

Comments of Brad Wike  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
Local Union 50

Comments to the NRC

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My name is Brad Wike. I am a Business Representative for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 50. Local 50 represents approximately 255 hourly and craft workers at The Dominion North Anna Nuclear generating station here in Louisa, Virginia and thousands more nuclear workers nation wide.

The IBEW is a Labor organization that is dedicated to insuring that our members enjoy secure, well paying jobs while protecting their safety and the health of the environment.

We constantly stress the importance of excellence in training and industrial knowledge as it relates to our competence in the workplace for our employers, the health, welfare and safety of our members as well as our stewardship of the environment.

We realize that the overall strength and well being of Virginia's economy is vital to supporting secure employment, not only for our members but also for all workers. The IBEW is a firm believer that a rising tide lifts all boats.

With these tenants in mind, we strongly support Dominion's efforts to bring more Nuclear Generation to Virginia, and specifically, Louisa.

Nuclear generation is the cheapest and cleanest dependable source of electricity in Virginia. As Virginia continues to grow, cheap and reliable power will be needed. Affordable electricity helps drive the economy.

Construction and operation at North Anna will increase the tax base of the County allowing it to improve education and other core public services. Businesses seek locations with reliable energy sources and educated workforces.

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More workers with good jobs also drive the economy. Proposed construction at North Anna is said to provide 2000 jobs. There will be 750 permanent, secure, well paying jobs with an average salary of \$67,000 annually. There will be the additional benefit of these new workers spending their money with local businesses and providing a better life for their families.

Dominion has been a good corporate neighbor and a good steward of the environment. It's workers and our members are highly trained and motivated professionals. They view their own health and safety and the health and well being of our environment as priority one. Safety is more than a word to them. It is a culture of focus, and persistence, and continuous improvement. Safety is a process and the only acceptable product is excellence.

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers believe that Corporate America, the American Worker and our precious American Environment can all co-exist and prosper. That is why we believe that expansion at North Anna is good for Louisa, good for The Commonwealth, and good for the Nation. It should be permitted to go forward if the need for additional generation arises.