

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

JUL 26 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:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING IE BULLETIN 79-06B

We have reviewed your responses to IE Bulletin 79-06B for the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station which were transmitted by letters dated April 26, May 4, May 14, and June 8, 1979. Our review of your responses has led us to believe that you have a general understanding of our concerns arising from the TMI-2 incident in relation to their implications to the operation of the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station. Nevertheless, we have discovered some deficiencies in your responses which must be resolved before we issue our safety evaluation for the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station. The resolution of these deficiencies is contingent upon receiving complete and acceptable responses to the questions in Enclosure 1.

As a result of our continuing review of the TMI-2 incident, we may impose other corrective actions in addition to those in IE Bulletin 79-06B. In the interim, if you need any clarification of the enclosed questions, please contact Mr. I. Villalva, the staff's assigned project manager for Bulletins and Orders involving C-E designed reactors. Mr. Villalva may be reached on (301) 492-7745.

In order to ensure a timely response to the items in the enclosure, we previously transmitted to you a facsimile of said enclosure via telephone. Accordingly, we request that responses to the items in the enclosure be forwarded to this office approximately two weeks after receipt of the enclosure, but no later than August 10, 1979.

Sincerely,

R. W. Reid, Chief

Operating Reactors Branch No. 4 . Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:
Reguest for Additional Information

cc w/enclosures: See next page

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Yankee Atomic Electric Company

cc: E. W. Thurlow, President Maine Yankce Atomic Power Company 9 Green Street Augusta, Naine 04330

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Mrs. L. Patricia Doyle, President SAFE POWER FOR MAINE Post Office Box 774 Camden, Maine 04843 Mr. Robert R. Radcliffe Office of Energy Resources 55 Capitol Street Augusta, Maine 04330

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING IE BULLETIN NO. 79-06B MAINE YANKEE ATOMIC POWER STATION DOCKET NO. 50-309

As a result of our review of the MYPCO responses to Bulletin No. 79-06B, we find that the following additional information is required. The item numbers correspond to the bulletin action items and the related licensee's response.

Your response indicates that the parameters checked for indication of core voiding are pressurizer temperature and hot leg temperature. We believe other parameters (e.g., RCS flow indications, incore temperature monitors, source range instruments and water saturation curves) can be used to aid in determining the possibility of core voiding. Discuss the consideration given to these other parameters in your review of this item and the procedure changes which were or will be implemented regarding the use of these other parameters.

During recent phone conversations, you have indicated that work regarding the issue of voiding and natural circulation operation is ongoing and expected to be completed by July 31, 1979. Please address this issue as requested in the Bulletin.

- 9.b Please confirm that the revised forms for verification that safeguards equipment has been returned to service clearly require verification that the affected safeguards system has been returned to service.
- 9.c Describe your current watch relief procedures to assure that on-coming personnel are fully aware that previously secured safeguards equipment has been returned to service.

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