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John W. Boyle
Director, Nuclear Decommissioning

10 CFR 50.82(a)(7)
10 CFR 50.54(bb)

BVY 17-013

April 12, 2017

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: Notification of Schedule Change for Dry Fuel Loading Campaign
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
Docket No. 50-271
License No. DPR-28

REFERENCES: 1. Letter, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. to USNRC, "Post Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report," BVY 14-078, dated December 19, 2014 (ML14357A110)
2. Letter, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. to USNRC, "Update to Irradiated Fuel Management Program Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(bb)," BVY 14-085, dated December 19, 2014 (ML14358A251)

Dear Sir or Madam:

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (ENO) is submitting notification pursuant to 10 CFR 50.82(a)(7) that certain activities are planned at Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VY) that constitute a change to the schedule described in the VY Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report (PSDAR) (Reference 1). This submittal also provides updated information related to the VY irradiated fuel management program submitted pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(bb) (Reference 2).

The planned activities will result in changes to the decommissioning schedule for the SAFSTOR Dormancy with Wet Fuel Storage period 2016-2020 (PSDAR Table 2.1). Information provided in the PSDAR and site-specific decommissioning cost estimate indicated a dry fuel storage campaign starting in 2019. Key milestones in the schedule for this period include the availability of the second Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) pad by 2017, and off-loading of the spent fuel pool to the ISFSI by mid-2020 (PSDAR Section 2.1.2).

Consistent with PSDAR Section 2.0, spent fuel will remain in the spent fuel pool until it meets the criteria for transfer and the spent fuel can be transferred in an efficient manner to the ISFSI. The ISFSI expansion (second pad) is under construction and scheduled for completion in 2017,

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NRR

as stated in PSDAR Section 2.1.2. VY now plans to commence loading spent fuel into dry fuel storage casks and transferring the casks to the existing ISFSI pad in April 2017. Provided that the criteria for transfer are met, including certain regulatory approvals¹, the transfer of all spent fuel from the spent fuel pool to the ISFSI is expected to be completed in late 2018.

Although the schedule change results in certain expenditures shifting from years 2019-2020 to 2017-2018, it does not increase the overall estimated costs for spent fuel management or license termination. This is primarily due to reductions in expenditures as a result of completing the transfer to dry fuel storage nearly two years earlier than previously described. Likewise, the change does not adversely affect the projected excess amount in the decommissioning trust fund over these estimated costs, based on the funding approach described in Reference 2 for the management of irradiated fuel, which remains unchanged. In Reference 2, ENO also stated that VY expects to begin the dry fuel campaign in 2019 and complete the transfer by mid-2020, therefore this updated information is provided pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(bb).

ENO has submitted an application to the NRC for transfer of the VY licenses; however, any proposed changes associated with that application are not considered for the purposes of this notification.²

This submittal contains no new regulatory commitments.

Should you have any questions concerning this submittal, or require additional information, please contact Mr. Coley Chappell at 802-451-3374.

Sincerely,



JWB/ccc/shr

¹ VY spent fuel will be stored in Holtec International HI-STORM 100 Cask Systems, utilizing MPC-68 and MPC-68M canisters, licensed under HI-STORM 100 Certificate of Compliance (CoC) No. 72-1014. Accelerated completion of the transfer to dry fuel storage is dependent upon obtaining certain approvals from the NRC. Holtec has submitted proposed Amendments 11 and 12 to the HI-STORM 100 CoC, and, in parallel, ENO is submitting requests for site-specific licensing actions which, if approved, would also support completion of the dry fuel loading campaign by late 2018.

² *Application for Order Consenting to Direct and Indirect Transfers of Control of Licenses and Approving Conforming License Amendment and Notification of Amendment to Decommissioning Trust Agreement*, BVY 17-005, February 9, 2017 (ML17045A140). *Notification of Revised Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report (Revised PSDAR)*, NorthStar Group Services, Inc., April 6, 2017.

cc: Mr. Daniel H. Dorman
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