docket Nos. 50-338 OL and 50-339 OL
Turbine Missiles



Gentlemen:

Vepco has reviewed Mr. Treby's March 9, 1981, letter with the NRC Staff's recommendation that the North Anna 1 turbine disks be ultrasonically inspected at the next refueling outage. This letter is to advise you of Vepco's preliminary views on the matter.

Vepco does not object to ultrasonically inspecting the North Anna 1 low-pressure rotors during the next refueling outage, which is currently scheduled to begin in mid-1982. If you decide to issue an order to that effect, however, we think it would be best to allow some flexibility by simply requiring

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that the disks be inspected after no more than a specified number of hours of operation since the last inspection. Refueling schedules can change according to a variety of circumstances, and it is conceivable that it might become advantageous to inspect either before or after the next refueling outage but still within the specified number of operating hours. For the same reason, and also because Vepco will be presenting more information on turbine disk cracking to you later this spring or summer, Vepco believes that it would be unwise to require at the present time that inspections be performed at future refueling outages after the next one. In any event, future inspection schedules should not be set in such a way as to prevent the use of current NRC Staff guidelines, which may change somewhat as new data become available.

Westinghouse is reviewing the NRC Staff's recommendation and proposes to advise Vepco during the week of March 23 whether Westinghouse agrees with the Staff. Even allowing for a few days of unforeseen delay, I ought to be able to give you Westinghouse's views on the subject no later than Tuesday, March 31. At the same time I hope to give you Vepco's recommendation for the maximum number of operating hours until the next inspection. If that schedule is not acceptable, please let me know.

Yours very truly,

James N. Christman for James M. Christman
James N. Christman

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cc: Stuart Treby, Esquire
Anthony J. Gambardella, Esquire
Chief, Docketing and Service Section ✓