January 23, 2001

Mr. Michael A. Balduzzi
Vice President, Operations
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation
185 Old Ferry Road
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Brattleboro, VT 05302-7002

SUBJECT: VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT RE: EDITORIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (TAC NO. MB0365)

Dear Mr. Balduzzi:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 196 to Facility Operating License DPR-28 for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, in response to your application dated October 25, 2000.

The amendment makes editorial and administrative changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs). These changes correct spelling and grammatical errors, correct references, eliminate excessive detail related to specifying a job title, revise position titles, consolidate pages and generalize statements allowing U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) approved alternatives to specified requirements.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Robert M. Pulsifer, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-271

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 196 to License No. DPR-28
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

DOCKET NO. 50-271

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 196
License No. DPR-28

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:

   A. The application for amendment filed by the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation (the licensee) dated October 25, 2000, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;

   B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;

   C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;

   D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and

   E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 3.B of Facility Operating License No. DPR-28 is hereby amended to read as follows:

   (B) Technical Specifications

   The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 196 , are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 60 days.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/ VNerses for

James W. Clifford, Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical Specifications

Date of Issuance: January 23, 2001

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 196

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-28

DOCKET NO. 50-271

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the attached revised pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

Remove	Insert
v	v
24	24
83	83
120	120
121	121
122	122
143	143
240	240
256	256

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 196 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-28

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION

DOCKET NO. 50-271

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated October 25, 2000, the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation (the licensee) submitted a request to amend the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station Technical Specifications (TSs). The proposed amendment would revise the TSs to correct spelling and grammatical errors, correct references, eliminate excessive detail related to specifying a job title, revise position titles, consolidate pages and generalize statements allowing U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) approved alternatives to specified requirements.

2.0 EVALUATION

2.1 Table 3.1.1 Notes

Note 10 for Table 3.1.1 states: "Turbine stop valve closure and turbine control valve fast closue scram signals may be bypassed at $\leq$30% of reactor Rated Thermal Power." The word closue is misspelled after the words "control valve fast." The sentence should read; "Turbine stop valve closure and turbine control valve fast closure scram signals may be bypassed at $\leq$30% of reactor Rated Thermal Power."

Note 12.b for Table 3.1.1 states: "No more than two (2) control rods withdrawn. The two (2) control rods that can be withdrawn cannot be faced adjacent or diagonally adjacent." The word faced is misspelled after the words "..... withdrawn cannot be....." These sentences should read; "No more than two (2) control rods withdrawn. The two (2) control rods that can be withdrawn cannot be face adjacent or diagonally adjacent."

These are administrative changes in nature to correct misspellings and are, therefore, acceptable.

2.2 TS 4.3.B.3 (a)

This TS presently reads: "The Reactor Engineer shall verify that the control rod withdrawal sequence for the Rod Worth Minimizer computer is correct." Referencing the job "Reactor Engineer" is unnecessary detail that is not required per 10 CFR 50.36 for inclusion into the TS. This detail is not applied elsewhere in the TS. This change does not reduce the requirement to perform this surveillance requirement nor does it imply that other than a qualified individual

satisfactorily perform this surveillance. This is an administrative change that does not alter the surveillance requirements of TS 4.3.B.3 (a), therefore, is acceptable.

2.2 TS 4.6.E.1

This TS section is being divided into two complete paragraphs to separate two unique discussions. The first paragraph discusses inservice inspection of safety-related components in accordance with Section XI of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code while the second paragraph discusses inservice inspection of piping identified in Generic Letter 88-01. The second paragraph is also being changed to delete the words "except that sample selection for the scope of Category A welds may be in accordance with ASME Code Case N-560." These words will be replaced with "or in accordance with alternative measures approved by NRC staff." The licensee will still apply Code Case N-560 as appropriate and they have changed the Bases to reflect the approval to use this Code Case; however, it is unnecessary to have this detail in the TS. By adding the new words stating that inservice inspection shall be performed in accordance with alternative measures approved by the NRC staff would eliminate the necessity to change this paragraph as specific alternative changes are approved by the staff. The requirements for the licensee to obtain approval of alternatives will not change by deleting this detail and generalizing this paragraph in the TS. This change does not affect the requirements of TS 4.6.E.1 but will allow the changing of future site alternatives without the need for a TS change. This is an administrative change by deleting unnecessary detail, therefore, it is acceptable.

2.3 TS 4.6.E.2

Section 4.6.E addresses inservice inspection of safety-related components in 4.6.E.1 and inservice or operability testing of safety-related pumps and valve in 4.6.E.2. The reference to performance as required by 10 CFR 50.55a(g) and relief granted by 50.55a(g)(6)(i) in TS 4.6.E.2 are incorrect. Requirements of 50.55a(g) refer to inservice inspection while requirements for inservice testing are found in 50.55a(f). The licensee proposes to change the words in TS 4.6.E.2 from ".....as required by 10 CFR 50, Section 50.55a(g)..." to "as required by 10 CFR 50, Section 50.55a(f)...." The licensee also proposes to change this paragraph to read "....except where specific written relief has been granted by the NRC pursuant to 10 CFR 50, Section 50.55a(g)(6)(i)" to ".....except where specific written relief has been granted by the NRC." This change reflects the correct regulations reference to 10 CFR 50.55a(f). Relief for inservice testing will still need to be requested by the licensee and granted by the NRC. These changes are administrative in nature in that they correct the reference to the *Code of Federal Regulations* and retain the requirement for relief to be granted by the NRC, therefore, these changes are acceptable.

2.4 TS 3.6.G.1.a

The word Specifi-cation in TS 3.6.G.1.a was corrected to remove the hyphen which was inappropriately placed in the word. This change is strictly an administrative change and is, therefore, acceptable.

2.5 TS 3.13

Amendment 168 to the TSs issued on February 24, 1999, relocated information from the TSs which left pages 240 through 252 blank except for TS 3.13 and 4.13 column headings and the

words, “This page has been deleted.” The licensee proposes to delete pages 241 through 252 and to replace the words “This page has been deleted.” on page 240 with “Pages 241 through 252 have been intentionally deleted” and to replace the column headings with “Sections 3.13/4.13 deleted.” Index page v is also being revised to indicate that TS 3.13 is on page 240 although it will remain deleted. This is an administrative change in nature to reduce unnecessary blank pages in the TSs, therefore, it is acceptable.

2.6 TS 6.2.B.7

The licensee has changed the title of the operations manager and assistant operations manager to operations superintendent and assistant operations superintendent. To reflect this change TS 6.2.B.7 has been changed to read “The operations superintendent or an assistant operations superintendent shall hold an SRO license.” This is an administrative change to reflect the present titles of these individuals and is, therefore, acceptable.

2.7 Bases Change

The licensee has made a change to Bases Sections 3.6 and 4.6 concerning NRC approval for the use of ASME Code Case N-560 and the staff has no objection to this change.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission’s regulations, the Vermont State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in amounts, and no significant change in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (65 FR 71140). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission’s regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: R. Pulsifer

Date: January 23, 2001