

November 8, 1996

Virginia Electric and Power Company
ATTN: Mr. J. P. O'Hanlon
Senior Vice President - Nuclear
Innsbrook Technical Center
5000 Dominion Boulevard
Glen Allen, VA 23060

SUBJECT: SYSTEMATIC ASSESSMENT OF LICENSEE PERFORMANCE (SALP)
(INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-280/96-99 AND 50-281/96-99)

Dear Mr. O'Hanlon:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed the Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) for the Surry Nuclear Plant. The facility was assessed in four functional areas for the period of January 22, 1995, through September 28, 1996. The results of the assessment are documented in the enclosed SALP report which will be discussed with you at a public meeting at the Surry site on November 18, 1996, at 1:00 p.m.

Surry Nuclear Plant (SNP) performance was assessed in four functional areas: Plant Operations, Maintenance, Engineering, and Plant Support. Performance in Operations, Engineering and Plant Support remained superior. Performance in Maintenance improved but remained at the good level.

Operations superior performance was characterized by conservative decision making, control room professionalism, excellent communications and prompt effective response to off-normal conditions. Maintenance performance was good and some improvements were noted. Contributing to the good performance in this area was team work and planning/scheduling. Engineering superior performance was sustained from the previous assessment period with design control, team work, and effective engineering outputs being strengths. Plant support continued to be superior in all sub-functional areas of radiological controls, emergency planning, and physical security.

Common threads that contributed to the superior performance across the majority of functional areas were effective self-assessments and strong management involvement. These were essential ingredients in assuring consistency of station operations within functional areas and team work across the functional area boundaries.

Persistent challenges to superior performance which carried over from the previous assessment are operations component tagout problems and human performance issues in the maintenance area. In addition, there were several cases of apparently deliberate management failures to observe procedural requirements during schedule-intensive activities. These areas are deserving of further management concern.

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In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions or comments, I would be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Stewart D. Ebnetter

Stewart D. Ebnetter
Regional Administrator

Docket Nos. 50-280, 50-281
License Nos. DRP-32, DRP-37

Enclosure: SALP Report

cc w/encl:
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cc w/encl continued: See page 3

cc w/encl: Continued
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