

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23261

October 18, 1979

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Attn: Mr. Darrell G. Eisenhut,  
Acting Director  
Division of Operating Reactors  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Serial No. 823/092179  
PO/DLB:baw  
Docket Nos. 50-280  
50-281  
License Nos. DPR-32  
DPR-37

Dear Sir:

We received your letter of September 21, 1979, requesting information on the potential for multiple equipment failures and challenges to safety systems at pressurized water reactors. Our letter of August 21, 1979, Serial No. 580/062679 provided the results of our review for North Anna Power Station Units 1 and 2 in response to your June 26, 1979, letter. This letter provides the requested information for Surry Power Station Units 1 and 2.

A review of the current testing procedures reveals that provisions are incorporated which, when coupled with plant design, should prevent inadvertent challenges to the safety related systems and provide adequate instruction to the technicians performing the periodic test (PT). Each PT is written to test only one channel at a time and is performed by 2 qualified technicians in continuous communication. Specific instructions as to when a PT can be accomplished, and what precautions must be exercised to prevent affecting the operating unit are incorporated at appropriate steps within the PT.

A review of the station monthly operating reports and unit trip status reports indicates that no common mode failures have occurred which prevented safety systems from performing or being able to perform their intended functions.

A review of station monthly operating reports and unit trip status reports indicates that during previous years of operation, some events that might be considered multiple failures have occurred due largely to procedural inadequacy and in some instances, operator error. In each case, a review of the problem was conducted and corrective actions were taken.

Also, as requested, we have re-emphasized the importance of avoiding challenges to the protective features of our facilities. This was accomplished by revising an existing standing order.

Very truly yours,

  
C. M. Stallings

Vice President-Power Supply  
and Production Operations

*Approved  
10/18/79*

cc: Mr. James P. O'Reilly

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