MAINE YANKEE ATOMIC POWER COMPANY •

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October 19, 1982
MN-82-197 JHG-82-185

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Division of Licensing
Operating Reactors Branch #3
Mr. Robert A. Clark, Chief

References:
(a) License No. DPR-36 (Docket No. 50-309)
(b) MYAPC letter to USNRC, dated January 22, 1980 (WMY 80-14)
(c) MYAPC letter to USNRC, dated March 5, 1980 (WMY 80-39)
(d) MYAPC letter to USNRC, dated February 9, 1981 (FMY 81-16)

Subject: Description and Schedule for the Upgraded Subcooling Margin Monitor Installation

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to inform your staff that the saturation monitor upgrading schedule will be delayed due to equipment availability.

The dedicated CE subcooling margin monitor uses pressurizer pressure, core exit coolant temperature, and reactor coolant loop hot leg temperature to provide the operator with a continuous display of either pressure or temperature margin to saturation. The temperature inputs to the monitor were not safety grade when the monitor was installed during the 1980 refueling outage. Reference (d) scheduled these input signals for upgrading during the 1982 refueling outage.

The core exit thermocouple inputs to the saturation monitor are being upgraded during the current outage in accordance with our previous commitment. Ten existing core exit thermocouple cables and in-containment connectors will be replaced. Four of these are dedicated saturation monitor inputs.

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However, the reactor coolant loop hot leg temperature inputs will not be upgraded as previously scheduled. We have found only one vendor who claims to have qualified RTDs which will fit our thermowells. The cost of these RTDs is high, and the vendor will not release the qualification report until we have purchased the instruments. We are reluctant to purchase any class 1E equipment without the opportunity to review its associated qualification report, because it is possible that the qualifications may not, in the final analysis, suit our needs.

1. Maine Yankee will determine whether there are reasonably priced qualified RTDs suitable for this service prior to the next refueling outage. If such devices are available, we will install them during the next refueling.

In the interim, we will continue to use Rosemount RTDs, since there are several fully qualified backups to the saturation monitor, as discussed in Reference (b). These qualified backups include pressurizer pressure, core exit thermocouples, and steam generator pressure and level. These instruments, in conjunction with the steam tables, provide adequate backup in the remote case of a total loss of RTD indication.

We trust this information is satisfactory. However, should you have any questions, please contract us.

Very truly yours,

MAINE YANKEE ATOMIC POWER COMPANY

John H Garrity

John H. Garrity, Senior Director
Nuclear Engineering and Licensing

JHG:bjp

cc: Mr. Ronald C. Haynes
Mr. Paul A. Swetland