Mr. Michael J. Meisner Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer Maine Yankee 321 Old Ferry Road Wiscasset, ME 04578-4922

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO

SIGNIFICANT IMPACT OF THE MAINE YANKEE ATOMIC POWER COMPANY INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (ISFSI) REQUEST

FOR EXEMPTION FROM 10 CFR 72.72(d) (TAC NO. L23792)

Dear Mr. Meisner:

On November 29, 2004, Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company (Maine Yankee) requested an exemption from the provisions of 10 CFR 72.72(d) at the Maine Yankee Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI).

This is to inform you that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 51.21, has performed an environmental assessment (EA) of the effects of granting the requested action. The NRC staff contacted the State of Maine and their representative had no comments on the EA or the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

The NRC staff has determined that the proposed action will not have a significant impact on the environment. A Notice of Issuance of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact has been forwarded to the Office of the <u>Federal Register</u> for publication pursuant to 10 CFR 51.35. The NRC will notify you in a timely manner of our decision on this exemption request. Enclosed is a copy of the Federal Register Notice.

Please reference Docket No. 72-30 and TAC No. L23792 in future correspondence related to the licensing action. If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-8500.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jeremy A. Smith, Project Manager Spent Fuel Project Office Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-30

Enclosure: Federal Register Notice

cc: Mailing List

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Sincerely,

/RA/

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Maine Yankee Atomic Power Co 72-30

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