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B.4.1.1
WMY 80-91

June 6, 1980

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region 1
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Attention: Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director

References: (a) License No. DPR-36 (Docket No. 50-309)
(b) USNRC Letter to MYAPC, dated March 10, 1980, IE Bulletin No. 80-05

Dear Sir:

Subject: Response to IE Bulletin No. 80-05

As required by Reference (b), Maine Yankee has reviewed the design of all systems that contain low pressure or holdup tanks that can be valved to contain primary system water. This review has determined that adequate measures have been taken to protect these tanks against developing a vacuum condition that could result in tank damage. Therefore, no corrective actions have been taken or are planned.

The following is a listing of systems containing low pressure or holdup tanks and a description of the existing measures that protect against excessive vacuum conditions:

1. Boron Recovery System

The boron waste storage tanks are designed for negative pressure operation. These tanks are continuously vented to the primary vent stack, and are protected against excessive vacuum conditions by a continuous vent to atmosphere. This vent as well as all others discussed in this letter are not isolable from the tank.

2. Radioactive Waste Disposal System

The test tanks receive distillate from the waste disposal and boron recovery evaporators, and hold this water for discharge to the service water system. These tanks are protected against excessive vacuum conditions by a continuous vent to atmosphere.

The primary drain tank collects hydrogenated radioactive wastes. This tank is connected to the hydrogenated vent header which terminates in the waste gas surge drum of the gaseous waste disposal system. One of the system gas decay drums is pressurized upon initial system startup to act as an additional surge volume to maintain system pressure. In the event that this is not adequate, system pressure is maintained by a separate nitrogen supply. The primary drain tank is also designed to operate under a negative pressure.

The aerated drain tanks collect aerated waste liquids for processing. These tanks are vented through the aerated vent header to the primary vent stack. The aerated vent header and the aerated drain tanks are protected against excessive vacuum conditions by continuous non-isolable atmospheric vents on system tanks such as the boron waste storage tanks discussed above. These tanks are all piped together to the primary vent stack.

3. Chemical and Volume Control System

The boric acid storage tank can receive recovered boric acid from the boron recovery system. This tank is protected against excessive vacuum conditions by a continuous non-isolable vent to atmosphere. This tank is also designed to operate under a negative pressure.

4. Containment Spray System

The refueling water storage tank is designed to store processed primary system wastes following a refueling outage. The tank is protected against excessive vacuum conditions by a continuous vent to atmosphere. The tank is also designed to operate under a negative pressure.

The spray chemical addition tank is directly connected to the refueling water storage tank. Valve misoperations could result in the addition of primary system water to this tank. This tank is protected against excessive vacuum conditions by a separate continuous vent to atmosphere.

5. Primary Water System

The primary water storage tank can receive primary system water by an improper valve lineup. The tank is protected against excessive vacuum conditions by a continuous vent to atmosphere. This tank is designed to operate under a negative pressure.

As previously stated, it is felt that the measures described above are adequate to protect against excessive vacuum conditions. Therefore, no additional corrective actions are planned.

Very truly yours,

MAINE YANKEE ATOMIC POWER COMPANY

D. E. Moody

D. E. Moody
Manager of Operations