

October 19, 2016

Mr. Steve Harrison, Director  
Environmental Monitoring  
and Emergency Response  
Virginia Department of Health  
Office of Radiological Health  
109 Governor Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Richmond, VA 23219

SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
REGARDING THE NORTH ANNA POWER STATION INDEPENDENT SPENT  
FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION LICENSE RENEWAL REQUEST (DOCKET  
NUMBER: 72-0016)

Dear Mr. Harrison:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received, by letter dated May 25, 2016, an application from the Virginia Electric and Power Company (Dominion) to renew Materials License Number SNM-2507 for the North Anna Power Station (NAPS) specifically licensed Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI). If this renewal is approved, Dominion will be allowed to continue interim storage of spent nuclear fuel (spent fuel) at the specifically licensed ISFSI for a 40-year period, beginning on July 1, 2018. In 1998, the NRC issued Dominion a 20-year license to receive, possess, store, and transfer NAPS spent fuel to the NAPS ISFSI. The current license expires on June 30, 2018. NAPS ISFSI is located within the site boundary of the NAPS, in Louisa County, Virginia, approximately 40 miles north-northwest of Richmond, Virginia (figure enclosed).

The NRC's regulations in the Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 72, "Licensing Requirements for the Independent Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel, High-Level Radioactive Waste, and Reactor-Related Greater than Class C Waste," govern the storage of spent fuel generated at commercial nuclear power reactors licensed by the NRC. Spent fuel that has been removed from the reactor's spent fuel pool is typically stored at an ISFSI.

As established in 10 CFR Part 51, "Environmental Protection Regulations for Domestic Licensing and Related Regulatory Functions," the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the NRC staff is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed action. The EA will include an analysis of potential impacts to the local environmental resource areas. In support of the environmental review, the NRC respectfully requests information about potential impacts to environmental resources from Virginia Department of Health for the proposed license renewal.

Notwithstanding our request, the NRC would like to provide the following background information regarding NRC's licensing of the North Anna specifically-licensed ISFSI. For the original issuance of the North Anna ISFSI license, the NRC staff analyzed the potential environmental impacts associated with construction and operation of the ISFSI. The NRC

staff's assessment was documented in an EA, dated March 1997 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML123480192) in which the NRC staff determined that the construction and operation of the ISFSI would not significantly affect the quality of the environment. In a subsequent license amendment EA, dated January 2015 (ADAMS No. ML15022A575), your office "took no position in support of or opposition" with the NRC's determination that the proposed action, to amend TS 4.2.3, "Storage Pad," to revise the allowable distance between individual casks (center-to-center) on the ISFSI pad, did not have the potential to affect the quality of the human environment. In an additional license amendment EA, dated June 2016 (ADAMS No. ML16168A104), your office did not have any comments or questions on the NRC staff determination that the proposed action to place one modified TN-32B HBU cask containing high burnup fuel in the ISFSI also did not have the potential to significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The TN-32B HBU cask will be the last cask placed in the specifically-licensed ISFSI if that license amendment is approved. Dominion does not anticipate expansion of the existing NAPS specifically-licensed ISFSI for this renewal and thus, Dominion does not anticipate new significant construction activities related to the specifically-licensed ISFSI.

The NAPS ISFSI renewal application is publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, or from the NRC's ADAMS. The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The ADAMS number for the application package is ML16153A140.

Please provide any comments and/or information you may have regarding this environmental review within 30-days of receipt of this letter to the: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Mrs. Jill Caverly, 11555 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop: T-4B16, Rockville, Maryland 20852. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jean Trefethen of my staff by telephone at 301-415-0867 or via e-mail at [Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov](mailto:Jean.Trefethen@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jill Caverly, Acting Chief  
Environmental Review Branch  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety, Safeguards,  
and Environmental Review  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-16  
License No. SNM-2507

Enclosure:  
North Anna Site Layout

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Thank you for your assistance.

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Environmental Review Branch  
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Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
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Docket No. 72-16  
License No. SNM-2507

Enclosure:  
North Anna Site Layout

**DISTRIBUTION:** FCSE r/f KBanovac, NMSS

**ADAMS Accession Number: ML16286A267**

**\*via e-mail**

OFC	FCSE/ERB	FCSE/ERB	FCSE/ERB	FCSE/ERB
NAME	*JTrefethen	*DDiaz-Toro	AWalker-Smith	JCaverly
DATE	10/13/16	10/14/16	10/17/16	10/19/16

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