

September 20, 1995

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

Subject: VERMONT YANKEE INSPECTION 95-19

Dear Mr. Reid:

From July 16 - August 21, 1995, Messrs. W. Cook and P. Harris conducted safety inspections at the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, Vernon, Vermont. The preliminary results were discussed with Mr. G. Maret 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.

The Vermont Yankee staff continued to operate the facility safely. However, overall staff performance was mixed during this inspection period. For example, poor personnel performance contributed to problems with the implementation of a temporary modification, the conduct of emergency diesel generator (EDG) testing and of an EDG post-trip critique, and the implementation of a compensatory fire watch. In contrast, performance was noteworthy in your staff's self identification and thorough corrective actions for inservice testing deficiencies and Appendix R/Fire Protection Program deficiencies. The control of LCO maintenance was professional and thorough.

An area of particular concern involves the current control of plant systems performance monitoring. Your staff's performance demonstrated that minimal guidance and management reviews were completed prior to the conduct of reactor building closed cooling water heat exchanger performance monitoring. Your management has acknowledged these observations and indicated that a review will be conducted to assess the administrative control processes best suited for the future conduct of intrusive system manipulations for data taking and/or system performance monitoring. Please inform us if there are any misunderstandings in this regard.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:
James C. Linville, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 3
Division of Reactor Projects

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Mr. Donald Reid

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Docket No. 50-271

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report 50-271/95-19

cc w/encl:

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J. Thayer, Vice President, Yankee Atomic Electric Company

J. Duffy, Licensing Engineer, Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation

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

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Mr. Donald Reid

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