

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

March 7, 1980

Docket No. 50-309

Mr. Robert H. Groce Senior Engineer - Licensing Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company 25 Research Drive Westboro, Massachusetts 01581

Dear Mr. Groce:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 48 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-36 for the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station. This amendment consists of a change to the Technical Specifications in response to your application dated December 5, 1979, as supplemented February 15, 1980.

The amendment revises the Technical Specifications to support the operation of the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station at full rated power during Cycle 5.

The continued acceptable performance of the control element assemblies (CEA) and the CEA guide tube sleeves will need to be evaluated by an inspection at the end of Cycle 5, and each subsequent cycle, until a permanent repair is identified. This inspection program should include a reasonable proportion of Exxon fuel assemblies to establish the performance of this new fuel.

Your letter of February 26, 1980 regarding low power steam line break stated that a revised steam line break analysis will be submitted to us within 30 days after Cycle 5 startup. This analysis will consider the valve modification proposed in your letter of January 30, 1980 (Reference 16 to our Safety Evaluation).

Copies of our Safety Evaluation and Notice of Issuance are also enclosed.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Reid, Chief

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Operating Reactors Branch #4 Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 48

2. Safety Evaluation

3. Notice

cc w/enclosures: See next page

cc w/enclosure(s): E. W. Thurlow, President Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company Edison Drive Augusta, Maine 04336

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cc w/enclosure(s) & incoming dtd: 12/5/79 & 2/15/80 State Planning Officer Executive Department State of Maine 189 State Street Augusta, Maine 04330