



Mr. D. E. Vandenburg
 Senior Vice President
 Yankee Atomic Electric Company
 1671 Worcester Road
 Framingham, Massachusetts 01701

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Dear Mr. Vandenburg:

In your letter of June 11, 1981, you indicated a strong desire to pursue alternative schemes for mitigating the hydrogen combustion concern associated with a degraded core accident. However, you also expressed concern that the staff was not seriously considering concepts other than containment pre-inerting for the Mark I containments. Therefore, you saw a need for further assurance from the staff that no irreversible action would be taken to foreclose successful implementation of an alternative scheme.

To clarify our position, we believe that containment designs such as your Mark I containment require provisions for dealing with the potential for the combustion of hydrogen released in large amounts in short time periods. Furthermore, in view of the potential consequences of the postulated degraded core event, we believe that a mitigation device or system should be installed and made operational within a timeframe of some 6 to 9 months. This is consistent with staff and ACRS concern that actions be taken promptly on the hydrogen mitigation capability of other small containments.

Within these constraints, as stated above, the staff has viewed a pre-inerted atmosphere as the only known approach for the Mark I DWR containment for dealing with the hydrogen that might be evolved during degraded core accidents. This does not preclude the existence of alternative schemes. However, the staff is unaware of such alternative systems. The approaches or systems that are known to exist are felt by the staff to be too advanced to satisfy the early installation date.

Accordingly, if you believe an alternative scheme can be developed and made available in time to satisfy our requirements, we strongly urge that you meet with the staff as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

(Signed) William J. Dircks

William J. Dircks
 Executive Director for Operations

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*RD 8-2
 VAECO
 XRD-9*

*EDO
 WDircks
 6/26/81*

OFFICE	CSB:DSI	CSB:DSI	AD:CS:DSI	D:DSI	ELD	DD:NRR	D:NRR
SURNAME	JKudrick	WButler	LRubenstein	RMattson		ECase	HDenton
DATE	6/26/81	6/26/81	6/26/81	6/26/81	6/ /81	6/ /81	6/ /81

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GErtter (EDO 10579)

NRC PDR

VRooney

WButler

JKudrick

SCavanaugh

RCapra

JLedbetter

RBachmann (OELD)



NOTE: J. SCINTO CHANGE ACCOMMODATED.

*See attached sheet for previous concurrences.

*See comment
first page
JCS 7/7/81
No legal objections*

EDO
WDircks
7/1/81

OFFICE ▶	CSB:DSI *	CSB:DSI *	AD:CCS:DSI *	D:DSI *	ELD <i>CSB</i>	DD:NRR	B:NRR
SURNAME ▶	JKudrick	WButler	LRubenstein	RMattson	R. Bachmann	ECase	HDenton
DATE ▶	6/26/81	6/26/81	6/26/81	6/26/81	7/6/81	7/6/81	7/9/81

FROM: D. E. Vandenburg Yankee Atomic Electric Company		ACTION CONTROL	DATES 6/2/81	CONTROL NO. 10579
TO: Dircks		COMPL DEADLINE 6/30/81	ACKNOWLEDGMENT 6/11/81	DATE OF DOCUMENT 6/11/81
DESCRIPTION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LETTER <input type="checkbox"/> MEMO <input type="checkbox"/> REPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER		INTERIM REPLY	FINAL REPLY s/Dircks 7/14/81	PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF: <input type="checkbox"/> CHAIRMAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OTHER: _____
Request assurance from the Commission that staff will participate with Yankee Atomic in activities relative to hydrogen control ### alternatives		SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS Ref. EDO-1-360 By noted to review this note through 6/18/81 6/22 Les Rubenstein - see me w/draft by 6/26 Butler RTM		
CLASSIFIED DATA				
DOCUMENT/COPY NO.		CLASSIFICATION		
NUMBER OF PAGES		CATEGORY		
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ASSIGNED TO:	DATE:	INFORMATION ROUTING	LEGAL REVIEW	<input type="checkbox"/> FINAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COPY
Denton	5/15/81	Dircks - Case	ASSIGNED TO:	NO LEGAL OBJECTIONS NOTIFY:
Essenhut	6/17/81	Cornell Denton	4. Murley	<input type="checkbox"/> EDO ADMIN & CORRES BR
Neval	DST	Rehm 1. PPAS	5. Vollmer	EXT. _____
Shapar	6/19	Minogue 2. Hanauer	6. Snyder	COMMENTS, NOTIFY:
		Shapar 3. Mattson		EXT. _____
NRC FORM 232 (11-75)		EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS		JCAE NOTIFICATION RECOMMENDED: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

PRINCIPAL CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL

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