

August 2, 1984

Docket No. 50-271

Mr. J. B. Sinclair
Licensing Engineer
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation
1671 Worcester Road
Framingham, Massachusetts 01701

Dear Mr. Sinclair:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL QUALIFICATION OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT
IMPORTANT TO SAFETY - EXTENSION OF DEADLINE

Re: Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station

Section 50.49(g) of 10 CFR Part 50 requires that each holder of an operating license issued prior to February 22, 1983, shall by May 20, 1983, identify the electrical equipment important to safety within the scope of this section already qualified and submit a schedule for either the qualification to the provisions of this section or for the replacement of the remaining electrical equipment important to safety within the scope of this section. This schedule must establish a goal of final environmental qualification of the electrical equipment within the scope of this section by the end of the second refueling outage after March 31, 1982, or by March 31, 1985, whichever is earlier. The rule also provides that the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation may grant requests for extensions of this deadline to a date no later than November 30, 1985, for specific pieces of equipment if these requests are filed on a timely basis and demonstrate good cause for such an extension, such as procurement lead time, task complications and installation problems. In addition, 10 CFR 50.49(h) provides that each licensee shall notify the Commission of any significant equipment problem that may require extension of the completion date provided in paragraph (g) of this section within sixty days of its discovery.

In compliance with 10 CFR 50.49(g), by letters dated May 20, 1983 and May 31, 1983, the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation (VYNPC) identified electrical equipment important to safety already qualified and submitted a schedule for either the qualification or for the replacement of the remaining electrical equipment important to safety within the scope of this section. The schedule established a goal of final environmental qualification by the end of the second refueling outage after March 31, 1982.

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On July 25, 1984 VYNPC filed a timely request for an extension of the schedular requirements of 10 CFR 50.49(g) for replacement of equipment that cannot be completed by the end of the current refueling outage. The current outage, which started on March 6, 1984 and is scheduled to end on August 2, 1984, is the second outage after March 31, 1982. VYNPC requested that the deadline for qualification of six motor operated valves, four solenoid valves, the local power range monitors, and the control rod position indication be extended to the end of the next refueling outage, scheduled to start September 1, 1985, but in any event, no later than November 30, 1985.

Enclosures to the July 25, 1984 letter give a detailed accounting of the design complications, delays in delivery of parts, and test program problems involving the above equipment. The enclosures also update justifications for continued operation for unqualified equipment remaining in the plant.

We have reviewed the July 25, submittal and conclude that the request for extension is timely, within the scope of 10 CFR 50.49(g), and demonstrates good cause for the requested extension. We have also rereviewed the justifications for continued operation with the above equipment and find the justifications acceptable. The unfinished items described above will be qualified no later than starting from the next outage, scheduled for September 1, 1985, but in no event later than November 30, 1985.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By
E. G. Case

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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Mr. J. B. Sinclair
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station

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