

APR 2 1973

Jersey Central Power and Light Company  
Attention: Mr. R. H. Sims  
Vice President  
Madison Avenue at Punchbowl Road  
Morristown, New Jersey 07960

Docket No. 50-219

Gentlemen:

A letter to the Directorate of Licensing, AEC, from the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation, dated March 6, 1973, was recently placed in the Public Document Room. The subject matter discussed in that letter is felt to have possible applicability to your plant, and, accordingly, I have enclosed a copy for your information.

Sincerely,

Robert T. Carlson, Chief  
Facility Operations Branch

Enclosure:  
Letter, VYNPC to the Directorate  
of Licensing, dated March 6, 1973

cc: Mr. T. J. McCluskey, Station Superintendent

*B/283*

OFFICE ▶	RO				
SURNAME ▶	Caphton:smg	Carlson			
DATE ▶	3/27/73				

Form AEC-518 (Rev. 9-53) AECM 0240

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# VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

SEVENTY SEVEN GROVE STREET

RUTLAND, VERMONT 05701

VYV-2479

REPLY TO:

P. O. BOX 157

VERNON, VERMONT 05354

March 6, 1973

Director  
Directorate of Licensing  
United States Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20545

REFERENCE: Operating License DPR-28  
Docket No. 50-271

Dear Sir:

During our recent fuel reconstitution an incident occurred which we feel should be reported in accordance with Technical Specifications for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, Section 6.7.C.

At 2124 on February 5, 1973, the all-purpose fuel grapple became detached from the jib crane hoist cable when tension was applied to the cable. The grapple was attached to a fuel element at the time. The fuel element was observed to remain seated in the fuel rack when the cable end stud pulled free of the grapple body. This incident attains greater significance when viewed in the context of having been preceded by numerous fuel moves. The grapple was recovered and investigation revealed that the cable end stud was intact, its threads were undamaged, and that the locknut was present and could be threaded easily the length of the stud. Additionally, it was observed that a hole was provided in the side of the body of the grapple to permit installation of a pin but that a pin had never, in fact, been installed nor was it called for by vendor drawing. It was concluded that the separation of stud and cable came about through the repeated slight twisting of the cable caused by a non-symmetrical rotation of the all-purpose grapple during attachment and removal.

The grapple and cable end stud were reassembled, the end stud drilled, and a roll pin installed and staked. The cable was inspected and no signs of deterioration were found. The grapple assembly was then verified to be operable by lifting a fuel element under close observation while it remained in the storage rack.

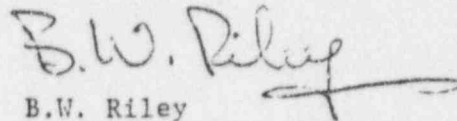
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Directorate of Licensing  
March 6, 1973  
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The Plant Operations Review Committee concluded; that the installation of a roll pin in the grapple/cable end stud assembly will prevent recurrence of this problem, use of the jib immediately after repair was reasonable, and the future use of the jib crane to move fuel has been adequately safeguarded.

Very truly yours,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

  
B.W. Riley  
Plant Superintendent

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