

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONVIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANYOLD DOMINION ELECTRIC COOPERATIVENORTH ANNA POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 1DOCKET NO. 50-338NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ANDFINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a to Virginia Electric and Power Company and Old Dominion Electric Cooperative (the licensee), for the North Anna Power Station, Unit No. 1 (NA-1), located in Louisa County, Virginia.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4) requires that licensees update their inservice inspection (ISI) and testing (IST) programs to a newer edition of Section XI of the ASME Code every 10 years. Since the regulations require these updates based on the 10-year anniversary of facility commercial operation, multi-unit sites often find that each unit has an ISI and IST program structured to a slightly different edition of the Code. The exemption would allow a common start date for ISI and IST for NA-1&2. A common start date would be achieved by extending the present Unit 1 program expiration date from June 6, 1988 to December 14, 1990.

The proposed exemption is in response to the licensee's application dated March 3, 1988.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption is needed because ISI and IST at NA-1&2 would be accomplished for some period of time to two different ASME Codes if a common start date were not established. Although administratively possible, this situation could contribute to increased administrative overhead in the performance of inspection and testing requirements to two different versions of the Code. This will create a substantial and additional administrative workload for what can be described as only nominal technical differences in the inspection and testing requirements.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption will provide a degree of ISI and IST that is equivalent to that required by 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4) such that there is no increase in the risk of failure for operational readiness of pumps and valves whose function is required for safety at these facilities. Consequently, the probability of failure for operational readiness of components has not been increased, the radiological risk would not be greater than previously determined, and the required exemption would not otherwise affect plant radiological effluents. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed exemption involves features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It would not affect plant nonradiological effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since we have concluded that the environmental impacts of the proposed action are not significant, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. Since the staff has determined that granting this exemption would not result in any environmental impacts, denial of this request would only result in requiring the licensee to perform for some period of time the ISI and IST program at NA-1&2 to two different ASME Codes, which would create an additional administrative workload for what can be described as only nominal technical differences in the inspection and testing requirements.

Alternative Use of Resources:

The proposed action does not involve the use of environmental resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement (as amended) for the North Anna Power Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for exemption from the requirement of 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4) dated March 3, 1988, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the Board of Supervisors Office, Louisa County Courthouse, Louisa, Virginia 23093, and the Alderman Library, Manuscripts Department, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia 22901.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 19th day of April, 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



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