

July 5, 1979

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Mr. McKie Wing Roth, Jr.
P. O. Box 50
Bath, ME 04530

Dear Mr. Roth:

This is in reply to your letter of June 11, 1979 about the seismic instruments at the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station during the earthquake of April 17, 1979.

The following information was reported to the NRC staff during telephone conversations with Maine Yankee personnel on April 18 and 19, 1979:

On April 18, 1979, operation of the accelerographs was checked. Due to corrosion of contacts, it was determined that control room annunciation would not have occurred if either recorder had triggered. Furthermore, the upper recorder may not have operated during the earthquake for the same reason. Proper operation of the lower recorder was demonstrated. The film was developed and confirmed that the instrument had not triggered.

The recorders were set to trigger for a vertical acceleration of 0.01 g or more.

I hope this clarifies the matter.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
H. R. Denton

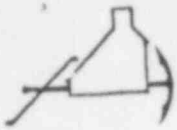
Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

bcc: Commissioner Bradford

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*SEE PREVIOUS YELLOW COPY FOR CONCURRENCES

OFFICE	NRR:PSS* PCFine:mmt	NRR:PSS* DMCrutchfield	NRR:DD* EGCase	NRR: HDenton		
SURNAME						
DATE	6-28-79	6-28-79	6-28-79	7-5-79		



McKIE WING ROTH JR.

DESIGNER
P.O. BOX 50
BATH, MAINE 04530

6-13-79

MR HAROLD R. DENTON
NRC
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR MR. DENTON:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR JUNE 6 RESPONSE
TO MY LETTER OF CONCERN ABOUT THE EARTHQUAKE
SITUATION AT MAINE YANKEE.

YOU ARE APPARENTLY UNAWARE THAT THE REASONS
THE APRIL 17 EARTHQUAKE WAS NOT FELT IN MAINE
YANKEE'S CONTAINMENT ROOM ARE (A) NO ONE WAS IN
THE BUILDING AT THE TIME, AND (B) THE INSTRUMENT
USED TO MEASURE EARTHQUAKES WAS INOPERABLE
DUE TO CORROSION. (A PHONE CALL WILL VERIFY WHAT
I AM SAYING)

I FIND IT EXTREMELY DISTURBING THAT YOU ARE
SO ILL-INFORMED BY MAINE YANKEE AND YOUR
STAFF.

AGAIN, MY HOUSE - ONE MILE AWAY - IS ON BEDROCK.
IF I FELT THE 'QUAKE SO DID THE CONTAINMENT ROOM.
(IT WAS FELT IN PORTLAND, AND AUGUSTA)

SINCERELY

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POOR ORIGINAL

L.L. PETER BRADFORD

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