UNITED STATES OF AMERICA before the NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of MAINE YANKEE ATOMIC POWER COMPANY (Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station)

Docket No. 50-309 (Spent Fuel Pool Compaction)

ANSWER OF THE LICENSEE TO THE PETITION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE OF SENSIBLE MAINE POWER

Without admitting the validity or justiciability of any of the contentions set forth therein, and expressly reserving the right to contest the relevance and admissibility of any and all contentions finally submitted pursuant to 10 CFR § 2.714(b), the licensee Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company for answer thereto admits that the petition of Sensible Maine Power conforms to the requirements of 10 CFR §§ 2.714(a)2, 2.714(d) and therefore prays the Commission:

> 1. To have the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel appoint an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to preside in this matter, and

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2. To direct that a prehearing conference be held at the earliest practicable time in this matter in order to cause the early setting, and decision as to the justiciability, of the petitioner's contentions.

By its attorneys,

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1595 348

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Thomas G. Dignan, Jr., herely certify that on December 7, 1979, I made service of the within document, by mailing a copy thereof, postage prepaid, to:

Office of the Executive Legal Director U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

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Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

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