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

March 5, 1981

Mr. Robert H. Groce Senior Engineer - Licensing Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company 1671 Worcester Road Framingham, Massachusetts 01701

Dear Mr. Groce:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 54 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-36. The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) in response to your application dated October 3, 1980.

The amendment consist of additions to the Technical Specifications to provide greater assurance that redundancy in decay heat removal capability will be maintained in all modes of operation.

Our review of your application has found the proposed changes to be acceptable because they are in accordance with the guidance provided and satisfactorily resolve the concerns stated in our letter on this subject dated June 11, 1980.

We have evaluated the potential for environmental impact of plant operation in accordance with the enclosed amendment and have determined that the amendment does not authorize a change in effluent types or total amounts nor an increase in power level, and will not result in any significant environmental impact. Having made this determination, we have further concluded that the amendment involves an action which is insignificant from the standpoint of environmental impact and pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4) that an environmental impact statement, negative declaration or environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

Since the amendment applies only to additional requirements to ensure redundant decay heat removal capability, it does not involve significant new safety information of a type not considered by a previous Commission safety review of the facility. It does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident, does not involve a significant decrease in a safety margin, and therefore does not involve a significant hazards consideration. We have all concluded that there is a reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by this action.

A copy of the Notice of Issuance is also enclosed.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Clark, Chief

Operating Reactors Branch #3

Division of Licensing

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 54 to DPR-36

2. Notice of Issuance

cc w/enclosures: See next page Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company

cc:

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

cc w/enclosure(s) and incoming dated:
10/03/80
State Planning Officer
Executive Department
189 State Street
Augusta, Maine 04330