

Maine Yankee

RELIABLE ELECTRICITY FOR MAINE SINCE 1972

EDISON DRIVE • AUGUSTA, MAINE 04336 • (207) 622-4868

December 12, 1990

MN-90-122

SEN-90-332

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Attention: Document Control Desk

Washington, DC 20555

References: (a) License No. DPR-36 (Docket No. 50-309)
(b) USNRC Letter to MYAPCo, dated July 6, 1990 - Generic Implications and Resolution of CEA Failure at Maine Yankee

Subject: Schedule and Task Descriptions of the Maine Yankee CEA Failure Mechanism Investigation

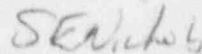
Gentlemen:

In Reference (b), the NRC requested a schedule and description of the work to be performed in determining the Maine Yankee CEA finger failure mechanism. This letter provides both the schedule and a brief listing of the tasks to be performed in determining the failure mechanism.

The work associated with this determination is being conducted through participation in the Combustion Engineering Owner's Group (CEOG) Task 666. The principal activity of this task is the examination of selected Maine Yankee CEA fingers at a hot cell in order to develop an understanding of the mechanism leading to the CEA failures. The workscope and schedule associated with this task are briefly described in the Attachment 1 to this letter. As indicated by this schedule, an examination report is planned to be completed in July 1991. Maine Yankee will be available to discuss the results of this effort with the NRC staff within sixty days following completion of the examination report.

Please contact us should you have any questions regarding this program.

Very truly yours,



S. E. Nichols, Manager
Nuclear Engineering & Licensing

SLH/sjj

Attachment

c: Mr. Thomas T. Martin
Mr. E. H. Trottier
Mr. Charles S. Marschall

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ATTACHMENT 1

CEA FAILURE MECHANISM INVESTIGATION PROGRAM
(CEOG Task 666)

1. Section CEA fingers at Maine Yankee for hot cell examination (January 1991)
2. Ship CEA sections to hot cell (February 1991)
3. Hot Cell Work Items (February-April 1991)
 - a. Perform failure analysis of CEA 06 center finger cladding
 - b. Characterize Inconel 625 mechanical properties
 - c. Characterize AgIridium swelling and deformation
 - d. Characterize boron carbide swelling behavior
 - e. Additional failure analyses of the nose caps and CEA 90 cladding, as well as metallography of CEA 01 center finger cladding, may be recommended, based on the results of the hot cell work.
4. Examination report(s) (July 1991)