

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

SEVENTY SEVEN GROVE STREET

RUTLAND, VERMONT 05701

REPLY TO:
ENGINEERING OFFICE

TURNPIKE ROAD

WESTBORO, MASSACHUSETTS 01581

TELEPHONE 617-366-9011

January 17, 1980

B.3.2.1

WVY 80-13

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Thomas A. Ippolito, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #3
Division of Operating Reactors

References: (a) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)
(b) USNRC Letter to R. Groce from K. R. Goller, dated
January 13, 1978, Subject: Amendment 43 to
Facility Operating License
(c) VYNPC Letter (WVY 79-104) dated September 14, 1979,
Subject: Submittal of Additional Information on
Fire Protection

Dear Sir:

Subject: Submittal of Additional Information on Fire Protection

As a result of two recent telephone calls between the NRC staff and Vermont Yankee, we are submitting the following information for your review. The information is referenced to Safety Evaluation Report (SER) Sections.

3.1.4 Water Suppression Systems

The detailed as-installed drawings for the new water suppression systems are attached for the NRC staff's review.

3.1.6 Gas Suppression Systems

As discussed with the NRC staff, initiation of the gas suppression systems in the Switchgear Room and in the Cable Spreading Room will be on receipt of an alarm from two smoke detectors, i.e., the first detector to alarm will initiate the closing of dampers, shutdown of fans, alarm to the Control Room, etc.; the second detector to alarm will initiate the operation of the gas suppression system.

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Installation drawings for the gas suppression systems are not yet available and will not be available until March, 1980. When they become available, they will be sent to the NRC for their review.

3.1.8 Fire Barrier Penetrations

All fire barrier penetrations as referenced in the SER sections have been sealed. We are currently compiling the data package on this job. However, due to the magnitude of the work involved, a complete documentation package such as the NRC staff wants to review will not be ready until February 15, 1980. It will be submitted to you at that time.

3.1.14 Air Breathing Apparatus

In response to the NRC-imposed criterion to maintain a supply of breathing air for fire emergency use to cover a minimum time interval of six hours, Vermont Yankee has purchased five BioPak 60P's for fire brigade use. The BioPak 60P, supplied by BioMarine Industries, Inc., is a closed circuit oxygen breathing apparatus. It is a positive pressure device, and will supply more than sixty minutes of breathing time from each oxygen bottle. Sufficient spare oxygen bottles and Carbon Dioxide Absorbers have been purchased to supply six hours of breathing time for each of the five shift fire brigade members.

3.2.3 Fire Water Loop

Reference (c) above contained the results of several calculations that were done on the loop in response to staff concerns. These calculations indicate that the staff concerns are unfounded, and we feel that a thorough review of our submittal by the staff will confirm this. We do not intend to make any changes to the routing of the two pipes.

3.2.4 Primary Containment Analysis

As discussed in Reference (c), investigation and analysis done on the Primary Containment indicate that some modifications should be made to provide fire detection and suppression if the containment is not inerted. However, it is our belief that such modifications are not necessary if we are required to inert the containment. Until the inerting question is decided by the NRC, Vermont Yankee does not intend to do any further design work on containment fire detection and suppression systems. At the time that the inerting question is settled, we will be ready to discuss the details of those systems we feel will be necessary.

3.2.7 Administrative Controls

The NRC staff has recently indicated to us that there were still some outstanding issues in this area. Vermont Yankee is unaware of any except those of use of the Shift Supervisor as Fire Brigade Leader and drill frequency. There was to be further discussion on the subject between Vermont Yankee and the NRC staff, but it has not yet taken place.

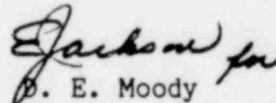
3.2.8 Shutdown Capability

The NRC staff has recently indicated to us that our response was unacceptable, but has not indicated to us in what areas the problems lie. When we receive this information, we will evaluate it and make any further response that we find necessary.

We trust that the above information responds to your concerns. If you have any further questions, please contact us.

Yours very truly

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



D. E. Moody
Manager of Operations

EAS/sec
Attachments