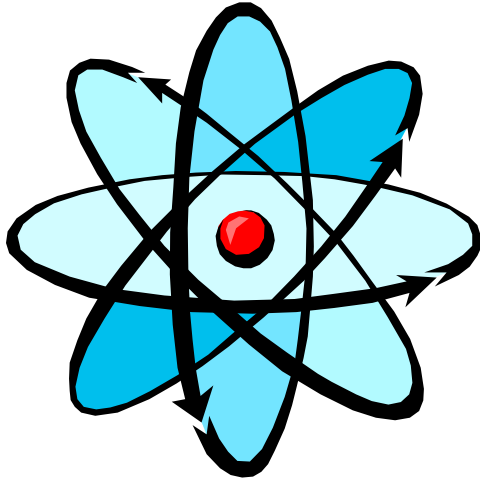


# New Nuclear Power Plants in Virginia?

Dominion Power Plans Expansion at North Anna

## Utility Seeks First New Reactor License in Decades

On September 25, 2003 the Dominion Virginia Power company took the first step in building a new nuclear power plant when it applied for an Early Site Permit, or ESP, for North Anna. An early site permit would grant the company permission to use the site for a nuclear power plant at some date in the future.



**The permit application asks permission for two or more new nuclear reactors that would generate an additional 8,600 Megawatts of electric power, a potential expansion of 480%.**

Dominion must obtain permission from the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) before building a new plant.

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A copy of the Dominion application is available to the public at the ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The accession number for the application is ML032731517. Persons who do not have access to the Internet, or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, may contact the NRC Public Document Room staff toll-free by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or by e-mail to [pdr@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr@nrc.gov)

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## Facts About North Anna Nuclear Power Station

The North Anna nuclear station is operated by Dominion Virginia Power and generates 1,786 megawatts from two nuclear power plants. Unit 1 began producing power in 1978 and Unit 2 began in 1980. The nuclear plants are approximately 7 miles northeast of Mineral, Virginia and 40 miles northwest of Richmond and are located on the North Anna River. The river is dammed to form Lake Anna which provides cooling water for the power plants.

# Help Stop Nuclear Power in Virginia!

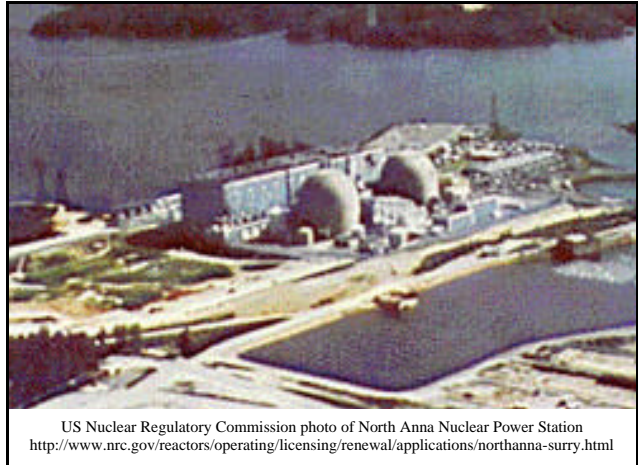
***Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League***

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## What's Wrong With Nuclear Power?

The nuclear industry promotes nuclear power as a cleaner form of electricity which does not add to the air pollution problem. But nuclear reactors do release many harmful radioactive isotopes into the air and water. Reports on the amounts of each isotope released are filed with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. And nuclear power operators have not solved the problems caused by thousands of tons of highly toxic radioactive waste that have been accumulating at nuclear plants for the last four decades.

Children living near nuclear power plants suffer from higher levels of birth defects, cancer, and early death. A study by the Radiation and Public Health Project published in the scientific journal *Environmental Epidemiology and Toxicology* found that **infant death rates near five U.S. nuclear plants increased within two years after the plants opened. The study also found that infant deaths decreased 15-20% soon after the reactors closed.** And the decreases in cancer and birth defects continued for 7 years after plant closure.



The Better Business Bureau said advertising which says nuclear energy is “environmentally clean” is inaccurate and told the nuclear industry to stop making such claims. The ruling came after a complaint was filed by a coalition of groups, including Public Citizen, who said the advertising was deceptive. The decision by the Better Business Bureau concluded that nuclear plants cause thermal water pollution and that the production of nuclear fuel causes air pollution.

## The Campaign to Stop Dominion Power Moves Forward

On December 8, 2003 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission held a public hearing in Louisa County, Virginia on the environmental impacts of Dominion's new nuclear plants. The Atomic Energy Act and the Environmental Policy Act allow people who live near nuclear power plants and other interested parties to get involved. Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League staff attended this meeting, gave testimony, and announced our plan to intervene to stop the expansion. BREDL retains the law firm of Harmon Curran Spielberg & Eisenberg in Washington, DC to represent citizens living near the North Anna plant. On January 2nd BREDL, joined by Public Citizen and Nuclear Information and Resource Service, petitioned to intervene (that is, become a third party to the NRC and Dominion) in the early site permit. If the NRC agrees, it will designate the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to hear from our attorney and from the company's attorneys in a series of proceedings in writing, by telephone, and in a courtroom. The issues we will bring up include plant safety, emergency response, public health and environmental impacts, and alternative energy. The NRC plans to issue a Draft Environmental Impact Statement in October and hold a public meeting in December 2004.