



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 30, 2015

Vice President, Operations
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
P.O. Box 250
Governor Hunt Road
Vernon, VT 05354

**SUBJECT: VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION – TERMINATION OF
EMERGENCY RESPONSE DATA SYSTEM FEED TO THE U.S. NUCLEAR
REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter serves to acknowledge that the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VY) Emergency Response Data System (ERDS), including its data link from VY to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Operations Center, is no longer required based on the permanently shutdown and defueled condition of VY.

Section VI of Appendix E to Part 50 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) establishes the requirement of a direct near real-time electronic data link between a nuclear power facility licensee's onsite computer system and the NRC Operations Center that provides for the automated transmission of a limited data set of selected parameters. However, Section VI.2 of Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50 specifically exempts from this requirement those nuclear power facilities that are shut down permanently or indefinitely.

By letter dated September 23, 2013 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML13273A204), Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy) provided notification to the NRC of its intent to permanently cease power operations at VY. By letter dated January 12, 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15013A426), Entergy certified to the NRC, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii), that VY had permanently ceased operations and that fuel had been permanently removed from the VY reactor vessel and placed in the VY spent fuel pool. Upon the docketing of these certifications, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2), the 10 CFR Part 50 license for VY no longer authorizes operation of the reactor or emplacement or retention of fuel into the reactor vessel.

Based on the certifications of the permanently shutdown and defueled condition of the VY reactor, and because the current VY emergency plan and implementing procedures do not contain any specific actions for ERDS activation in the event of an emergency classification of Alert or higher,¹ the NRC acknowledges that, consistent with Section VI.2 of Appendix E to

¹ The requirements for the maintenance and use of ERDS by licensees who have submitted certifications of permanent cessation of operations are described in a June 2, 2014, memorandum by Robert J. Lewis, Director, Division of Preparedness and Response, Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response, NRC (ADAMS Accession No. ML14099A520).

10 CFR Part 50, the VY ERDS, including its data link from VY to the NRC Operations Center, is no longer required.

If you have any questions regarding the termination of the ERDS data link from VY to the NRC Operations Center, please contact Bezakulu Alemu at (301) 287-3731 or by e-mail at Bezakulu.Alemu@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meena K. Khanna for". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Meena K. Khanna, Chief
Plant Licensing IV-2 and Decommissioning
Transition Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-271

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Sincerely,

/RA SKoenick for/

Meena K. Khanna, Chief
Plant Licensing IV-2 and Decommissioning
Transition Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-271

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