VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



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REPLY TO ENGINEERING OFFICE 580 MAIN STREET BOLTON, MA 01740 (508) 779-6711

April 16, 1996 BVY 96-50

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission ATTN: Document Control Desk Washington, DC 20555

Reference: (a) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)

Subject: Vermont Yankee Integrated Performance Assessment Process (IPAP) Inspection

The purpose of this letter is to request that the subject inspection, recently scheduled by NRC to July, 1996, be rescheduled to following our 1996 refueling outage, currently scheduled to commence August 23, 1996.

As relayed in several recent discussions with the NRC, Vermont Yankee's upcoming refueling outage is the first 291/2 day outage attempted by Vermont Yankee. We consider our success in accomplishing this milestone critical for our future competitiveness.

In order to complete our 1996 refueling outage in 291/2 days, Vermont Yankee has committed significant resources to planning and scheduling outage work, preparing design changes and installation and test procedures, as well as management review and oversight of these activities. In particular, Vermont Yankee has committed a significant percentage of its resources to emergent work related to our 10 CFR 50. Appendix R and Appendix J improvement programs.

In addition to these critical pre-outage activities, Vermont Yankee has scheduled for July, 1996 several staff-intensive activities, including maintenance on Core Spray (CS) and Reactor Core Isolation Cooling (RCIC) systems, an audit of our Appendix J program, and continuing development of our Improved Tech Spec (ITS) conversion packages.

Also in July we anticipate performing our performance based Functional Area Assessments (FAA) of all departments to examine current performance levels and to identify possible improvement opportunities. The basis for the FAA is extensive and includes QA Audits and Surveillances, NRC Inspections, Event Reports, Nonconformance Reports and Corrective Actions.

Based on the scope and intensity of Vermont Yankee's pre-outage schedule, we request that the IPAP scheduled for July 1996 be rescheduled to following the 1996 refueling outage. Given the resources necessary to properly prepare for and support your inspection, we feel this schedule adjustment would be mutually beneficial to both the NRC and Vermont Yankee.

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We trust that the information provided is acceptable; however, should you have any questions please contact this office. We would appreciate a verbal response at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

Donald A. Reid Vice President, Operations

cc: USNRC Region 1 Administrator USNRC Project Manager - VYNPS USNRC Resident Inspector - VYNPS