

May 8, 2006

Ms. Jane Lendway  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Vermont Division for Historic Preservation  
National Life Building, Drawer 20  
Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

SUBJECT: VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION LICENSE RENEWAL  
APPLICATION REVIEW (SHPO NO. DHP NO. WD03-001)

Dear Ms. Lendway:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing an application to renew the operating license for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VYNPS). VYNPS is located in the town of Vernon, Vermont, in Windham County on the west shore of the Connecticut River. VYNPS is operated by Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy). The application for renewal was submitted by Entergy in a letter dated on January 25, 2006, as supplemented by letter dated March 15, 2006, pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 54 (10 CFR Part 54).

The NRC has established that, as part of the staff's review of any nuclear power plant license renewal action, a site-specific Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to its "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" (GEIS), NUREG-1437, will be prepared under the provisions of 10 CFR Part 51, the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). In accordance with 36 CFR 800.8, the SEIS will include analyses of potential impacts to historic and cultural resources.

In the context of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the NRC staff has determined that the area of potential effect (APE) for a license renewal action is the area at the power plant site and its immediate environs that may be impacted by post-license renewal land-disturbing operations or projected refurbishment activities associated with the proposed action. The APE may extend beyond the immediate environs in those instances where post-license renewal land-disturbing operations or projected refurbishment activities specifically related to license renewal may potentially have an effect on known or proposed historic sites. This determination is made irrespective of ownership or control of the lands of interest.

On June 7, 2006, the NRC will conduct two public NEPA scoping meetings at the Latchis Theatre, 50 Main Street, Brattleboro, Vermont 05301. In addition to the environmental scoping meeting described above, the NRC will hold an informal open house at the Quality Inn & Suites, 1380 Putney Road, Brattleboro, Vermont 05301, on Tuesday, June 6, 2006, from 2:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m., as necessary. You and your staff are invited to attend. Your office will receive a copy of the draft

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SEIS along with a request for comments. The staff expects to publish the draft SEIS in December 2006.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. Richard L. Emch, Jr., Senior Environmental Project Manager, by telephone at 301-415-1590 or by e-mail at [RLE@nrc.gov](mailto:RLE@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,  
/RA/

Rani L. Franovich, Branch Chief  
Environmental Branch B  
Division of License Renewal  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-271

cc: See next page

Ms. Lendway

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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. Richard L. Emch, Jr., Senior Environmental Project Manager, by telephone at 301-415-1590 or by e-mail at [RLE@nrc.gov](mailto:RLE@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA/

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Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station

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Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station

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