

November 24, 2003

Mr. David A. Christian
Sr. Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer
Virginia Electric and Power Company
Innsbrook Technical Center
5000 Dominion Blvd.
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060-6711

SUBJECT: NORTH ANNA POWER STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2, AND SURRY POWER STATION, UNIT 2 - REQUEST TO USE SUBSEQUENT EDITION AND ADDENDA OF ASME SECTION XI FOR QUALIFICATION OF EXAMINATION PERSONNEL (TAC NOS. MB8787, MB8788, AND MB8914)

Dear Mr. Christian:

By letter dated May 6, 2003, as supplemented by letters dated June 12 and September 17, 2003, Virginia Electric and Power Company requested approval to use the 1998 Edition through the 2000 Addenda of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code), Section XI, subsection IWA-2300, including references to the 1995 Edition of the American National Standards Institute/American Society for Nondestructive Testing CP-189, Appendices VI, VII, and VIII of the ASME Code, and any rule modification and limitation, to establish the examiner qualification requirements for the North Anna Power Station (North Anna), Units 1 and 2, and Surry Power Station (Surry), Unit 2, inservice inspection (ISI) programs, and the North Anna Units 1 and 2, and Surry Units 1 and 2 containment programs. (The Surry Unit 1 ISI program already conforms to the 1998 Edition through the 2000 Addenda of the ASME Code.) You specified that IWA-2300 contains the related portions associated with examiner qualifications, and would be the only section of the Code affected by the proposed change.

The NRC staff previously approved the request for relief for the examiner qualification requirements for containment programs at North Anna and Surry, documenting the results of the evaluation in a letter dated October 28, 2003. The NRC staff's evaluation and conclusion addressing the proposed changes to the examiner qualification requirements for the North Anna Units 1 and 2, and Surry Unit 2 ISI programs are contained in the enclosed Safety Evaluation. The NRC staff concluded that your proposed update encompasses all related requirements of the respective editions and addenda. As a result, the NRC staff finds that your request to update the ISI programs for North Anna Units 1 and 2, and Surry Unit 2 to the 1998 Edition through the 2000 Addenda of the ASME Code, IWA-2300, and Appendices VI, VII, and VIII is acceptable.

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Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(iv), your request to use the 1998 Edition through the 2000 Addenda of the ASME Code to establish the examiner qualification requirements for the North Anna Units 1 and 2, and Surry Unit 2 ISI programs, as stated above, is approved for the remainder of the third 10-year ISI intervals at each unit. This completes the NRC staff's review activities for TAC Nos. MB8787, MB8788, and MB8914.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John A. Nakoski, Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-281, 50-338, and 50-339

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
REQUESTS FOR RELIEF RELATED TO THE USE OF SELECTED PORTIONS OF
ASME CODE, SECTION XI, 1998 EDITION THROUGH 2000 ADDENDA
NORTH ANNA POWER STATION UNITS 1 AND 2
SURRY POWER STATION UNIT 2
VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY
DOCKET NOS. 50-338, 50-339, and 50-281

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated May 6, 2003, as supplemented by letters dated June 12 and September 17, 2003, Virginia Electric and Power Company (the licensee) proposed to update the inservice inspection (ISI) programs at North Anna Power Station (North Anna) Units 1 and 2, and Surry Power Station (Surry) Unit 2. Specifically, the licensee proposed to update the selected programs at these three units to the 1998 Edition through the 2000 Addenda of Section XI of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code), Subsection IWA-2300, including references to the 1995 Edition of the American National Standards Institute/American Society for Nondestructive Testing CP-189 (CP-189), Appendices VI, VII, and VIII of the ASME Code, and any rule modification and limitation. Subsection IWA-2300 is used to establish the qualification requirements for nondestructive examination personnel, and the appendices provide the process for achieving specific qualifications.

All three plants are operating in their third 10-year ISI interval. The current ASME Code of record for each plant's ISI program is as follows:

- North Anna Unit 1 - the 1989 Edition (ISI interval ends April 30, 2009);
- North Anna Unit 2 - the 1995 Edition through 1996 Addenda (ISI interval ends December 13, 2010); and
- Surry Unit 2 - the 1989 Edition (ISI interval ends May 9, 2004)

This request is for the remainder of the third 10-year ISI interval at North Anna Units 1 and 2, and Surry Unit 2.

2.0 REGULATORY EVALUATION

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(iv), the licensee requested to use the 1998 Edition through the 2000 Addenda of ASME Section XI, Subsection IWA-2300, including references to the 1995 Edition of CP-189, Appendices VI, VII, and VIII of the ASME Code, and any rule modification and limitation to establish the examiner qualification requirements.

Enclosure

3.0 NRC STAFF EVALUATION

The licensee stated that IWA-2300 of the ASME Code, including references to the 1995 Edition of CP-189, and Appendices VI, VII, and VIII of the ASME Code, contain the related portions associated with examiner qualification, and only these sections of the ASME Code would be affected.

The licensee also stated that paragraph VII-4310 of ASME Section XI, Appendix VII, requires that if simulated flaws are to be used in the test specimens for qualification of ultrasonic examination personnel, then the simulated flaws shall not exceed the requirements of IWB-3500. Alternatively, VII-4310 allows the use of test specimens that meet the test specimen requirements of ASME Section XI, Appendix VIII, to qualify ultrasonic examination personnel to Appendix VII. The licensee stated it would continue this practice in the future. The licensee stated that the test specimens used to qualify ultrasonic examination personnel comply with the requirements of the 1998 Edition of ASME Section XI, Appendix VII, paragraph VII-4310 as well as all previous editions and addenda of Section XI back to the 1989 Edition of the Code, and that there were no changes to paragraph IWB-3500 in the 1998 Edition though the 2000 Addenda of the ASME Code.

10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(iv) states that ISI of components may meet the requirements set forth in subsequent editions and addenda that are incorporated by reference in 10 CFR 50.55a(b), subject to NRC approval. Portions of editions or addenda may be used provided that all related requirements of the respective editions and addenda are met. The 1989 Edition through the 2000 Addenda of Section XI of the ASME Code with accompanying limitations and modifications were incorporated by reference in 10 CFR 50.55a(b) on September 26, 2002 (67 FR 60520). Specific limitations and modifications on subsection IWA-2300, Appendix VI, Appendix VIII, and Appendix VIII are described in 10 CFR 50.55a(b)(2) and 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(C).

The NRC staff has reviewed the information in the licensee's submittal dated May 6, 2003, as supplemented by letters dated June 12 and September 17, 2003. The NRC staff determined that the qualification requirements for nondestructive examination personnel are contained in the portions of the ASME Code selected by the licensee for updating in the ISI programs at North Anna Units 1 and 2 and Surry Unit 2. Therefore, the licensee has appropriately evaluated all related requirements as they pertain to the proposed alternative. The NRC staff finds this to be acceptable.

4.0 CONCLUSION

Based upon the incorporation by reference of the 1998 Edition through the 2000 Addenda of the ASME Code in 10 CFR 50.55a(b), and the licensee meeting all related ASME Code requirements including applicable 10 CFR 50.55a(b) limitations and modifications to IWA-2300, and Appendices VI, VII, and VIII, the NRC staff concludes that the licensee's request to update the ISI programs for North Anna Units 1 and 2, and Surry Unit 2 to the 1998 Edition through the 2000 Addenda of ASME Code, Section XI, Subsection IWA-2300, and Appendices VI, VII, and VIII is acceptable.

Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(iv), the licensee's request, as stated above, is approved for the remainder of the third 10-year intervals for North Anna Units 1 and 2, and Surry Unit 2.

Principle Contributor: D. Naujock, EMCB

Date: November 24, 2003

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