

DOD

February 13, 1995

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

Subject: NOTICE OF VIOLATION (VERMONT YANKEE INSPECTION 94-31)

Dear Mr. Reid:

From December 11, 1994 to January 21, 1995 Messrs. H. Eichenholz and P. Harris conducted safety inspections at the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, Vernon, Vermont. The preliminary results were discussed with Mr. R. Wanczyk at the conclusion of the inspection. The inspection focused on issues important to public health and safety, and consisted of performance observations of the conduct of operations and maintenance, and independent evaluation of safety system status and quality records.

Our inspectors verified that Vermont Yankee operated safely as demonstrated by your control and management oversight of station activities that included maintenance on safety-related systems, turbine vibration testing, and self-assessment activities.

However, the implementation of your temporary modification and safety evaluation processes were not conducted in accordance with plant procedures. Specifically, we identified that procedure requirements for the conduct of a temporary modification and 10 CFR 50.59 safety evaluation were not followed when an emergency core cooling system instrument was modified (Section 4.1) by the conduct of maintenance. Accordingly, this failure to follow procedures was determined to be a violation of Technical Specification requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation. You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practices," a copy of this letter and the enclosed Notice will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room. The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Public Law No. 96.511.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

James C. Linville, Chief
Projects Branch No. 3
Division of Reactor Projects

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Mr. Donald Reid

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Docket No. 50-271

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report 50-271/94-31

cc w/encls:

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
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
D. Screnci, PAO (2)
NRC Resident Inspector
State of New Hampshire, SLO Designee
State of Vermont, SLO Designee
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, SLO Designee

