

Docket Nos. 50-338
and 50-339

September 26, 1985

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016

Mr. W. L. Stewart
Vice President - Nuclear Operations
Virginia Electric and Power Company
Post Office Box 26666
Richmond, Virginia 23261

Dear Mr. Stewart:

SUBJECT: INTERIM RELIEF/ASME CODE REQUIREMENTS-NORTH ANNA POWER STATION,
UNITS NO. 1 AND NO. 2 (NA-1&2)

By letters dated October 5, 1983 (Serial No. 487B), February 2 and 28, 1984 (Serial Nos. 487D and 487E) and January 24, 1985 (Serial No. 85-062), you submitted a proposed pump and valve inservice testing (IST) program description including requests for relief from selected ASME Code requirements pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g). In addition, by letter dated December 31, 1984 (Serial No. 258) you requested interim approval of the requests as they relate to the inservice inspection and testing for pumps and valves for North Anna Unit Nos. 1 and 2. Although we have not completed our detailed review of your submittals, our preliminary review makes it clear to us that your proposed program to implement those ASME Code requirements that you have found to be practical would increase the scope of inservice testing for your facility beyond that currently required by your Technical Specifications. We have concluded that this upgrading of your inservice testing program will further enhance safety.

Based upon our preliminary review; we believe that the requested interim approval will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest and we agree with your determination that it is impractical within the limitations of design, geometry and materials of construction of components, for you to meet certain of the specified ASME Code requirements and that imposition of those requirements would result in hardships or unusual difficulties without a compensating increase in the level or quality of safety.

Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i), we hereby grant relief, on an interim basis, pending completion of our detailed review, from those inservice testing requirements of the ASME Code that you have requested. Since the scope of the inservice testing will be increased by your proposed program, and the granting of this relief is based only on the impracticality of selected ASME Code requirements, we have determined that the relief granted neither increases the probability or consequences of accidents previously considered nor decreases safety margins and that, therefore, it does not involve a significant hazards consideration. Therefore, you are authorized to, and should proceed to, implement your proposed program (except where your current Technical Specifications are more restrictive).

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P PDR

Mr. W. L. Stewart

- 2 -

During the period between now and the date we complete our detailed review of your submittal, you must comply with both your existing Technical Specifications and your proposed inservice testing program. In the event conflicting requirements arise for some components, you must comply with the more restrictive requirements (e. g., shorter inspection intervals, increased number of parameters measured). In other words, the granting of this relief from ASME Code requirements should not be interpreted to give you relief from any of the requirements in your existing Technical Specifications.

When our detailed review of your October 5, 1983, February 2 and 28, 1984 and January 24, 1985 submittals is complete, we will: (1) issue final approval of your program (which may contain modifications resulting from the staff's review), (2) grant relief from any ASME Code requirements that are determined to be impractical for your facility for the duration of the inspection interval, and (3) issue appropriate changes to your Technical Specifications.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
H. R. Denton

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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Sincerely,

Edward J. Butcher, Acting Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 3
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

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As required by 10 CFR 43.44, the licensee is required to submit a copy of this letter to the NRC.

Mr. W. L. Stewart
Virginia Electric & Power Company

North Anna Power Station

cc:

Richard M. Foster, Esq.
Musick, Williamson, Schwartz,
Leavenworth & Cope, P.C.
P. O. Box 4579
Boulder, Colorado 80306

Michael W. Maupin, Esq.
Hunton, Williams, Gay and Gibson
P. O. Box 1535
Richmond, Virginia 23212

Mr. W. T. Lough
Virginia Corporation Commission
Division of Energy Regulation
P. O. Box 1197
Richmond, Virginia 23209

Ellyn R. Weiss, Esq.
Harmon, Weiss and Jordan
2001 S Street NW
Washington, DC 20009

Mr. J. H. Ferguson
Executive Vice President - Power
Virginia Electric and Power Co.
Post Office Box 26666
Richmond, Virginia 23261

Mr. Anthony Gambardella
Office of the Attorney General
Supreme Court Building
101 North 8th Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Resident Inspector/North Anna
c/o U.S. NRC
Senior Resident Inspector
Route 2, Box 78
Mineral, Virginia 23117

Mrs. Margaret Dietrich
Route 2, Box 568
Gordonsville, Virginia 22042

Mr. Paul W. Purdom
Environmental Studies Institute
Drexel University
32nd and Chestnut Streets
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal
Board Panel
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Regional Administrator, Region II
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Executive Director
for Operations
101 Marietta Street N.W., Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Mr. E. W. Harrell
P. O. Box 402
Mineral, Virginia 23117

Old Dominion Electric Cooperative
c/o Executive Vice President
Innsbrook Corporate Center
4222 Cox Road, Suite 102
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060

Mr. Richard C. Kiepper
Board of Supervisors
Louisa County Courthouse
P. O. Box 27
Louisa, Virginia 23093