December 23, 1977

Docket No. 50-271

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

Gentlemen:

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The Commission has filed the enclosed "Notice of Proposed Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License" with the Office of the Federal Register for publication. This notice relates to your letter dated November 23, 1977, concerning a requested reduction in control rod insertion time limits and an associated reduction in the Minimum Critical Power Ratio operating limit for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure: Notice

cc w/enclosure: See next page

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Yankee Atomic Electric Company

cc w/enclosure(s):

Mr. S. D. Karpyak Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation 77 Grove Street Rutland, Vermont 05701

Mr. Donald E. Vandenburgh Vice President Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation Turnpike Road, Route 9 Westboro, Massachusetts 01581

John A. Ritsher, Esq. Ropes & Gray 225 Franklin Street Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Gregor I. McGregor, Esq. Assistant Attorney General Department of the Attorney General State House, Room 370 Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Richard E. Ayres, Esq. Natural Resources Defense Council 917 - 15th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005

Honorable M. Jerome Diamond Attorney General John A. Calhoun Assistant Attorney General State of Vermont 109 State Street Pavilion Office Building Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Anthony Z. Roisman, Esq. Sheldon, Harmon & Roisman 1025 15th Street, N.W., 5th Floor Washington, D.C. 20005 Brooks Memorial Library 224 Main Street Brattleboro, Vermont 05301

John R. Stanton, Director Radiation Control Agency Hazen Drive Concord, New Hampshire 03301

John W. Stevens Conservation Society of Southern Vermont P. O. Box 256 Townshend, Vermont 05353

Mr. David M. Scott Radiation Health Engineer Agency of Human Services Division of Occupational Health P. O. Box 607 Barre, Vermont 05641

New England Coalition on Nuclear Pollution Hill and Dale Farm West Hill - Faraway Road Putney, Vermont 05346

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

Chief, Energy Systems Analyses Branch (AW-459) Office of Radiation Programs U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Room 645, East Tower 401 M Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20460 Yankee Atomic Electric Company

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Region I Office ATTN: EIS COORDINATOR JFK Federal Building Boston, Massachusetts 02203

cc w/enclosures and cy of VY's
 filing dtd.: 11/23/77
Public Service Board
State of Vermont
120 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 50-271

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-28 issued to the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation (the licensee), for operation of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (the facility), located near Vernon, Vermont.

In accordance with the licensee's request dated November 23, 1977, the amendment would reduce the control rod scram insertion time limits stated in the Technical Specifications. The reduced control rod scram insertion times result in less severe transient analysis consequences, and thus, would allow additional flexibility in facility operation by allowing a reduction in Minimum Critical Power Ratio limits.

By January 30, 1978, the licensee may file a request for a hearing and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a request for a hearing in the form of a petition for leave to intervene with respect to the issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license. Petitions for leave to intervene must be filed under oath or affirmation in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.714 of 10 CFR Part 2 of the Commission's regulations.

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A petition for leave to intervene must set forth the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding, and the petitioner's contentions with respect to the proposed licensing action. Such petitions must be filed in accordance with the provisions of this FEDERAL REGISIER notice and Section 2.714, and must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Section, by the above date. A copy of the petitic: and/or request for a hearing should be sent to the Executive Legal Director, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, and to John A. Ritsher, Esquire, Ropes & Gray, 225 Franklin Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, the attorney for the licensee.

A petition for leave to intervene must be accompanied by a supporting affidavit which identifies the specific aspect or aspects of the proceeding as to which intervention is desired and specifies with particularity the facts on which the petitioner relies as to both his interest and his contentions with regard to each aspect on which intervention is requested. Petitions stating contentions relating only to matters outside the Commission's jurisdiction will be denied.

All petitions will be acted upon by the Commission or licensing board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel. Timely petitions will be considered to determine whether a hearing should be noticed or another appropriate order issued regarding the disposition of the petitions.

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In the event that a hearing is held and a person is permitted to intervene, he becomes a party to the proceeding and has a right to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing. For example, he may present evidence and examine and cross-examine witnesses.

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For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee's request dated November 23, 1977, 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, 224 Main Street, Brattleboro, Vermont.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 23rd day of December 1977.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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