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YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY



20 Turnpike Road Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

June 7, 1976

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Attention: Mr. Paul R. Nelson, Chief, Fuel Facility
and Materials Safety Branch

Reference: 1. License No. DPR-3 (Docket No. 50-29)
2. USNRC Inspection Report No. 76-10, May 19, 1976.

Dear Sir:

This letter is in response to your report, Reference 2, concerning a deficiency reported by your inspector.

Deficiency

License Condition 15A of Byproduct Material License 20-06216-01 requires that each sealed source containing byproduct material, other than Hydrogen-3, with a half life greater than thirty days and in any form other than gas, shall be tested for leakage and/or contamination at intervals not to exceed six months.

Contrary to this requirement, four Co-60 sources of 1 millicurie, 1.71 millicuries, 35.19 millicuries and 115.9 millicuries; and one Cs-137 source of 50 curies were not tested between June 4, 1975 and February 1, 1976, an interval of eight months.

Response

Due to a misinterpretation of a letter from the AEC dated March 1, 1974, it was assumed that all plant surveillance intervals could be adjusted +25%. Using this assumption and other operational considerations a source check was performed in June, 1975, approximately 25% earlier than scheduled. Likewise, the January 1976 source check was approximately 25% later than the date of the surveillance schedule.

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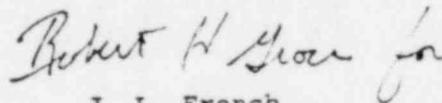
June 7, 1976
Page Two

Plant personnel responsible for the source checks have been instructed to perform such checks at intervals not to exceed six months in accordance with license and Tech. Spec. requirements.

We trust that you will find this response satisfactory.

Very truly yours,

YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY



J. L. French
Manager of Operations

REMR/kg