

APR 5 1994

Docket No. 50-271

Mr. Donald A. Reid  
Vice President, Operations  
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation  
RD 5, Box 169  
Ferry Road  
Brattleboro, Vermont 05301

Dear Mr. Reid:

SUBJECT: VERMONT YANKEE INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-271/94-02

This letter transmits the findings of a safety inspection of your Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant licensed operator requalification training program. The inspection was conducted by Mr. D. Florek and Mr. A. Burritt of this office from February 14 through March 2, 1994. At the conclusion of the inspection, Mr. Burritt held discussions of the inspection findings with members of your staff.

The proper implementation of the NRC-approved licensed operator requalification training program is strongly related to the continued safe operation of the facility. This particular inspection was conducted using NRC Temporary Instruction (TI) 2515/117, "Licensed Operator Requalification Program Evaluation." This Instruction had been developed because of the rulemaking that deleted the requirement that the NRC staff examine each licensed operator for the purpose of license renewal. The purpose of this Instruction is to evaluate the acceptability of your licensed operator requalification training program with respect to Part 55 regulations through a performance-based inspection in lieu of an NRC staff requalification examination of licensed operators.

While the results of this inspection determined that the Vermont Yankee requalification training program was being implemented in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 55.59 in the areas reviewed, several noteworthy programmatic weaknesses were identified, which negatively impact the effectiveness of your requalification training program. Programmatic weaknesses involved: (1) recurrent crew performance deficiencies in the area of crew command and control, communications, and adherence to Emergency Operating Procedures (EOPs); (2) relatively low level of knowledge being tested in parts of the written and simulator tests; and (3) poor documentation of details related to performance deficiencies and remediation training (section 3).

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY A:VY9402.INS

110012

9404120048 940405  
PDR ADOCK 05000271  
PDR

1E01  
11  
Add: NRC/Gen/Hols  
H. C. C.

Mr. Donald A. Reid

2

APR 5 1994

Of most importance were the repetitive problems with crew command and control, communication, and emergency operating procedural adherence that have been identified by your staff, as well as by NRC staff. We understand that you intend to meet with us on April 25, 1994, to present your staff's assessment of the requalification training program effectiveness and discuss the generic observations and corrective actions. We believe that the meeting would be valuable to both staffs if it also addressed those actions to correct the weaknesses identified in this report. We, therefore, request that your presentation include an assessment of the repetitive problems observed and the other findings contained in the enclosed inspection report.

No response to this letter is required. In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room. Should you have any questions regarding this inspection, please contact Mr. Richard Conte at (610) 337-5210.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

James T. Wiggins, Deputy Director  
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure:

NRC Region I Inspection Report 50-271/94-02

cc w/encl:

- R. Wanczyk, Plant Manager
- J. Thayer, Vice President, Yankee Atomic Electric Company
- L. Tremblay, Senior Licensing Engineer, Yankee Atomic Electric Company
- J. Gilroy, Director, Vermont Public Interest Research Group, Inc.
- D. Tefft, Administrator, Bureau of Radiological Health, State of New Hampshire
- Chief, Safety Unit, Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- R. Gad, Esquire
- G. Bisbee, Esquire
- R. Sedano, Vermont Department of Public Service
- T. Rapone, Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety
- Public Document Room (PDR)
- Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
- Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
- K. Abraham, PAO (2)
- NRC Resident Inspector
- State of New Hampshire, SLO Designee
- State of Vermont, SLO Designee
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts, SLO Designee

bcc w/encl:

- Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
- E. Kelly, DRP
- J. Shedlosky, DRP
- M. Oprendeck, DRP

bcc w/encl (VIA E-MAIL):

- V. McCree, OEDO
- D. Dorman, NRR
- W. Butler, NRR
- M. Shannon, ILPB

(VIA E-MAIL AND NO ATTACHMENTS):

- R. Conte, DRS
- A. Burritt, DRS
- D. Florek, DRS

Independent Review

By:

RI:DRS  
Burritt/ajk/dmg  
*ajk*  
03/16/94

RI:DRS  
Florek  
*Florek*  
03/17/94

RI:DRS  
Williams  
*Williams*  
03/16/94

RI:DRS  
Conte  
*Conte*  
03/15/94  
04