

MAY 28 1992

Docket No. 50-271

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

Dear Mr. Murphy:

Subject: Inspection No. 50-271/92-08

A radiological controls inspection was conducted by David Chawaga at the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station from April 13 - 17, 1992. The on-site inspection consisted of facility tours, observation of work in progress, interviews with personnel and a review of station documents. Areas reviewed during the inspection are important to worker health and safety.

The inspection continued in the NRC's Region I Office until May 7, 1992 to allow for a review of documents provided by your staff. Respiratory protection program aspects, radiological posting practices and ALARA performance were included in the extended review. A final summary of inspection findings was provided to R. Pagodin and E. Lindamood of your staff in a telephone conversation with David Chawaga on Thursday, May 7, 1992.

The inspector noted that lessons learned during past outages were effectively incorporated into the 1992 refueling outage plan. For example, improvement was observed in staffing and utilization of radiation protection personnel. In addition, the inspector noted that new access control, survey and decontamination equipment was purchased.

Although the improvements listed above were noted, compliance with station procedures remained an area where continued improvement was warranted. One violation was identified for personnel failing to adhere to station procedures in the area of respiratory protection. The violation is described in the enclosed Notice of Violation. You are required to respond to this Notice of Violation and follow the instructions for response found in the Notice of Violation.

Your staff identified and expeditiously implemented appropriate corrective actions in response to an incident involving a low level administrative overexposure. As a result of good performance in handling the event, the violation is not being cited in accordance with Section V. G. of the NRC Enforcement Policy.

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Inspection findings are detailed in the attached report. Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Signature of
James H. Joyner

James H. Joyner, Chief
Facilities Radiological Safety
and Safeguards Branch
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report No. 50-271/92-08

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
L. Tremblay, Senior Licensing Engineer, Yankee Atomic Electric Company
J. Gilroy, Director, Vermont Public Interest Research Group, Inc.
G. Iverson, New Hampshire Office of Emergency Management
Chief, Safety Unit, Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
R. McCandless, Vermont Division of Occupational and Radiological Health
R. Gad, Esquire
G. Bisbee, Esquire
Chairman, Board of Selectmen, Town of Vernor
R. Sedano, Vermont Department of Public Service
T. Rapone, Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
K. Abraham, PAO (2)
NRC Resident Inspector
State of New Hampshire, SLO Designee
State of Vermont, SLO Designee
Commonwealth of Massachusetts SLO Designee

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Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power
Corporation

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bcc w/encls:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences and IFS Forms)

DRS SALP Coordinator

DRSS SALP Coordinator

J. Linville, DRP

E. Kelly, DRP

H. Eichenholz, SRI - Vermont Yankee (w/concurrences and IFS Forms)

N. Perry, SRI - Yankee Rowe

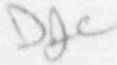
R. Lobel, OEDO

P. Sears, NRR

W. Butler, NRR

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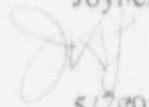
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