NOV 0 1 1989

Docket No. 50-29

Yankee Atomic Electric Company ATTN: Mr. Norman St. Laurent Manager of Operations 580 Main Street Bolton, Massachusetts 01740-1398

Gentlemen:

Subject: Inspection Report No. 50-29/89-16

This refers to the routine resident safety inspection conducted by Messrs. H. Eichenholz, M. Markley, P. Drysdale and J. Trapp of this office on August 1 - September 26, 1989 at the Yankee Nuclear Power Station, Rowe, Massachusetts. The inspection consisted of observation of activities, interviews with personnel and document reviews. The results of the inspection are described in the NRC Region I Inspection Report enclosed with this letter and were discussed with Mr. T. Henderson of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

We have reviewed the circumstances surrounding the inadvertent reactor trip that occurred during the plant startup on August 29, 1989. A similar event occurred in 1986. It appears that your corrective actions for the previous event were not effective in precluding recurrence of this type of an event. Management attention is needed to ensure that your event evaluation is sufficiently detailed to properly assess the root cause of this occurrence, and that appropriate corrective measures are instituted.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Your cooperation with is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Jon R. Johnson, Chief Projects Branch No. 3

Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosure: NRC Region I Inspection Report No. 50-29/89-16

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cc w/encl:

A. Kadak, President & Chief Operating Officer

T. Henderson, Plant Superintendent

G. Papanic, Jr., Senior Project Engineer - Licensing

P. Agnes, Assistant Secretary of Public Safety, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

C. Sterzinger, Commissioner, Vermont Department of Public Service

Public Document Room (PDR)

Local Public Document Room (LPDR)

Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)

NRC Resident Inspector

Commonwealth of Massachusetts (2)

bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

M. Perkins, DRMA (w/o encl)

R. Blough, DRP

H. Eichenholz, SRI (with concurrences)

L. Kolonouski, DRP

J. Johnson, DRP

P. Drysdale, DRS

J. Trapp, DRS

G. Grant, SRI, Vermont Yankec

P. Sears, NRR

R. Bores, DRSS

H. Eichenholz

R. Blough 10/30/89

DRP:RI

J. Johnson 1111

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