



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

October 1, 1980

Docket No. 50-29

Mr. James A. Kay
Senior Engineer - Licensing
Yankee Atomic Electric Company
25 Research Drive
Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

Dear Mr. Kay:

In our Safety Evaluation (SE) dated March 15, 1979, we summarized the results of our evaluation of the fire protection program for Yankee Rowe. Section 3.1 of our SE addressed your planned modifications to improve the fire protection capability at Yankee Rowe. We indicated by asterisks in Section 3.1 those modifications for which we required that you submit design details for staff approval. You submitted the required design details and other relevant information for items 3.1.1 Fire Protection Systems, 3.1.5 Water Suppression Systems, 3.1.6 Foam Suppression System, 3.1.7 Gas Suppression System, and 3.1.12 Smoke Detection System Tests, in your letters dated July 2, October 3, and November 13, 1979. In response to the request in our letter dated April 23, 1980, you provided required additional information, including your schedule for implementing the modification.

Section 3.2 of our SE described several items for which your evaluation was not yet complete. You submitted your analysis and information concerning items 3.2.1 Smoke Detection Systems, 3.2.2 Fire Water Supply, and 3.2.3 Alternate Shutdown Capability in your letter dated May 27, 1980.

Section 6 of our SE concerned administrative controls for fire protection, but, at the time the original SE was prepared, your description of these controls was not sufficient to permit us to make a conclusion concerning their adequacy. In response to our letter of January 25, 1979, you submitted additional details of your administrative controls program in a letter dated February 23, 1979.

8011060 079

F

TERA

Mr. James A. Kay

- 2 -

October 1, 1980

We have completed our review of the above-mentioned items and our evaluation is contained in Enclosure 1 to this letter. As indicated in the Enclosure, we find the design and implementation schedule for all items, viz November 1, 1980, to be acceptable, with the exception of Item 3.2.3 Dedicated Shutdown Capability and your proposed use of the Shift Supervisor as the fire brigade leader.

In your letter of May 27, 1980, you acknowledged that the issue of Alternate and Dedicated Shutdown capabilities is deferred to the Systematic Evaluation Program (SEP). You should realize, however, that on May 29, 1980, the Commission published for comment a proposed Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50, which relates to fire protection in nuclear power plants. This proposed rule specifies December 1, 1981, as the implementation date for alternate shutdown capability or October 1, 1982, for dedicated shutdown capability for plants, including Yankee Rowe, which are under review in the SEP.

As indicated in Section 3.2.3 of the Fire Protection Safety Evaluation Report for Yankee Rowe, issued in support of Amendment No. 56 to Operating License No. DPR-3, we have informed you that a dedicated shutdown system or equivalent alternate capability must be provided for the Yankee Rowe Plant. This determination is based solely upon our fire protection review. However, as you are aware, other aspects of your facility currently under review in the SEP may also require a dedicated shutdown system. You also should be aware that the proposed rule on fire protection would require you to submit your plans and schedule for implementing the installation of the dedicated shutdown system by November 1, 1980. Although there is no effective rule in place at the present time, we believe it is prudent to anticipate a short deadline and, therefore, request that you provide your proposed plans and schedule for the dedicated shutdown system by November 1, 1980.

During a recent telephone conversation with our representative you indicated that you will submit proposed Technical Specifications, as appropriate for the added Section 3 fire protection features by November 1, 1980, to become effective upon resumption of operation of Yankee Rowe. Your intentions in this regard are acceptable to us, and are considered Yankee Atomic Electric Company's commitments, unless advised by you otherwise.

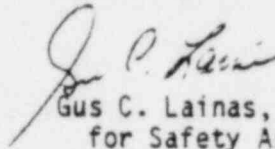
Mr. James A. Kay

- 3 -

October 1, 1980

In summary, we have concluded that the Fire Protection Program for Yankee Rowe, with the improvements already made, is adequate at the present time and, with the scheduled modifications, will meet the guidelines contained in Appendix A to BTP ASB 9.5-1 and General Design Criterion 3. We, therefore, find that this Fire Protection Plan, with exception of the implementation date for Item 3.2.3 Dedicated Shutdown Capability, and the proposed use of the Shift Supervisor as the Fire Brigade Leader, is acceptable.

Sincerely,



Gus C. Lainas, Assistant Director
for Safety Assessment
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:
Supplement No. 1
to Fire Protection
SER

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

Mr. James A. Kay

- 4 -

October 1, 1990

cc w/enclosure:

Mr. James E. Tribble, President
Yankee Atomic Electric Company
25 Research Drive
Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

Greenfield Community College
1 College Drive
Greenfield, Massachusetts 01301

Chairman
Board of Selectmen
Town of Rowe
Rowe, Massachusetts 01367

Energy Facilities Siting Council
14th Floor
One Ashburton Place
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Director, Technical Assessment
Division
Office of Radiation Programs
(AW-459)
U. S. Environmental Protection
Agency
Crystal Mall #2
Arlington Virginia 20460

U. S. Environmental Protection
Agency
Region I Office
ATTN: EIS COORDINATOR
JFK Federal Building
Boston, Massachusetts 02203