

May 24, 1985



VIRGINIA POWER

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attn: Mr. James R. Miller, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 3
Division of Licensing
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Serial No. 85-388
NAPS/JHL:acm
Docket Nos. 50-338
50-339
Licence Nos. NPF-4
NPF-7

Gentlemen:

VIRGINIA POWER
NORTH ANNA POWER STATION UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2
REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM THERMAL SLEEVES

Virginia Power letter dated August 4, 1982, for North Anna Unit No. 2, committed to a program of increased surveillance to address the potential concerns of loose parts in the reactor coolant system as a result of degraded thermal sleeves. The commitment was to perform, on a weekly basis, control rod exercises to verify the free movement of the control rod assemblies. This commitment was also made for North Anna Unit No. 1, in Virginia Power letter dated October 12, 1982, and was subsequently approved in the NRC Safety Evaluation Report (SER), dated January 11, 1983, that detailed Virginia Power's corrective actions and justification for continued operation.

Virginia Power desires to return the surveillance frequency for moving the control rod assemblies from a weekly interval back to the 31 day interval required by the Technical Specifications. The justification for the reduced surveillance is provided below.

The Loose Parts Monitoring System (LPMS) was enhanced as a result of the degraded thermal sleeves by adding accelerometers. If a thermal sleeve or a part of a thermal sleeve were to migrate in the reactor coolant system it will be quickly picked up on the LPMS or the Metal Impact Monitoring System (MIMS). However, to date there have been no indications that a continuing problem exists with thermal sleeves. The remaining thermal sleeves in the Unit 1 and 2 reactor coolant system were inspected by radiographic inspection techniques during the last refueling outages and the inspection results did not indicate any significant flaws in the thermal sleeve tack welds or missing thermal sleeves.

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With the LPMS and MIMS to detect any indication of a migrating thermal sleeve, daily audible check of the LPMS by engineering personnel, and the already present requirement to move the control rods once per 31 days per Technical Specification 4.1.3.1.2, Virginia Power believes that there is sufficient justification to reduce the interval for testing the control rod assemblies to at least every 31 days.

Very truly yours,

W. L. Stewart

cc: Dr. J. Nelson Grace
Regional Administrator
Region II

Mr. M. W. Branch
NRC Resident Inspector
North Anna Power Station