

YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY

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May 26, 1981
FYR-81-78
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United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406



Attention: Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director
Region I
Office of Inspection and Enforcement

References: (a) License No. DPR-3 (Docket No. 50-29)
(b) USNRC Letter to YAEC dated April 10, 1981

Subject: Response to IE Bulletin 81-03, "Flow Blockage of Cooling Water to Safety System Components by Corbicula sp. (Asiatic Clam) and Mytilus sp. (Mussel)

Dear Sir:

The attachment to this letter has been prepared in response to your specific requests in Reference (b). Both water sampling and component inspection have substantiated past findings that Corbicula sp. is not present in the local environment.

Mytilus sp., a brackish and saline water inhabitant, is not a concern since Sherman Pond is a freshwater pond.

We trust you will find this information satisfactory; however, if you have any questions, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY

D. E. Moody

D. E. Moody
Manager of Operations

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Attachment

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Attachment

Response to IE Bulletin 81-03

1. Sampling of bottom sediments by means of an Ekman dredge in deep waters and by hand sampling in shoreline waters substantiated past findings that Corbicula sp. is not present in the local environment. Mytilus sp., a brackish and saline water inhabitant, is not a concern since Sherman Pond is a freshwater pond.
2. To verify the above information, components of both the circulating water system and service water system, both supply and return piping of various diameters were inspected. Other than an expected slime, no organisms were found to inhabit these systems. This information coincides with past inspections of these and other plant systems.
3. Item #3 need not be addressed due to the absence of these organisms.
4. Annual cleaning and inspection of plant systems during refueling and outages has in the past, and will continue in the future, to be a tool by which the presence or absence of Corbicula sp. is determined. Evaluation of the environment during the collection of radiological sediment samples will continue as a useful and effective tool. Since Yankee Rowe is situated on a ponded water body regulated by hydroelectric facilities, pond conditions are not expected to change over those found in the past or at present.
5. Environmental samples were collected on 5/11/81 at various depths and substrate conditions in Sherman Pond. These samples were washed through a #30 mesh ASTM sieve to separate out the larger organic matter from the fines. Inspection of these samples indicated that Corbicula sp. was not present in Sherman Pond.