



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

NRC PDR

July 20, 1979

Docket No. 50-309

Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds C. Miller
Perkins Road
Boothbay Harbor, Maine 04538

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Miller:

Your letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, dated May 24, 1979, has been referred to this office.

No doubt you are aware that on May 24, 1979, we terminated the Order to Show Cause issued March 13, 1979, which related to Maine Yankee seismic design concerns, thereby allowing the facility to resume power operation. This action was taken after we determined that the public health, interest or safety did not require the continued shutdown of the facility. A copy of our May 24, 1979 Termination of Order to Show Cause is enclosed for your information. After you have examined the Order and the basis for the Order, I hope you will agree that this was the proper course of action.

I assure you that this Agency is staffed with people who properly appreciate the fact that their primary responsibility in regulating the nuclear industry is the protection of the health and safety of the public and the environment. Most of our people have devoted the major portion of their careers to nuclear safety and they take this responsibility very seriously. Our concern over emergency planning at nuclear power plant sites was heightened by our recent experience at the Three Mile Island Plant in Pennsylvania. Consequently, action is being taken to reassess and revise, as necessary, the licensee and state plans for coping with a nuclear emergency at each of the U. S. nuclear power plants. Where approved state plans do not exist, we are actively encouraging the state to expedite preparation of a plan.

The amount of radioactive material stored at and released from the facility is limited by Federal regulations and facility technical specifications and is subject to controls by the licensee. These limits have been established for the protection of the public and the environment.

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Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds C. Miller - 2 -

I hope you find this information responsive to your concerns. If I can be of further assistance to you, please let me know.

Sincerely,

W. P. Gammill

William P. Gammill, Acting Assistant
Director for Operating Reactor Projects
Division of Operating Reactors
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:

Term. of Order to Show
Cause dtd. 5/24/79

cc: Mr. Robert H. Groce
Licensing Engineer
Yankee Atomic Electric Company
20 Turnpike Road
Westboro, Massachusetts 01581

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