

JENNINGS RANDOLPH, W. VA., CHAIRMAN  
EDMUND S. MUSKIE, MAINE  
MIKE GRAVEL, ALASKA  
LLOYD GENTSEN, TEX.  
QUENTIN N. BURDICK, N. DAK.  
JOHN C. CULVER, IOWA  
GARY HART, COLO.  
DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, N.Y.  
ROBERT T. STAFFORD, TENN.  
HOWARD H. BAKER, OHIO  
PETE V. DOMENICI, N. MEX.  
JOHN H. CHAFFEE, R.I.  
ALAN K. SIMPSON, WYO.  
LARRY PRESSLER, S. DAK.

JOHN W. YAGO, JR., STAFF DIRECTOR  
BAILEY GUARD, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

DOCKET NUMBER

PROD. & UTIL. SEC.

Rec. Fac. Br.  
280-281

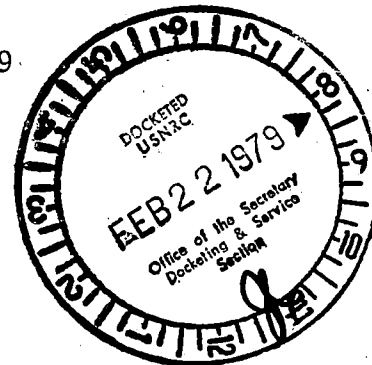
## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

February 15, 1979

Mr. Joseph M. Hendrie  
Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555



Dear Chairman Hendrie:

I understand that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has authorized the replacement of defective steam generators at Virginia Electric and Power Company's Surry Nuclear Power Plant. Further, I understand that this is the first nuclear plant repair of its type to be performed. Therefore, I would appreciate receiving information on the nature of the problem and the repair procedure involved.

Specifically, it would be helpful if you could supply answers to the following questions:

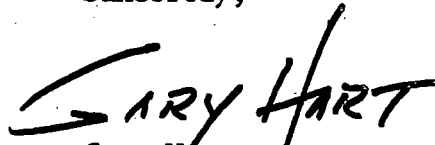
1. How widespread is the problem of steam generator tube denting, and what are the safety implications involved?
2. How has NRC dealt with the problem in the past, and what future activities (and levels of effort) are planned to resolve this safety issue?
3. Please describe the NRC environmental and safety review procedure which led to the authorization of this repair work. Were these reviews subject to public hearings or comment?
4. Please describe the steam generator replacement procedure which is being employed.
5. What environmental and safety precautions is NRC requiring prior to and during replacement activities? To what extent will NRC review and monitor this effort?
6. What will be done with the defective steam generator parts? What are the associated environmental and safety risks involved in the storage and/or disposal of these parts?

Joseph M. Hendrie  
Page 2

7. Will the steam generator supplier, Westinghouse, pay for this damage repair or are the costs to be passed on to the VEPCO consumer?
8. Are other nuclear power plants scheduled to undergo similar replacement repairs? If so, which ones, and when?

Mr. Chairman, this information will be useful to the Subcommittee on Nuclear Regulation in its ongoing oversight of commercial nuclear regulatory activities. As the replacement procedures at Surry have already recently commenced, your timely response to these questions would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Gary Hart  
Chairman, Subcommittee  
on Nuclear Regulation

cc: Commissioner Gilinsky  
Commissioner Kennedy  
Commissioner Bradford  
Commissioner Ahearne

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of )

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER )  
COMPANY )

Docket No.(s) 50-280  
50-281

(Surry Power Station, )  
Units 1 and 2) )  
)  
)  
)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document(s) upon each person designated on the official service list compiled by the Office of the Secretary of the Commission in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of Section 2.712 of 10 CFR Part 2 - Rules of Practice, of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Rules and Regulations.

Dated at Washington, D.C. this

22<sup>nd</sup> day of Feb 1979.

Peggy T. Downing  
Office of the Secretary of the Commission

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of )

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER )  
COMPANY )

(Surry, Units 1 and 2) )  
)  
)  
)

Docket No.(s) 50-280  
50-281

SERVICE LIST

Marshall E. Miller, Esq., Chairman  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dr. Oscar H. Paris  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Frederick J. Shon  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Counsel for NRC Staff  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Michael W. Maupin, Esq.  
Hunton and Williams  
P.O. Box 1535  
Richmond, Virginia 23213

Anthony J. Gambardella, Esq.  
Office of the Attorney General  
11 South 12th Street - Suite 308  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Swem Library  
College of William and Mary  
Williamsburg, Virginia