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CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

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AUTHOR: J. Clarke
AFFILIATION:
ADDRESSEE: CHRM Nils Diaz
SUBJECT: Independent safety assessment for Vermont Yankee uprate
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5 March 2004

Mr. Nils Diaz, Chairman
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20005-0001

Re: Independent Safety Assessment for Vermont Yankee Uprate

Dear Chairman Diaz:

The more that I learn about Entergy's proposed plan for a 20% increase to the output capacity of the thirty-two year old Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant the more questions and fears I have.

It is frustrating that Entergy has not been open and aboveboard in their dealings with the people of Vermont. The NRC appears unresponsive to public concerns.

Several respected and experienced nuclear engineers have expressed their alarm over certain 1967 Vermont Yankee design criteria that do not meet current safety standards. What effect will the addition of 20% more fuel have on the reactor, its plumbing, and its containment ability, especially in the event of an accident?

An Independent Safety Assessment might benefit Entergy. It would certainly be reassuring to the millions of us whose lives and property will be at increased risk.

On behalf of my family, friends, and neighbors I urge you to press for an Independent Safety Assessment at Vermont Yankee before this unprecedented 20% uprate can be approved.

Thanks for all the good that you do.

Truly concerned,



J. R. Clarke