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

December 7, 1979

Docket No. 50-309

Mr. Robert H. Groce
Licensing Engineer
Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company
20 Turnpike Road
Westboro, Massachusetts 01581

Dear Mr. Groce:

On May 17, 1978, we requested information concerning pipe cracks in the Chemical Volume Control System (CVCS) due to excessive charging pump vibrations with respect to the Maine Yankee nuclear facility. The requested information was provided in letters dated June 5, 1978, February 14, 1979 and November 6, 1979.

Based upon our review of the information submitted, we have determined that the operation of the three horizontal multi-stage centrifugal charging pumps will not cause pressure fluctuations. As a result, no fatigue cracks in the CVCS piping are anticipated due to the pumps operation.

Maine Yankee does have one positive displacement auxiliary charging pump whose operation will cause pressure fluctuation. The pump is operated about two hours per year in the range of 300 to 700 psig line pressure. The design pressure for these lines exceeds 2500 psig. Therefore, we do not anticipate fatigue failures in the piping system caused by the operating pressure fluctuation of this pump in its operating range.

Based on the above, we conclude that our concerns regarding pipe cracks in the CVCS due to vibration caused by charging pumps at the Maine Yankee nuclear facility have been satisfactorily resolved. No further action on this issue will be required.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Reid
Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Operating Reactors

cc: See next page

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Yankee Atomic Electric Company

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