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Submitter Information

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General Comment

Thank you for considering public comments on the environmental issues at play in the relicensing decision on North Anna Power Station Units 1 and 2 (Docket ID NRC-2020-0201). With the knowledge from my career in the energy industry, I feel passionately that relicensing is the best decision for Dominion Energy customers, the communities surrounding the station, and the entire state of Virginia. Not only does North Anna Power Station have a demonstrated history as a good neighbor in Louisa County, contributing to the local community, economy, and environment, but the plant has an exceptional safety record. Its operations include rigorous testing to make sure that the station meets or exceeds environmental regulations, particularly regarding the waters and wildlife of Lake Anna itself. And lets not forget, the plant was praised across the nation for its effective and efficient response prioritizing safety after a high-magnitude earthquake rocked Central Virginia in 2011.

While safety is a top priority, the environmental benefits of nuclear generation on Virginias clean energy goals cannot be overlooked. As a low-cost carbon-free generation source, nuclear is an important part of the energy mix, and North Anna Power Station Units 1 and 2 are essential to Dominion Energys plans for net-zero carbon and methane emissions across the companys footprint by 2050. Nuclear energy complements and supports additional carbon-free generation, as it reliably produces clean energy even when the sun is not shining and the wind is not blowing. Without nuclear in the mix, compliance with the Virginia Clean Economy Act becomes vastly more difficult.

As regulators address the relicensing at North Anna, I urge them to recognize that North Anna has a critical role to play in ushering in Virginias clean energy future and approve both units.