UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 50-29

YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY

NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY
OPERATING LICENSE

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has issued Amendment No. 51 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-3, issued to Yankee Atomic Electric Company (the licensee), which revised the Technical Specifications for operation of the Yankee Nuclear Power Station (Yankee-Rowe) (the facility) located in Rowe, Franklin County, Massachusetts. The amendment is effective as of its date of issuance.

The amendment revises the provisions of the Technical Specifications for the facility to permit movement of temporary support brackets and a shielded work platform over the spent fuel pit for performing limited work related to the licensee's planned modifications of the spent fuel pit.

The application for the amendment complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendment.

The Commission's "Notice of Proposed Issuance of Amendment to Operating License" in connection with the licensee's request to expand the spent fuel storage capacity from 391 fuel assemblies to 721 assemblies was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on September 21, 1978 (43 FR 42825). As indicated in this Notice, the Commission's staff has determined that the modifications approved by the amendment have a utility independent of the proposed increase in spent fuel storage capacity. Therefore, based on the above considerations the Commission's staff has (1) approved the modifications described above separately from consideration of the proposed increase in spent fuel storage capacity and (2) determined that prior public notice of this amendment was not required since the amendment does not involve a significant hazards consideration.

The Commission has determined that the issuance of this amendment will not result in any significant environmental impact and that pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4) an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with issuance of this amendment.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment dated July 13, 1978 (Supplement No. 2 to Proposed Change No. 158) and supplements thereto dated September 15 and 25, 1978, (2) Amendment No. 51 to License No. DPR-3, (3) the Commission's related

Safety Evaluation, and (4) Notice of Proposed Issuance of Amendment to Operating License, dated September 11, 1978 (43 FR 42825, September 21, 1978). All of these items are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. and at the Greenfield Community College, 1 College Drive, Greenfield, Massachusetts 01301. A copy of items (2), (3) and (4) may be obtained upon request addressed to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, Attention: Director, Division of Operating Reactors.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 6th day of October, 1978.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Dennis L. Ziemann, Chief Operating Reactors Branch #2 Division of Operating Reactors