

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/

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

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DISTRIBUTION:

F. Gillespie / P.T. Kuo (RidsNrrDir)  
R. Franovich  
J. Davis  
R. Emch  
S. Hernandez  
R. Schaaf  
David Miller (david.s.miller@anl.gov)  
J. Eads  
J. Shea  
C. Anderson, Region I  
D. Pelton, Region I  
RidsOGCMailRoom  
DLR/REBB

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OFFICE	LA:REBB:DLR	GE:REBB:DLR	PM:REBB:DLR	BC:REBB:DLR
NAME	Y. Edmonds	S. Hernandez /RA R. Emch For/	R. Emch	R. Franovich (w/comments)
DATE	5/5/06	5/5/06	5/5/06	5/8/06

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Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station

cc:

Regional Administrator, Region I  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

Mr. David R. Lewis  
Pillsbury, Winthrop, Shaw, Pittman, LLP  
2300 N Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20037-1128

Mr. David O'Brien, Commissioner  
Vermont Department of Public Service  
112 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2601

Mr. James Volz, Chairman  
Public Service Board  
State of Vermont  
112 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2701

Chairman, Board of Selectmen  
Town of Vernon  
P.O. Box 116  
Vernon, VT 05354-0116

Operating Experience Coordinator  
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station  
320 Governor Hunt Road  
Vernon, VT 05354

G. Dana Bisbee, Esq.  
Deputy Attorney General  
33 Capitol Street  
Concord, NH 03301-6937

Chief, Safety Unit  
Office of the Attorney General  
One Ashburton Place, 19th Floor  
Boston, MA 02108

Ms. Deborah B. Katz  
Box 83  
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

Ms. Carla A. White, RRPT, CHP  
Radiological Health  
Vermont Department of Health  
P.O. Box 70, Drawer #43  
108 Cherry Street  
Burlington, VT 05402-0070

Mr. James M. DeVincentis  
Manager, Licensing  
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station  
P.O. Box 0500  
185 Old Ferry Road  
Brattleboro, VT 05302-0500

Resident Inspector  
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
P.O. Box 176  
Vernon, VT 05354

Director, Massachusetts Emergency  
Management Agency  
ATTN: James Muckerheide  
400 Worcester Rd.  
Framingham, MA 01702-5399

Jonathan M. Block, Esq.  
Main Street  
P.O. Box 566  
Putney, VT 05346-0566

Mr. John F. McCann  
Director, Licensing  
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.  
440 Hamilton Avenue  
White Plains, NY 10601

Mr. Gary J. Taylor  
Chief Executive Officer  
Entergy Operations  
1340 Echelon Parkway  
Jackson, MS 39213

cc:

Mr. John T. Herron  
Sr. VP and Chief Operating Officer  
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.  
440 Hamilton Avenue  
White Plains, NY 10601

Mr. Oscar Limpas  
Vice President, Engineering  
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.  
440 Hamilton Avenue  
White Plains, NY 10601

Mr. Christopher Schwartz  
Vice President, Operations Support  
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.  
440 Hamilton Avenue  
White Plains, NY 10601

Mr. Michael J. Colomb  
Director of Oversight  
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.  
440 Hamilton Avenue  
White Plains, NY 10601

Mr. Travis C. McCullough  
Assistant General Counsel  
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.  
440 Hamilton Avenue  
White Plains, NY 10601

Mr. Jay K. Thayer  
Site Vice President  
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.  
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station  
P.O. Box 0500  
185 Old Ferry Road  
Brattleboro, VT 05302-0500

Mr. James H. Sniezek  
5486 Nithsdale Drive  
Salisbury, MD 21801

Ms. Stacey M. Lousteau  
Treasury Department  
Entergy Services, Inc.  
639 Loyola Avenue  
New Orleans, LA 70113

Mr. Raymond Shadis  
New England Coalition  
Post Office Box 98  
Edgecomb, ME 04556

Mr. James P. Matteau  
Executive Director  
Windham Regional Commission  
139 Main Street, Suite 505  
Brattleboro, VT 05301

Mr. William K. Sherman  
Vermont Department of Public Service  
112 State Street  
Drawer 20  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2601

Mr. Michael D. Lyster  
5931 Barclay Lane  
Naples, FL 34110-7306

Ms. Charlene D. Faison  
Manager, Licensing  
440 Hamilton Avenue  
White Plains, NY 10601

Mr. James Ross  
Nuclear Energy Institute  
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20006-3708