

June 4, 2001

Mr. David A. Christian
Senior Vice President - Nuclear
Virginia Electric and Power Company
5000 Dominion Blvd.
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060

SUBJECT: COMPLETION OF LICENSING ACTIVITY FOR GENERIC LETTER 99-02,
"LABORATORY TESTING OF NUCLEAR-GRADE ACTIVATED CHARCOAL" -
SURRY POWER STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. MA5851 AND MA5852)

Dear Mr. Christian:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that we have completed activities related to Generic Letter (GL) 99-02. Your proposed license amendments related to charcoal testing for Surry Units 1 and 2 remain under review.

On June 3, 1999, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued GL 99-02, "Laboratory Testing of Nuclear-grade Activated Charcoal," to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.

The purpose of the GL was to:

- (1) Alert addressees that the NRC has determined that testing nuclear-grade activated charcoal to standards other than American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) D3803-1989, "Standard Test Method for Nuclear-Grade Activated Carbon," does not provide assurance for complying with the current licensing basis as it relates to the dose limits of General Design Criterion (GDC) 19 of Appendix A to Part 50 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) and Subpart A of 10 CFR Part 100.
- (2) Request that all addressees determine whether their Technical Specifications (TS) reference ASTM D3803-1989 for charcoal filter laboratory testing. Addressees whose TS do not reference ASTM D3803-1989 should either amend their TS to reference ASTM D3803-1989 or propose an alternative test protocol and provide the information discussed in the requested actions.
- (3) Alert addressees to the staff's intent to exercise enforcement discretion under certain conditions.
- (4) Request that all addressees send the NRC written responses to this GL relating to implementation of the requested actions.

In GL 99-02, the NRC staff established the following four groups of plants:

- (1) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (2) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989
- (3) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (4) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989

In response to GL 99-02, you provided a letter dated November 29, 1999, for Surry Power Station, Units 1 and 2. Associated with your response was a request for a license amendment to change your TS to provide for testing as described in the GL. The NRC staff has reviewed your response and has concluded that you have provided all requested information and an acceptable TS change request. In addition, you have committed to test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989 until your TS amendment is issued. Therefore, we consider GL 99-02 to be closed for your facility. Your TS change request was reviewed as a separate, plant-specific action under TAC Nos. MA7867 and MA7868 and issued on May 14, 2001. We thank you for your prompt and complete response.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Dr. G. E. Edison at 301-415-1448.

Sincerely,

/RA/

G. E. Edison, Senior Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-280 and 50-281

cc: See next page

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Virginia Electric and Power Company

Surry Power Station

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