

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 9, 2009

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

SUBJECT: INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR GENERATING UNIT NO. 2, VERMONT YANKEE

NUCLEAR POWER STATION, AND PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT -SUMMARY OF JUNE 29, 2009, CONFERENCE CALL WITH ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC., ON DECOMMISSIONING FUNDING

ASSURANCE (TAC NOS. ME0528, MD0583, AND ME0548)

Dear Mr. McCann:

On June 29, 2009, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a conference call with representatives of Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (the licensee). The purpose of the call was to clarify the amount of the decommissioning funding assurance shortfall calculated by the NRC staff for the subject units, to clarify the methodology used by the NRC staff to determine decommissioning funding assurance levels, and to establish a schedule for the submittal of a plan to address the shortfall. Enclosed is a list of attendees.

For each of the subject units, the NRC staff described its calculation of the minimum amount of financial assurance required by Title10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Sections 50.75(c)(1) and (2). The NRC staff identified the amount credited to the licensee's decommissioning funding assurance total due to contributions, if any, and earnings on its decommissioning trust fund balance. The difference between the minimum required amount and the total amount of decommissioning funding assurance provided, including earnings and contributions, as of December 31, 2008, was identified as a potential shortfall if no adjustments are made by the licensee.

For each unit, the licensee agreed that the amounts described by the NRC staff reflect the licensee's decommissioning funding assurance status as of December 31, 2008. The licensee submitted the December 31, 2008, fund amounts to the NRC in a letter dated March 30, 2009, Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML090920576.

The licensee acknowledged NRC's requirement for a 30-day response. The licensee, however, expressed the need for an additional period of 15 days to process the information and issue its plan. The NRC staff after some discussion reached a consensus on a 45-day response, for the licensee to submit its plan on or before August 13, 2009, in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 50.4. The licensee agreed that its plan will contain sufficient detailed numerical information to permit the staff to evaluate its plan. The submittal will include the final agreed-upon values for the required minimum amount, projected total amount of decommissioning funding assurance, and the potential shortfall as of December 31, 2008. The NRC staff agreed that (1) the plan could use the actual date of license expiration as the end date for the earnings credit allowed during operation, and (2) realized earnings to date on trust fund balances could be credited to the total amount of decommissioning funding assurance proposed in the plan.

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Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-2901, or John.Boska@nrc.gov.

John Boska, Senior Project Manager Plant Licensing Branch I-1

Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-247, 50-271, and 50-255

Enclosure:

List of Attendees

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

LIST OF ATTENDEES

JUNE 29, 2009, CONFERENCE CALL WITH ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC.

DECOMMISSIONING FUNDING ASSURANCE

NRC

Christopher Gratton
John Boska
Mahesh Chawla
James Kim
Robert Carlson
Michael Dusaniwskyj
Anneliese Simmons
Thomas Fredrichs
Beth Mizuno
Sherwin Turk

Indian Point

Bob Walpole, Licensing Manager Mike Burney, Licensing Specialist Don Mayer, Director

Palisades:

Chris Schwarz, Site VP Paula Anderson, Licensing Manager Jim Kuemin, Senior Engineer

Vermont Yankee:

Mike Colomb, Site VP Dave Mannai, Licensing Manager John Dreyfuss, NSA Director Jeff Meyer, Sr. Licensing Specialist

Entergy Corporate:

Les England, Senior Staff Engineer, Licensing Wanda Curry, Chief Financial Officer David Gibbs, Director Financial Planning & Reporting Jager Smith, Wise Carter Law Firm Terry Burke, General Counsel John McCann, Director Licensing Charlene Faison, Manager Licensing Programs Theo Bunting, Chief Accounting Officer Joe Aluise, Asst. General Counsel Jerald Halvorsen, VP Fed. Govt. Affairs Walter Ferguson, VP System Reg Affairs Paul Stadnikia, VP Finance Bill Glew. Assoc. General Counsel Bill Cloutier, TLG Services, Inc. Jay Adler, TLG Services, Inc. Fran Seymour, TLG Services, Inc. John Matthews, Morgan Lewis Law Firm

Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-2901, or John.Boska@nrc.gov.

/RA/

John Boska, Senior Project Manager Plant Licensing Branch I-1 Division of Operating Reactor Licensing Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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