

Docket No. 50-309
CAL 82-20

JUL 22 1982

Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company
ATTN: Mr. J. P. Randazza
Vice President
83 Edison Drive
Augusta, Maine 04336

Gentlemen:

Subject: Confirmatory Action Letter 82-20

This refers to the telephone conversation between you and Mr. E. J. Brunner of this office, on July 22, 1982, regarding emergency core cooling water level and temperature restrictions for the refueling water tank (TK-4). Such limitations assure that adequate net positive suction head (NPSH) is always available for the engineered safeguards pumps. Our discussion centered around the low pressure safety injection (LPSI) pumps, during the safety injection mode of operation following a loss of coolant accident, when these pumps are aligned to take suction from TK-4. In question is the margin between the minimum NPSH actually available and the required NPSH for these pumps, just prior to either manual or automatic transfer to long term recirculation cooling. Additionally, other safeguards pumps may also have questionable margin in NPSH, both prior to and following transfer to recirculation cooling.

With regard to the matters discussed, we understand that you will take the following actions:

1. By July 27, 1982, provide NRC Region I with a description of interim measures taken to assure available NPSH for all safeguards pumps, including the adequacy of such measures and the manner in which appropriate interim operating limits have been developed, as well as necessary operator instruction and procedural revision.
2. Conduct an evaluation to confirm and redefine refueling water tank level and temperature limits which will ensure adequate NPSH for all safeguards pumps.
3. Provide a description of how the limits defined by the evaluation performed in Item 2 are to be implemented, for both:
 - (a) automatic switchover from TK-4 to the containment sump, and
 - (b) manual transfer by operator action using administrative controls
4. Complete appropriate procedural revisions and conduct operator training necessary to ensure that redefined refueling tank temperature and level limits are identified and maintained which provide adequate safeguards pump NPSH requirements.

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- 5. Propose methods for detecting similar deficiencies which may exist due to discrepancies between plant operating conditions or limits, and system parameters or restrictions assumed in safety analyses. Such methods should address potential impact of these concerns on separate but related issues such as Pressurized Thermal Shock.

Items 2 thru 5 will be completed prior to restart from the next refueling outage.

If our understanding of your planned actions as described above is not in accordance with the actual plans and actions being implemented, please contact this office immediately.

The responses directed by this letter are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 PL 96-511.

Your cooperation with us in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Richard W. Starostecki, Director,
Division of Project and Resident
Programs

cc:
 E. Wood, Plant Manager
 E. W. Thurlow, President
 R. H. Groce, Senior Engineer, Licensing
 J. A. Ritsher, Esquire
 Public Document Room (PDR)
 Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
 Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
 State of Maine
 NRC Resident Inspector

bcc:
 Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
 E. Jordan, IE
 R. Clark, NRR
 J. Leiberman, IE
 J. Taylor, IE
 D. Eisenhut, NRR
 R. Gallo, RI
 R. Carlson, RI

RI:DPRP
 Kelly/pja
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AME
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RI:DETP
 Bettenhausen

NBS 7/22/82

RI:EP
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RTC
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RI:DPRP
 Brunner

BP
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