USNRC REGION II
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Virginia Electric and Power Company
North Anna Power Station, Unit #1
Docket No. 50-338

NPF-4
80 MAR 17 P2:08

24 Hour Reportable Event
Written Follow-Up

Event: Potential Breaking of Guide Tube Support Pins Due to Stress Corrosion Cracking LER/RO 80-035/01T-0

Recent support pin inspections at a foreign plant revealed stress corrosion cracking in Westinghouse supplied control rod guide tube support pins which had been solution heat treated at 1825°F. Laboratory testing indicates that susceptability to stress corrosion cracking decreases with increasing solution heat treatment temperature and that support pins which were solution heat treated in the range of 1960°F to 2000°F have little, if any, potential for stress corrosion cracking even under accelerated testing conditions.

A Westinghouse safety evaluation of the problem has concluded that control operation is not jeopardized by a broken pin for non-Upper Head Injection Plants, i.e. North Anna Power Station, due to the small gap between the non-UHI guide tube and the core plate.

Unit 1 is presently operating in a steady state condition at 100% power.

In the near future Westinghouse will conduct ultrasonic inspections, at two operating domestic plants, of guide tube support pins having solution heat treatment temperatures less than 1800°F. The results of the support pin inspection program as well as the on-going materials test program will determine what further corrective actions, if any, are required.

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