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VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

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REPLY TO:
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TELEPHONE 617-366-9011

B.4.2.1
WVY 79-131

November 13, 1979

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Attention: Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director

References: 1) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)
2) USNRC Letter to VYNPC, dated May 22, 1979; IE Bulletin 79-11
3) VYNPC Letter to USNRC, dated July 6, 1979
4) VYNPC Letter to USNRC, dated September 21, 1979

Gentlemen:

Subject: Faulty Overcurrent Trip Devices in Westinghouse DB-50 Circuit Breakers

While testing our Westinghouse DB-50 circuit breakers, in accordance with Reference 4, we experienced difficulties with the special test equipment required to test and calibrate these breakers. The equipment failed after completing the main breakers for both batteries. Therefore, we could not change end caps, test or calibrate our battery tie breakers.

Visual inspection and testing of the main breakers and visual inspection of the tie breakers in the as-found condition, revealed no evidence of cracked end caps.

The tie breakers which did not have their end caps replaced are normally open. These breakers are closed only to tie the spare battery charger to the DC bus in the event that the normal charger fails. Due to the design of our DC busses, it would be extremely risky to remove the tie breakers from the switchgear for testing during plant operation. Therefore, end cap replacement and calibration of the tie breakers will be completed at the next outage of sufficient duration to complete the work provided the test equipment is repaired and available.

Very truly yours,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

D. E. Moody
Manager of Operations

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