

February 24, 2005

Mr. Michael J. Meisner, Chief Nuclear Officer
Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company
321 Old Ferry Road
Wiscasset, Maine 04578-4922

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF MAINE YANKEE TECHNICAL BASIS DOCUMENT FOR THE
LIMITED USE OF THE EXPLORANIUM GR-130 INSTRUMENT

On January 26, 2004, Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company (Maine Yankee) submitted the Technical Basis Document (TBD) entitled, "Exploranium GR-130 Minimum Detectable Concentration (MDC) of CS-137 and Co-60 in Surface Soil," for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission review and approval. The staff has reviewed the TBD justifying Maine Yankees's limited use of the GR-130 to quantitatively investigate scan alarms to determine whether an alarm is related to plant derived activity in surface soils to a depth of 15 cm.

Based on our review, the staff agrees that the use of the GR-130 to qualitatively investigate a scan alarm in Survey Unit FR-0220, Spare Transformer Pad Footprint, is acceptable.

If you have questions regarding this letter please call me at 301-415-6607.

Sincerely,

John T. Buckley, Project Manager
Decommissioning Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 50-309
License No.: DPR-36

cc: See next page

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State Nuclear Safety Advisor
State Planning Office
State House Station #38
Augusta, ME 04333

Mr. P. L. Anderson, Project Manager
Yankee Atomic Electric Company
580 Main Street
Bolton, MA 01740-1398

First Selectman of Wiscasset
Municipal Building
U.S. Route 1
Wiscasset, ME 04578

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P.O. Box 98
Edgecomb, ME 04556

Mr. Thomas L. Williamson, Director
Nuclear Safety and Regulatory Affairs
Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company
321 Old Ferry Road
Wiscasset, ME 04578-4922

Mr. Jonathan M. Block
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 566
Putney, VT 05346-0566

Joseph Fay, Esquire
Maine Yankee Atomic power Company
321 Old Ferry Road
Wiscasset, ME 04578-4922

Mr. Patrick J. Dostie
State of Maine Nuclear Safety
Inspector
Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company
321 Old Ferry Road
Wiscasset, ME 04578-4922

Mr. William Henries, Director
Engineering
Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company
321 Old Ferry Road
Wiscasset, ME 04578-4922

Mr. Paul Bemis
Stone & Webster Engineering & Construction
c/o Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company
P.O. Box 727
Bailey Point Road & Old Ferry Road
Wiscasset, ME 04578

Mr. Phil Munck
George E. Sansoucy
260 Ten Rod Road
Rochester, NH 03867-0823

Mr. Mark Roberts
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

David Lewis, Esquire
Shaw Pittman
2300 North Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Mr. Ted C. Feigenbaum
President and Chief Executive Office
Maine Yankee Power Company
321 Old Ferry Road
Wiscasset, ME 04578-4922

W. Clough Toppan, P.E., Director
Division of Health Engineering
Department of Human Services
#10 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Mr. Michael J. Meisner
Chief Nuclear Officer
Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company
321 Old Ferry Road
Wiscasset, ME 04578-4922