

Docket No. 50-271

DOCKET

Yankee Atomic Electric Company
ATTN: Mr. Robert H. Groce
Licensing Engineer
20 Turnpike Road
Westboro, Massachusetts 01581

NOV 1 3 1975

Gentlemen:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 18 to Facility License No. DPR-28 for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station. This amendment includes Change No. 29 to the Technical Specifications, and is in response to your requests dated May 28, 1975 and July 30, 1975, as supplemented September 15 and 22, 1975.

The amendment revises the provisions in the facility Technical Specifications to permit operation of the facility (1) using operating limits based on the General Electric Thermal Analysis Basis (GETAB), and (2) using modified operating limits based upon an evaluation of ECCS performance calculated in accordance with an acceptable evaluation model that conforms to the requirements of the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR § 50.46. The amendment modifies various limits established in accordance with the Commission's Interim Acceptance Criteria, and with respect to Vermont Yankee, terminates the further restrictions imposed by the Commission's December 27, 1974 Order For Modification of License, and imposes instead, limitations established in accordance with the Commission's Acceptance Criteria for Emergency Core Cooling Systems for Light Water Nuclear Power Reactors, 10 CFR § 50.46.

We have evaluated the potential for environmental impact associated with operation of the facility in the proposed manner. From this evaluation, we have determined that there will be no change in effluent types or total amounts, no increase in authorized power level, and no significant environmental impact attributable to the proposed action. Having made this determination, we have further concluded pursuant to 10 CFR Part 51, § 51.5(c)(1) that no environmental impact statement need be prepared for this action. Copies of the related Negative Declaration and supporting Environmental Impact Appraisal are enclosed. As required by Part 51, the Negative Declaration is being filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

[Handwritten signature] *Conrad*

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Yankee Atomic Electric Company

Copies of the related Safety Evaluation and the Federal Register Notice are also enclosed.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Reactor Licensing

Enclosures:

- 1. Amendment No. 18
- 2. Negative Declaration
- 3. Environmental Impact Appraisal
- 4. Safety Evaluation
- 5. Federal Register Notice

cc w/encls:
See next page

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cc: w/enclosures:

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Radiation Health Engineer
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New England Coalition on Nuclear
Pollution
Hill and Dale Farm
West Hill - Faraway Road
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Brooks Memorial Library
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Brattleboro, Vermont 05301

Chairman, Vermont Public
Service Board
120 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Mr. Raymond H. Puffer
Chairman
Board of Selectman
Vernon, Vermont 05354

cc w/enclosures and cy of
VY's filings dtd. 7/30, 9/15 & 9/22
Mr. Richard V. DeGrasse
Public Service Board
7 School Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 50-271

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY
OPERATING LICENSE

Notice is hereby given that the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has issued Amendment No. 18 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-28 issued to Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation (the licensee) which revised Technical Specifications for operation of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, (the facility) located near Vernon, Vermont. The amendment is effective as of its date of issuance.

The amendment revises the provisions in the facility Technical Specifications to permit operation of the facility (1) using operating limits based on the General Electric Thermal Analysis Basis (GETAB), and (2) using modified operating limits based upon an evaluation of ECCS performance calculated in accordance with an acceptable evaluation model that conforms to the requirements of the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR § 50.46. The amendment modifies various limits established in accordance with the Commission's Interim Acceptance Criteria, and with respect to Vermont Yankee, terminates the further restrictions imposed by the Commission's December 27, 1974 Order for Modification of License, and imposes instead, limitations established in accordance with the Commission's Acceptance Criteria for Emergency Core Cooling Systems for Light Water Nuclear Power Reactors, 10 CFR § 50.46. This action is in accordance with the licensee's applications dated May 28, 1975 and

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The applications for the amendment comply with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendment. Notice of Proposed Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License in connection with this action was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on July 8, 1975 (40 F.R. 28682).^{1/}

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the applications for amendment dated May 28, 1975 and July 30, 1975 as supplemented September 15 and 22, 1975, (2) Amendment No. 18 to License No. DPR-28, with Change No. 29, (3) the Commission's related Safety Evaluation, (4) the Commission's Negative Declaration which is being published concurrently with this notice, and (5) the Commission's associated Environmental Impact Appraisal. All of these items are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. and at the Brooks Memorial Library, 244 Main Street, Brattleboro, Vermont.

^{1/} This Notice also proposed the modification to the facility's Technical Specifications to permit operation with 8x8 fuel assemblies at a linear heat generation rate (LHGR) of up to 14.4 kw/ft. On August 7, 1975 the Attorney General of Vermont, by telegram, filed a request for a hearing and leave to intervene on the LHGR proposed modification. He did not request a hearing or leave to intervene, on the other proposed modifications. For further explanation see "Stipulation With Regard to the August 7, 1975 Telegram Request for a Hearing by the Attorney General of the State of Vermont" which is available for public inspection

at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., and at the Brooks Memorial Library, 244 Main Street, Brattleboro, Vermont.

The Amendment 18 does not involve any such increase in linear heat generation rate.

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A copy of items (2), (3), (4) and (5) may be obtained upon request addressed to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, Attention: Director, Division of Reactor Licensing.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this day of

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Reactor Licensing

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NEGATIVE DECLARATION
REGARDING PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE
APPENDIX A TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS OF LICENSE NO. DPR-28
VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION
DOCKET NO. 50-271

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has reviewed the licensee's proposed change to the Appendix A Technical Specifications of Facility Operating License DPR-28. This change would authorize the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation to operate the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station with certain revisions to the present limiting conditions for operation specified in Appendix A of the referenced license. These revisions result from the implementation of the Acceptance Criteria For the Emergency Core Cooling System for Light Water Nuclear Power Reactors (ECCS) as specified in Section 50.46 of Part 50 CFR. No revisions to the Environmental Technical Specifications, (Appendix B) were required as a result of this proposed change.

The Commission's Division of Reactor Licensing has prepared an environmental impact appraisal for the proposed change to the Appendix A Technical Specifications, for Facility Operating License DPR-28.

On the basis of the environmental impact appraisal

we have concluded that an environmental impact statement for this particular action is not warranted because, pursuant to the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 51 and the Council of Environmental Quality's Guidelines, 40 CFR 1500.6, the Commission has determined that

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major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. The environmental impact appraisal is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20555, and at the Brooks Memorial Library, 224 Main Street Brattleboro, Vermont 05301.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this day of 1975.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

George W. Knighton, Chief
Environmental Projects Branch No. 1
Division of Reactor Licensing

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT APPRAISAL BY THE DIVISION OF REACTOR LICENSING

SUPPORTING: AMENDMENT NO. 18 TO LICENSE NO. DPR-28

CHANGE NO. 29 TO THE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS ~~(APPENDIX A)~~

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION

I. Description of Proposed Action

By letters dated April 14, 1975, July 8 and 30, 1975, September 15 and 22, 1975, the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation (the licensee) provided information and supportive analysis relative to a proposed change in the Appendix A Technical Specifications of Facility License No. DPR-28. The proposed change concerns revisions to the limiting conditions for operation to the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station as a result of the implementation of the Acceptance Criteria for the Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) The implementation of the ECCS Acceptance Criteria will permit operation of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station at a power level previously evaluated in the Final Environmental Statement (FES) issued in July 1972. The FES concluded that based upon an evaluation of the proposed operating conditions, an operating license should be issued for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station.

II. Environmental Impacts of Proposed Action.

The NRC has evaluated the potential environmental impacts associated with this proposed license amendment as required by the NEPA and Section 51.7 of Part 51 CFR.

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The potential NEPA concerns associated with the implementation of the ECCS Criteria for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station can be defined as:

1. Changes in benefits accruing from plant operation due to revisions to reactor power limits.
2. Variation in environmental impacts resulting from changes in non-radiological effluent releases.
3. Variation in environmental impacts resulting from changes in radiological effluent releases.

This NRC evaluation has concluded that operating power will be as previously evaluated, and presented in the FES of July 1972. As such, no resultant changes in these (3) criteria are expected. Since this change will not result in modified power levels, no changes in the Cost/Benefit balance and environmental impacts (other than expressed in the FES) are predicted. The FES evaluation of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Station cooling water flow, thermal effluents, chemical effluents, radiological source term and effluents during operation and postulated accident conditions need not be revised as a result of the implementation of the ECCS Acceptance Criteria.

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III. Conclusions and Basis for Negative Declaration

On the basis of the NRC evaluation and information supplied by the licensee, it is concluded that the implementation of the ECCS Acceptance Criteria for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station will produce no discernible environmental impacts other than those previously addressed in the FES of July 1972. The issuance of this change to the Appendix A Technical Specifications will permit operation at a power level previously evaluated in the FES and will not affect the Cost/Benefit balance, nor the evaluation of the radiological and non-radiological effluents as presented in the FES. This amendment will not require changes to the Environmental Technical Specifications (Appendix B).

Having reached these conclusions, the Commission has determined that an environmental impact statement need not be prepared for the proposed license amendment and that a Negative Declaration shall be issued to this effect.

Clifford A. Haupt, Project Engineer
Environmental Projects Branch No. 1
Division of Reactor Licensing

George W. Knighton, Chief
Environmental Projects Branch No. 1
Division of Reactor Licensing

George W. Knighton
on behalf of

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C., 20555

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

DOCKET NO. 50-271

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 18
License No. DPR-28

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The applications for amendment by Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation (the licensee) dated May 28, 1975 and July 30, 1975, as supplemented September 15 and 22, 1975, comply 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; and
 - 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.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by a change to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and Paragraph 3.B of Facility License No. DPR-28 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"B. Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendices A and B, as revised, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications, as revised by issued changes thereto through Change No. 29."

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of its issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Karl R. Goller

Karl R. Goller, Assistant Director
for Operating Reactors
Division of Reactor Licensing

Attachment:
Change No. 29 to the
Technical Specifications

Date of Issuance:
November 12, 1975

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 18
CHANGE NO. 29 TO THE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-28
DOCKET NO. 50-271

Revise Appendix A as follows:

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