

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 1st day of July 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Ram Subbaratnam,

*Project Manager, Project Directorate II-1,
Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of
Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 98-18064 Filed 7-7-98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 72-16]

Virginia Electric and Power Company, Old Dominion Electric Cooperative; Notice of Issuance of Materials License SNM-2507 North Anna Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) has issued a Materials License under the provisions of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 72 (10 CFR Part 72), to Virginia Electric and Power Company (Virginia Power) and Old Dominion Electric Cooperative (ODEC), authorizing receipt and storage of spent fuel in an independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) located on site at its North Anna Power Station in Louisa County, Virginia.

The function of the ISFSI is to provide interim storage for up to 839.04 metric tons of uranium contained in approximately 1824 fuel assemblies from the North Anna Power Station, Units 1 and 2, in storage casks. Thirty two assemblies are to be loaded into each cask within the North Anna Power Station spent fuel enclosure at the plant and subsequently transferred to the onsite ISFSI. The cask that is authorized for use is the TN-32 designed by Transnuclear, Inc. The license for an ISFSI under 10 CFR Part 72 is issued for 20 years, but the licensee may seek to renew the license, if necessary, prior to its expiration.

The Commission's Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) has completed its environmental, safeguards, and safety reviews in support of issuance of this license.

Following receipt of the application filed May 9, 1995, a "Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Materials License for the Storage of Spent Fuel and Opportunity for Hearing" was published in the **Federal Register** on July 6, 1995 (60 FR 35237). The "Environmental Assessment (EA) Related to the Construction and Operation of the North Anna Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (dated March 28, 1997) and Finding of No Significant Impact," was

issued and noticed in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 16202) in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51. The scope of the EA included the construction and operation of an ISFSI on the North Anna Power Station site including impacts derived from use of the TN-32 cask.

The staff has completed its safety review of the North Anna ISFSI site application and safety analysis report. The NRC staff's "Safety Evaluation Report for the North Anna Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation" was issued on June 30, 1998. Materials License SNM-2507, the staff's Environmental Assessment, Safety Evaluation Report, and other documents related to this action are available for public inspection and for copying for a fee at the NRC Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555, and at the local public document room at the Special Collections Department, Second Floor, Alderman Library, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903-2498.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 30th day of June 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

William F. Kane,

*Director, Spent Fuel Project Office, Office of
Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.*

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-213]

Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company; Haddam Neck Plant; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from certain requirements of its regulations to Facility Operating License No. DPR-61, a license held by the Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company (CYAPCO or the licensee). The exemption would apply to the Haddam Neck Plant, a permanently shutdown and defueled plant located at the CYAPCO site in Middlesex County, Connecticut.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed exemption would modify security requirements to eliminate certain equipment, relocate certain equipment, modify certain procedures, and reduce the number of armed responders, due to the

permanently shutdown and defueled status of the Haddam Neck facility.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application dated June 19, 1997. The requested action would grant an exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR 73.55, "Requirements for physical protection of licensed activities in nuclear power plant reactors against radiological sabotage."

Need for the Proposed Action

Haddam Neck was shut down on July 22, 1996. On December 5, 1996, the licensee informed the Commission that it had decided to permanently cease operations at Haddam Neck Plant and that all fuel had been permanently removed from the reactor. In accordance with 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2), the certifications in the letter modified the facility operating license to permanently withdraw CYAPCO's authority to operate the reactor and to load fuel into the reactor vessel. In this permanently shutdown condition, the facility poses a reduced risk to public health and safety. Because of this reduced risk, certain requirements of 10 CFR 73.55 are no longer appropriate. An exemption is required from portions of 10 CFR 73.55 to allow the licensee to implement a revised Defueled Security Plan that is appropriate for the permanently shutdown and defueled reactor facility.

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Action

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action. The Commission concludes that exemption from certain portions of 10 CFR 73.55 are acceptable given the reduced consequences of an act of sabotage resulting in the release of radioactive material contained in the spent fuel at a defueled reactor site.

The proposed change will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed action does involve features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact.

Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-

radiological impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded that there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternative with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. The principal alternative to the action would be to deny the request. Denial of the exemption request would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Haddam Neck Plant.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on July 1, 1998, the NRC staff consulted with Mr. Dwayne Gardner of the State of Connecticut, Department of Environmental Protection, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee's letter dated June 19, 1997, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the Local Public Document Room at the Russell Public Library, 123 Broad Street, Middletown, Connecticut.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 1st day of July 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Seymour H. Weiss,

*Director, Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning Project Directorate,
Division of Reactor Program Management,
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*
[FR Doc. 98-18059 Filed 7-7-98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Joint Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittees on Plant Operations and on Fire Protection; Notice of Meeting

The ACRS Subcommittees on Plant Operations and on Fire Protection will hold a joint meeting on July 29, 1998, at the NRC Region II Office, Atlanta Federal Center, 61 Forsyth Street, SW., Suite 23 T85, Atlanta, Georgia.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance.

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

Wednesday, July 29, 1998—8:30 a.m. until the conclusion of business

The Subcommittees will meet with the NRC Region II personnel to discuss Region II activities and other items of mutual interest, including significant operating events, on-line maintenance, plant performance review program, results of the pilot fire protection functional inspection, and other fire protection issues. The purpose of this meeting is to gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and to formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Oral statements may be presented by members of the public with the concurrence of the Subcommittee Chairman; written statements will be accepted and made available to the Committee. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public, and questions may be asked only by members of the Subcommittees, their consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the cognizant ACRS staff engineer named below five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

During the initial portion of the meeting, the Subcommittees, along with any of their consultants who may be present, may exchange preliminary views regarding matters to be considered during the balance of the meeting.

The Subcommittees will then hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of Region II personnel and other interested persons regarding this review.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been cancelled or rescheduled, and the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted

therefor, can be obtained by contacting the cognizant ACRS staff engineer, Mr. Amarjit Singh (telephone 301/415-6899) between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (EDT). Persons planning to attend this meeting are urged to contact the above named individual one or two working days prior to the meeting to be advised of any potential changes to the agenda, etc., that may have occurred.

Dated: July 1, 1998.

Medhat M. El-Zeftawy,

Acting Chief, Nuclear Reactors Branch.

[FR Doc. 98-18040 Filed 7-7-98; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Excepted Service

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This gives notice of positions placed or revoked under Schedules A and B, and placed under Schedule C in the excepted service, as required by Civil Service Rule VI, Exceptions from the Competitive Service.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia H. Paige, Staffing Reinvention Office, Employment Service (202) 606-0830.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Personnel Management published its last monthly notice updating appointing authorities established or revoked under the Excepted Service provisions of 5 CFR 213 on June 12, 1998 (63 FR 32258). Individual authorities established or revoked under Schedules A and B and established under Schedule C between May 1, 1998, and May 31, 1998, appear in the listing below. Future notices will be published on the fourth Tuesday of each month, or as soon as possible thereafter. A consolidated listing of all authorities as of June 30 is published annually.

Schedule A

No Schedule A authorities were established or revoked during May 1998.

Schedule B

No Schedule B authorities were established or revoked during May 1998.

Schedule C

The following Schedule C authorities were established during May 1998.