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Docket 50-271

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Change No. 5

License No. DPR-28

JAN 3 1973

Docket No. 50-271

Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp.  
ATTN: Mr. D. E. Vandeburgh  
Vice President  
77 Grove Street  
Rutland, Vermont 05701

Gentlemen:

At your request (by letter from D. E. Vandeburgh to Director, Directorate of Licensing, dated December 20, 1972) and after our evaluation of the justification contained therein, the following change to the Technical Specifications of Facility Operating License No. DPR-28 for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (Vermont Yankee) is being made for a limited period, from January 1, 1973, through January 15, 1973.

This change in the Technical Specifications will permit operation with a higher peak noble gas release rate during this period for the purpose of permitting higher power operations preceeding an outage to replace failed fuel. The higher power operation is necessary to allow build-up of a sufficiently high fission product inventory to improve the failed fuel testing equipment sensitivity. Because of the apparently significant number of cladding defects in the fuel, as determined from recent off-gas release rates, the power level has been reduced. Operation at a power level not to exceed the licensed level of 1593 MWT, which could result in the off-gas release rate authorized by this change, would not be expected to have any other significant impact on the operation, e.g., acceleration of fuel element damage. Since the average rate of noble gas release for the two week period would not exceed the present limit, the estimated maximum dose within the low population zone from a continuous noble gas release rate of 0.22 ci/sec for the two week period is less than 20 mrem. Thus, we have concluded that the operation permitted by this temporary change to the Technical Specifications would not significantly affect off-site radiation exposures. We have further concluded that this temporary change does not present significant hazard considerations not described or implicit in the Safety Analysis Report and there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered.

*rev*

JAN 3 1973

Accordingly, pursuant to Section 50.59 of 10 CFR Part 50, the Technical Specifications of Facility Operating License DPR-28 for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station are changed effective January 1, 1973, by changing Specification 3.8.A.2 in its entirety to the following:

"The activity of noble gases released shall not exceed the following:

- a. a rate of 0.22 curies per second averaged over the period of January 1, 1973, through January 15, 1973.
- b. a maximum rate of 0.44 curies per second for periods up to two hours."

On January 16, 1973, Technical Specification 3.8.A.2 will return to the previous requirement which in its entirety is as follows:

"The activity of noble gases released shall not exceed the rate of 0.22 curies per second."

Sincerely,

**Original Signed by**  
**Roger S. Boyd**

Roger S. Boyd, Assistant Director  
for Boiling Water Reactors  
Directorate of Licensing

cc:

Samuel W. Jensch, Esquire, Chairman  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board  
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20545

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Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel  
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20545

cc: (continued)

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 Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp.  
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 State Capitol Building  
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DATE ▶	1/2/73	1/2/73	1/2/73	1/3/73		



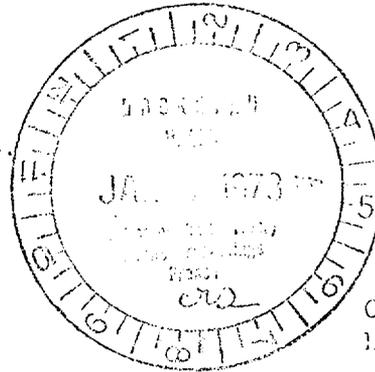
UNITED STATES  
 ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

REG. & GEN. ENG. 50-271

JAN 9 1973

Docket No. 50-271

Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp.  
 ATTN: Mr. D. E. Vandenburg  
 Vice President  
 77 Grove Street  
 Rutland, Vermont 05701



Change No. 5  
 License No. DPR-28

Gentlemen:

At your request (by letter from D. E. Vandenburg to Director, Directorate of Licensing, dated December 20, 1972) and after our evaluation of the justification contained therein, the following change to the Technical Specifications of Facility Operating License No. DPR-28 for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (Vermont Yankee) is being made for a limited period, from January 1, 1973, through January 15, 1973.

This change in the Technical Specifications will permit operation with a higher peak noble gas release rate during this period for the purpose of permitting higher power operations preceding an outage to replace failed fuel. The higher power operation is necessary to allow build-up of a sufficiently high fission product inventory to improve the failed fuel testing equipment sensitivity. Because of the apparently significant number of cladding defects in the fuel, as determined from recent off-gas release rates, the power level has been reduced. Operation at a power level not to exceed the licensed level of 1593 MWt, which could result in the off-gas release rate authorized by this change, would not be expected to have any other significant impact on the operation, e.g., acceleration of fuel element damage. Since the average rate of noble gas release for the two week period would not exceed the present limit, the estimated maximum dose within the low population zone from a continuous noble gas release rate of 0.22 ci/sec for the two week period is less than 20 mrem. Thus, we have concluded that the operation permitted by this temporary change to the Technical Specifications would not significantly affect off-site radiation exposures. We have further concluded that this temporary change does not present significant hazard considerations not described or implicit in the Safety Analysis Report and there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered.

*Handwritten initials*

JAN 8 1973

Accordingly, pursuant to Section 50.59 of 10 CFR Part 50, the Technical Specifications of Facility Operating License DPR-28 for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station are changed effective January 1, 1973, by changing Specification 3.8.A.2 in its entirety to the following:

"The activity of noble gases released shall not exceed the following:

- a. a rate of 0.22 curies per second averaged over the period of January 1, 1973, through January 15, 1973.
- b. a maximum rate of ~~0.22~~ curies per second for periods up to two hours."

On January 16, 1973, Technical Specification 3.8.A.2 will return to the previous requirement which in its entirety is as follows:

"The activity of noble gases released shall not exceed the rate of 0.22 curies per second."

Sincerely,



Roger S. Boyd, Assistant Director  
for Boiling Water Reactors  
Directorate of Licensing

cc:

Samuel W. Jensch, Esquire, Chairman  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board  
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
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