



VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

SEVENTY SEVEN GROVE STREET
RUTLAND, VERMONT 05701

2.C.2.9
FVY 81-89
REPLY TO:
ENGINEERING OFFICE
1671 WORCESTER ROAD
FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 01701
TELEPHONE 617-872-8100

June 4, 1981

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

Attention: Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director

References: (a) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)
(b) Letter, USNRC to VYNPC, dated April 10, 1981;
IE Bulletin 81-03
(c) Letter (FVY 81-78), VYNPC to USNRC, dated
May 15, 1981; Response to IE Bulletin 81-03

Dear Sir:

Subject: Supplemental Information in Response to IE Bulletin 81-03

As a result of additional reviews performed subsequent to transmitting Reference (c), we find it appropriate to resubmit our response to the subject Bulletin. For clarity, our complete response is provided below. Revised areas are highlighted by a line in the margin. It is our intent that the information provided below supersede Reference (c) in its entirety.

The following information is provided in response to the applicable items of Reference (b) concerning the potential for flow blockage of cooling water to safety system components by CORBICULA sp. (Asiatic Clam) and MYTILUS sp. (Mussel).

Continuing benthic fauna sampling and analyses since August 1967 has shown that the "Asiatic Clam," Corbicula sp., does not occur in the Connecticut River near the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station. Annual plant inspections of the cooling water systems, including condenser water boxes and condenser tubes, has shown no Corbicula sp. life stages to be present. The mussel Mytilus sp. is a marine taxon and cannot exist in a fresh-water environment as is found at the Vermont Yankee site.



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Information on the Vermont Yankee benthic fauna monitoring program has been reported in an annual series of, to date, ten ecological studies and environmental monitoring reports titled "Ecological Studies of the Connecticut River, Vernon, Vermont," Reports I-X inclusive, covering the periods 1967-1972 (preoperational) and 1972 to 1980 (operational). A further comprehensive environmental assessment report, including benthic fauna information, is contained in the "316 Demonstration" report dated March 1978. All of these reports have been previously submitted to the Commission.

The most recent benthic sampling was conducted on April 16, 1981, and May 5, 1981, consisting of 45 hauls with a 9" Ekman dredge in the vicinity of the intake structure. This sampling produced one juvenile Unionid clam. We have previously characterized the Connecticut River in the vicinity of Vermont Yankee as poor habitat in general for mollusks and bivalves in particular. Currently, benthic fauna monitoring is required and conducted monthly from May to November at four river stations by our NPDES permit. Such monitoring would pick up Corbicula if it should migrate into our study area. To date, the genus has not been reported in the New England states.

In summary, based on the information provided above, we feel that the potential for problems resulting from the subject organisms is extremely remote and that existing plant programs are adequate for detecting any flow blockage or degradation that might occur in the future.

The following information is submitted in response to your request for estimates of manpower expended in the research and subsequent performance of actions associated with this bulletin.

Manpower RequirementsHours

Bulletin Response
Corrective Actions

14 Man-Hours
Not Applicable

Judith A. Harris
Judith A. Harris Notary Public
My Commission Expires February 10, 1983