

DCS

Docket No. 50-271

JUL 30 1991

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

Dear Mr. Murphy:

Subject: Motor-Operated Valve Inspection at Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power
Station (NRC Inspection Report No. 50-271/91-80)

This letter refers to the NRC team inspection conducted on May 20-24, 1991 at the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station to evaluate the adequacy of your actions to assure the reliability of motor operated valves (MOV). Specifically, our inspectors reviewed the programs that you have developed in response to NRC Generic Letter 89-10, "Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valve Testing and Surveillance." Generic Letter 89-10 provides recommendations for licensees to develop and implement programs to ensure that valve motor-operator switch settings (torque, torque bypass, position limit, overload) for MOVs in safety-related systems are selected, set, and maintained so that the MOVs will operate properly under design-basis conditions.

The results of this inspection, as detailed in the enclosed report (Enclosure 1), were discussed with Mr. J. P. Pelletier and other members of your staff during the exit meeting on May 24, 1991. At the exit meeting, your staff acknowledged the inspection findings and agreed to review the areas requiring clarifications or improvements for resolution.

The knowledge and the technical capabilities of the personnel; initiation of self assessment for the MOV program; and the proceduralized method for controlling of switch setpoints were noted strengths in the MOV area. The team also identified several areas requiring significant improvements. These findings include such hardware concerns as torque switch setting, design basis testing, periodic and post maintenance testing; and procedural concerns such as lack of clear definition of responsibilities and inconsistencies with the Generic Letter recommendations.

We request that you inform us in writing, within 60 days of receipt of this letter, of the actions planned schedules to address the items contained in Enclosure 1 of this letter. If you have any questions concerning this inspection, please contact me or the inspection team leader, Jimi Yerokun at (215) 337-5113.

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Further, we understand, as stated in this report, several commitments were made by your staff with regard to our findings. Please confirm these commitments, if they are correct, in your response.

Sincerely,

Marvin W. Hodges, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosures:

1. Inspection Findings
2. Inspection Report 50-271/91-80

cc w/encls:

J. Weigand, President and Chief Executive Officer
J. Pelletier, Vice President Engineering
D. Reid, Plant Manager
J. DeVincentis, vice President, Yankee Atomic Electric Company
J. Gilroy, Director, Vermont Public Interest Research Group, Inc.
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Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document room (LPDR)
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NRC Resident Inspector
State of New Hampshire, SLO Designee
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bcc w/encls:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

Management Assistant, DRMA (W/o encl)

J. Rogge, DRP

H. Eichenholz, SRI - Vermont Yankee

M. Conner, SALP Reports Only

K. Abraham, PAO 92) All Inspection Reports

K. Brockman, EDO

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NRR/EMEB files

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Adjudicatory File (2) Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel Docket U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555	Robert M. Lazo, Chairman Atomic Safety and Licensing Board U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555
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