

JUN 20 1985

Virginia Electric and Power Company  
ATTN: Mr. W. L. Stewart, Vice President,  
Nuclear Operations  
P. O. Box 26666  
Richmond, VA 23261

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NORTH ANNA UNIT 1 ROD OPERABILITY TESTING

Thank you for your letter, Serial No. 85-385, of May 24, 1985, documenting your understanding of events occurring on May 14-15, 1985, during control rod operability testing on Unit 1. You had one group of four shutdown rods that would not withdraw fully, being five steps inserted. You had identified that firing signals were not being transmitted to those rod drives and that other rod groups operated from other control cabinets worked properly. NRC concurred on May 14, 1985, with your decision to not shutdown while troubleshooting in this specific instance, because a credible safety concern could not be identified due to the small insertion involved; the limited number of rods involved; the lack of any indication that the scram function was affected; and the ongoing repair activities. NRC's concurrence was limited to this one instance and was not based on your analysis of the meaning of the involved Technical Specifications (TS). This review identified that certain clarifications of these TS would be useful. NRC Region II is pursuing this subject separately and will inform you of any clarifications obtained.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

15/ Virgil L. Brownlee

Virgil L. Brownlee, Chief  
Reactor Projects Branch 2  
Division of Reactor Projects

cc: E. W. Harrell, Station Manager  
R. J. Hardwick, Jr., Manager -  
Nuclear Programs and Licensing

bcc: NRC Resident Inspector  
Document Control Desk  
Commonwealth of Virginia

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