

NOV 02 1983

Docket No. 50-271

Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation
ATTN: Mr. Warren P. Murphy
Vice President and Manager
of Operations
RD 5, Box 169
Ferry Road
Brattleboro, Vermont 05301

Gentlemen:

Subject: Inspection No. 50-271/83-26

This refers to the special team inspection conducted by Mr. S. Richards of this office on August 29-September 2, 1983 at the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, Vernon, Vermont of activities authorized by NRC License No. DPR-28 and to the discussions of the team's findings with Mr. W. Wittmer and other members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection. The inspection reviewed your efforts to comply with the requirements of 10 CFR 50, Appendix R, Section III.G. to provide fire protection features for equipment necessary to achieve and maintain safe shutdown. Within this area, the inspection consisted of selected examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspectors.

Based on the results of this inspection, it appears that you have not fully complied with the NRC requirements to provide fire protection features for equipment necessary to achieve and maintain safe shutdown. Specifically, you have not provided the protection required by Section III.G.2 for redundant safe shutdown equipment located primarily in the Reactor Building. By letters dated November 24, 1980 and February 20, 1981, the NRC Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation forwarded to you correspondence which stated your responsibilities to satisfy the requirements of Appendix R, Section III.G. Your failure to ensure adequate action to comply with these requirements raises questions regarding management's attention to this area.

In view of the seriousness of our concerns, this office is presently considering appropriate enforcement action which will be the subject of separate correspondence.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(a), a copy of this letter and the enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room unless you notify this office, by telephone, within ten days of the date of this letter and submit written application to withhold information contained therein within thirty days of the date of this letter. Such application must be consistent with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790(b)(1). The telephone notification of your intent to request withholding, or any request for an extension of the 10-day period which you believe necessary, should be made to the Supervisor, Files, Mail and Records, USNRC Region I, at (215) 337-5223.

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No reply to this letter is required. Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Thomas T. Martin, Director
Division of Engineering and
Technical Programs

Enclosure: NRC Region I Inspection Report
No. 50-271/83-26

cc w/encl:

Mr. J. B. Sinclair, Licensing Engineer
Mr. W. F. Conway, President and Chief Executive Officer
Mr. J. P. Pelletier, Plant Manager
Mr. L. H. Heider, Vice President
Mr. R. Eberly, CHEB, NRR
Mr. B. LeFave, ASB, NRR
Mr. L. Whitney, ORPB, OIE
Mr. J. Taylor, Brookhaven National Laboratory
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
NRC Resident Inspector
State of New Hampshire
State of Vermont
Office of Inspection and Enforcement, Division of Reactor Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Division of Licensing

bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
Senior Operations Officer (w/o encls)
Section Chief, DPRP

RI:DETP
Richards/bz
10/20/83
cja for SR

RI:DETP *ofa*
Anderson
10/31/83

SM
RI:DETP
Ebnetter
10/11/83
11/2

RMD
RI:DETP
Kister
11/2/83

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