

# YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY

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ANDREW C. KADAK, Ph. D.  
PRESIDENT and  
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

August 11, 1989

The Honorable Kenneth M. Carr  
Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
One White Flint North  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Chairman Carr:

I wholeheartedly support your position to establish Plant Life Extension for nuclear power plants as a top priority activity at NRC. Yankee has been working on life extension for almost two years. As you are undoubtedly aware, Yankee intends to submit an application for a license extension in June of 1991, less than two years away. We have made enormous progress to date on satisfying ourselves that we can technically justify safe and economic operation for another 20 years. We continue to brief NRC staff on our methodology and progress. Thus far, we see no major obstacles to technical justification.

The difficulties apparent to us at this point involve the licensing process. A final rule governing license renewal is not even scheduled to be available until almost one year after our intended filing date. Also, unless the licensing process is straightforward, focused and specifies issues subject to review, establishes strict schedules for both the NRC and the hearing process, we can expect the same lack of interest in Plant Life Extension as we see in new nuclear plant orders.

I am very encouraged by your personal interest in this matter. If I can be of any help in assisting in the development of a licensing process that is functional, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

*Andrew C. Kadak*

ACK/pjm

cc: Commissioner Curtis  
Commissioner Rogers  
Commissioner Roberts  
Dr. T. Murley, Dir. Nuclear Reactor Regulations  
Dr. E. Beckjord, Dir. Nuclear Regulatory Research

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