

DES

FEB 10 1994

Docket No. 50-29

Mr. Jay K. Thayer
Vice President and Manager of Operations
Yankee Atomic Electric Company
580 Main Street
Bolton, Massachusetts 01740-1398

Dear Mr. Thayer:

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION NO. 50-29/93-09

This letter refers to a safety inspection of the radiation protection program at your facility that was conducted by Mr. J. Nick on December 7-8, 1993 and a radioactive waste shipment that originated from your facility on January 6, 1994 and arrived at the Barnwell Disposal Site at Barnwell, South Carolina on January 7, 1994. Upon arrival, the shipment was determined by the receiving State of South Carolina licensee to be in excess of the external non-fixed radioactive contamination limits specified in NRC regulations. Mr. Nick evaluated information provided by your staff relative to this shipment. This portion of the inspection was conducted in the NRC Region I office during the period from January 19, 1994 through January 27, 1994. The results of the inspection are summarized in the enclosed inspection report and were discussed with you and your staff on January 27, 1994.

Areas reviewed during this inspection were important to health and safety and are discussed in the enclosed inspection report. These areas included review of: transportation of radioactive materials, preparation of radioactive materials for shipment, quality assurance, and transportation procedures for the component removal project.

Your transportation program was generally effective in preparing and shipping radioactive materials for the component removal project. Your planning and quality assurance activities for shipping radioactive materials was very good. Your organization was staffed with competent and knowledgeable personnel.

Within the scope of this inspection, one apparent violation of NRC regulations was identified regarding a radioactive material shipment that was determined to have arrived at its destination with non-fixed radioactive contamination levels in excess of NRC requirements, and is described in the enclosed inspection report. However, pending further review of this matter by the NRC, the apparent violation is considered an unresolved item. No specific action is required of you at this time. We will inform you when this matter is resolved.

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Your cooperation with us in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

James H. Joyner

James H. Joyner, Chief
Facilities Radiological Safety
and Safeguards Branch
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: Inspection Report No. 50-29/93-09

cc w/encl:

A. Kadak, President and Chief Executive Officer
N. St. Laurent, Plant Superintendent
R. Hallisey, Department of Public Health, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
T. Digian, Esquire
J. Grant, Senior Licensing Engineer
R. Sedano, Commissioner, Vermont Department of Public Service
T. Rapone, Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety
R. Gelder, New England Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners, Inc.
Citizens Awareness Network
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
NRC Resident Inspector
K. Abraham, PAO
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, SLO Designee
State of Vermont, SLO Designee

bcc w/encl:
Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

bcc w/encl (VIA E-MAIL):
V. McCree, OEDO
M. Fairtile, NRR
W. Butler, NRR
M. Shannon, ILPB

RI:DRSS

Nick

SN

2/4/94

RI:DRSS

for Bores

JTB

2/7/94

RI:DRSS

Joyner

JAJ

2/9/94