YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY



Rowe, Massachusetts 01367

November 25, 1978

Mr. B. H. Grier, Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Subject: Reportable Occurrence 50-29/78-31/01T-0

Degradation of Fuel Cladding

Dear Mr. Grier:

In accordance with Technical Specifications, Section 6.9.4.a, the attached Licensee Event Report is hereby submitted.

Very truly yours,

Herbert A. Autio Plant Superintendent

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RLB/mid

Enclosure:

cc: [40] Director, Office and Enforcement U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

> [3] Director, Office of Management Information & Program Control U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

> > RT: 17-R-Ø4-Ø13 IMS: D-Ø6-Ø1-Ø2

L-Ø1-Ø5-Ø9

LER 78-31/01T LICENSEE EVENT REPORT

3	LIGHTSEE EVENT NEPONT
1	CONTROL BLOCK: [] [] (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION)
0 1	M A Y K R 1 2 0 0 - 0 0 0 0 - 0 0
O 1 7 8	REPORT L 6 0 5 0 0 0 0 2 9 7 1 1 1 1 7 8 8 1 1 2 5 7 8 9 EVENT DESCRIPTION AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES 10
0 2	During Core XIII-XIV refueling shutdown, fuel sipping operations reveal-
0 3	ed degradation of fuel cladding in four assemblies. Three assemblies
0 4	have definite indication. Abnormal degradation of fuel cladding is re-
0 5	portable under T.S. 6.9.4.d.(3). Fuel sipping was performed because of
06	high I-131 concentrations in the primary coolant, reference LER 78-23,
[0]	78-19, 78-03 & 77-55. Plant systems were operated per T.S. Thus,
08	there were no adverse effects on the public health and safety.
7 8	SYSTEM CODE SUBCODE SU
110	The root cause of this event is being evaluated by Exxon. The four
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112	and B482E (categorized as a suspect). These fuel assemblies are in
1 3	Istorage in the Spent Fuel Pit.
7 8	80
1 5	FACILITY STATUS SPOWER OTHER STATUS OF DISCOVERY DESCRIPTION DESCRIP
	ACTIVITY CONTENT IELEASED OF RELEASE AMOUNT OF ACTIVITY 35 NA LOCATION OF RELEASE 36 NA N
1 7 8	NUMBER TYPE DESCRIPTION (39) NA PERSONNEL INJURIES NA 80
1 8	NUMBER DESCRIPTION (41) NA NA Solution 12 LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO FACILITY (43)
1 9	TYPE DESCRIPTION 10 PUBLICITY ISSUED — DESCRIPTION (45) NRC USE ONLY