



January 20, 2004 BVY 04-005

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission ATTN: Document Control Desk Washington, DC 20555

Subject:

Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)

Technical Specification Proposed Change No. 257

Implementation of ARTS/MELLLA at Vermont Yankee Correction of Peak Cladding Temperature for GE13 Fuel

By letter dated March 20, 2003¹, Vermont Yankee² (VY) proposed to amend Facility Operating License DPR-28 for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VYNPS) by implementing an expanded power-to-flow operating domain based on the Average Power Range Monitor, Rod Block Monitor Technical Specifications/Maximum Extended Load Line Limit Analysis (ARTS/MELLLA) methodology. In support of the license amendment request (LAR) and the new operating limits, VY provided, as part of its application (as Attachments 5 and 6 to the March 20, 2003 letter), proprietary and non-proprietary versions of plant-specific safety analysis prepared by GE Nuclear Energy, NEDO-33089³.

Section 6.0 of NEDC-33089 presents the results of the design basis loss-of-coolant accident analysis for VYNPS using SAFER/GESTR methodology. For MELLLA, a peak cladding temperature (PCT) of 1910°F was determined for GE13 fuel and reported on page 6-1 of NEDC-33089. GE Nuclear Energy has provided a 10CFR50.46 notification to VY that states, due to an input error that was inadvertently made in the SAFER analysis, the limiting case PCT for GE13 fuel in this analysis should actually be 10°F less, or 1900°F. The error, which is applicable to GE13 fuel analyses only, occurred in SAFER input data regarding the jet pump mixing length and main steam isolation valve closure time. Accordingly, VY is hereby revising the analytical results reported in NEDC-33089 in this regard.

This supplement to the LAR does not change the scope or conclusions in the original application, nor does it change the no significant hazards consideration determination.

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¹ Vermont Yankee letter to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Technical Specification Proposed Change No. 257, Implementation of ARTS/MELLLA at Vermont Yankee," BVY 03-23, March 20, 2003.

² Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. are the licensees of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station.

³ NEDO-33089, "Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, APRM/RBM/Technical Specifications / Maximum Extended Load Line Limit Analysis (ARTS/MELLLA)," March 2003.

If you have any questions in this regard, please contact Mr. Len Guewa at (802) 258-4225.

Sincerely,

ay K. Thayer Site Vice President

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STATE OF VERMONT)
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WINDHAM COUNTY)

Then personally appeared before me, Jay K. Thayer, who, being duly sworn, did state that he is Site Vice President of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, that he is duly authorized to execute and file the foregoing document, and that the statements therein are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Sally A. Sandstrum, Notary Public

NOTATE

My Commission Expires February 10, 2007

cc: USNRC Region 1 Administrator
USNRC Resident Inspector – VYNPS
USNRC Project Manager – VYNPS
Vermont Department of Public Service