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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555 August 10, 1979

Mr. W. G. Counsil, Vice President Nuclear Engineering and Operations Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company Post Office Box 270 Hartford, Connecticut 06101

Dear Mr. Counsil:

In May 1976, we issued guidelines reflecting the NRC's policy regarding the implementation of General Design Criterion 3 - Fire Protection. Since that time, you have performed a fire hazards analysis for your facility and have compared its fire protection program with the NRC guidelines.

In late 1976, we set October 1980 as the date for completing the implementation of all modifications associated with this program. This implementation schedule recognized that such modifications should be completed as soon as practical, with due consideration of the nature of the modifications. For example, minor modifications, adoption of administrative controls and additional portable equipment would be completed within six months; however, major modifications would require a year or more to complete and some modifications would be coordinated with refueling outages.

By their Memorandum and Order in the matter of the Union of Concerned Scientists' Petition for Emergency and Remedial Action, dated April 13, 1978, the Commission directed the staff to use their best efforts to maintain this schedule, and also directed that the Commission be advised if any slippage is anticipated, along with suggested corrective actions.

We urge you to apply your best efforts to maintain your schedules for completion of all of the fire protection modifications at your facility (ies) and to submit, on an expedited basis, any information that is still outstanding with regard to open items and required design details.

Sincerely,

D. Eisenhut, Acting Director Division of Operating Reactors

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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August 10, 1979

cc Day, Berry & Howard Counselors at Law One Constitution Plaza Hartford, Connecticut 06103

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