

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

SEVENTY SEVEN GROVE STREET

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VERNON, VERMONT 05354

U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

Regulatory Mail Section

July 10, 1973

Director
Directorate of Licensing
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C. 20545

REFERENCE: Operating License DPR-28

Docket No. 50-271

Abnormal Occurrence No. A0-73-20

Dear Sir:

As defined by Technical Specifications for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, Section 6.7.B.1, we are reporting the following Abnormal Occurrence as AO-73-20.

At 0800 on July 6, 1973, while purging the drywell via RTF-5, V16-19-4, and V16-19-7A, the Drywell Purging and Vent Exhaust Valve V16-19-7A would not close. The inoperability of Valve V16-19-7A exceeds the Limiting Conditions for Operation as defined by Section 3.7.A.2 of Technical Specifications. The subject section states that Primary Containment Integrity shall be maintained at all times when the reactor is critical or when the reactor water temperature is above 212°F and fuel is in the reactor vessel. The reactor was shutdown and cooling down at the time of the incident. Reactor temperature was 300°F and reactor pressure was 50 psig.

Downstream valve V16-19-4 was shut and RTF-5 was secured it mediately. The valve operator was removed. The valve was manually actuated and found to be binding internally at the lover bushing.

The Plant Operations Review Committee reviewed this incident and recommended that the mechanical binding be investigated and the valve overhauled during a future shutdown. At present, the valve is deactivated in the closed position and will not be used when primary containment integrity is required.

Very truly yours,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

B.W. Riley

Plant Superintendent

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