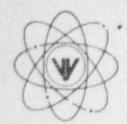
VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



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March 13, 1995 BVY 95 - 30

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission ATTN: Document Control Desk Washington, DC 20555

References: a. License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)

b. Letter, W.H. Rasin (NEI) to W.T. Russell (USNRC), dated November 21, 1994

Subject:

Implementation of Formal Industry Position on Severe Accident Management

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation intends to implement the formal industry position on severe accident management as approved by the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Strategic Issues Advisory Committee on November 4, 1994. That formal position, previously communicated to NRC in Reference (b), states that each licensee will implement the following:

> Assess current capabilities to respond to severe accident conditions using Section 5 of NEI 91-04, Revision 1, "Severe Accident Issue Closure Guidelines."

> Implement appropriate improvements identified in the assessment, within the constraints of existing personnel and hardware, on a schedule to be determined by each licensee and communicated to the NRC, but in any event no later than December 31, 1998.

Based on previous interactions between NEI (NUMARC) and NRC staff, we understand that NRC staff agrees with the need for licensee flexibility in their methods of assessing and establishing severe accident management. Due to the ongoing efforts by the Boiling Water Reactor Owners' Group (BWROG) in finalizing the Severe Accident Guidelines, it is not feasible for Vermont Yankee to commit to a specific implementation date at this time. Once these guidelines become finalized we will be in a position to more clearly define a schedule for implementation. It is expected that by the end of 1995 we should be able to respond to you with our implementation date.

Should you have any questions with regard to this information, please contact this office.

Sincerely.

VERMONT YANKES NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

Donald A. Reid

Vice President - Operations

cc: USNRC Region I Administrator USNRC Resident Inspector - VYNPS USNRC Project Manager - VYNPS Mr. David Modeen, NEI

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