



MAINE YANKEE ATOMIC POWER COMPANY •

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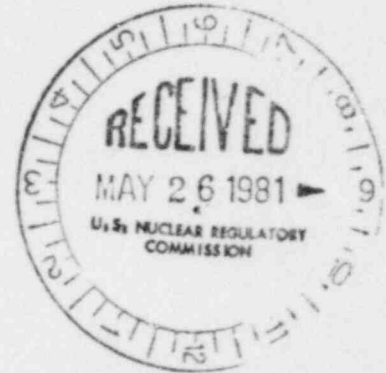
May 18, 1981  
FMY 81-77

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director  
Division of Licensing

Reference: (a) License No. DPR-36 (Docket No. 50-309)

(b) USNRC Letter, D. G. Eisenhut to all Licensees of Operating  
PWR Nuclear Power Plants dated April 20, 1981



Dear Sir:

Reference (b) requested Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company to provide a docketed response identifying specific actions proposed to resolve concerns regarding thermal shock to reactor pressure vessels from overcooling transients. These concerns were the subject of meetings between the NRC staff and industry representatives on March 31 and April 29, 1981. During these meetings representatives of the PWR Owners' Groups committed to submitting letter reports by May 15, 1981 summarizing individual Owners' Group efforts to date. Enclosure 1 provides a copy of the Combustion Engineering Owners' Group (CEOG) letter report including a summary of proposed activities.

Maine Yankee is a participant in the Combustion Engineering Owners' Group and is reviewing the proposed activities outlined in Enclosure 1. Although the activities appear satisfactory and we expect to participate in the program described therein, Maine Yankee cannot fully commit to participation until a commercial proposal has been received from Combustion Engineering and evaluated. Should upon evaluation of the commercial proposal Maine Yankee decide to pursue an alternate, you will be notified immediately.

Very truly yours,

MAINE YANKEE ATOMIC POWER COMPANY

*John H. Garrity*

John H. Garrity, Director  
Nuclear Engineering and Licensing

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Mr. Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director  
Division of Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Eisenhut:

Subject: Reactor Vessel Pressurized Thermal Shock

- References: (A) NRC Memorandum from T. J. Walker to S. S. Pawlicki,  
April 9, 1981, "Minutes of PWR Owners' Group Meeting  
with NRC on March 31, 1981"
- (B) C-E Letter from W. R. Corcoran to F. Schroeder,  
dated June 24, 1975, LD-75-431

This letter fulfills a commitment made by the C-E Owners Group in response to your request at a meeting on March 31, 1981, (Ref. A) and responds to further requests and clarifications which you provided at a meeting on April 29, 1981, concerning the issue of reactor vessel pressurized thermal shock.

This letter addresses three general aspects of the reactor vessel pressurized thermal shock issue. The letter provides a brief summary of previous analyses of the integrity of reactor vessels in C-E designed nuclear steam supply systems (NSSS) which confirm that there is sufficient safety margin to allow continued operation of these plants. The letter contains a description of further programs which are currently being reviewed by the C-E Owners Group to develop further measures to assure continued reactor vessel integrity and hence safe plant operation. We understand a general description of an industry program to assure reactor vessel integrity is being prepared by the Electric Power Research Institute and will be forwarded at a later date.

ASSURANCE OF VESSEL INTEGRITY

Prior to the March 31, 1981 meeting, the C-E Owners Group had not as a group participated in any activities involving the evaluation of reactor vessel integrity during overcooling/repressurization transients which are initiated in the secondary system. The C-E Owners Group had previously authorized Combustion Engineering (C-E) to develop a program for the purpose of

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