UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

Yankee Atomic Electric Company
(Yankee Rowe Nuclear Power Station)

Docket No. 50-029 10 Decommissioning July 10, 1996

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CITIZENS AWARENESS NETWORK'S AND NEW ENGLAND COALITION ON NUCLEAR POLLUTION'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO VIDEOTAPE PREHEARING CONFERENCE

Petitioners Citizens Awareness Network and the New England Coalition on Nuclear Pollution hereby seek leave to videotape the prehearing conference that is scheduled for July 16, 1996. In support of this motion, petitioners state the following:

- 1) On June 26, 1996, petitioners moved the Licensing Board to hold the prehearing conference in the area of the Yankee Rowe nuclear power plant. Motion to Hold Pre-Hearing Conference Near Yankee Rowe Facility. As set forth in the motion, the issues raised in this proceeding are of particular interest to the community surrounding the Yankee Rowe facility because they concern immediate health impacts to the local populace and raise novel substantive and procedural issues. In addition, a high level of interest has already been expressed in the decommissioning of Yankee Rowe. The motion was not opposed by any party.
- 2) The Board denied the motion on the ground that the time necessary to travel to and from Massachusetts would cut too heavily into the time frame suggested by the Commission for resolving the pending issues, thus impinging upon the Board's ability to give the issues maximum consideration. Memorandum and

Order (Denying Motion to Change Prehearing Conference Location) at 4 (July 3, 1996).

- a) Although it denied petitioners' motion, the Board recognized "the level of public interest in this proceeding and the issues it involves," and noted its intention to hold any evidentiary hearing in the Yankee Rowe vicinity. Id. at 3, 5.

 These statements indicate that the Board recognizes the importance and value of making the Yankee Rowe decommissioning proceeding as accessible as possible to the affected local residents.
- 4) Petitioners have consulted Lee Dewey, counsel to the Licensing Board, regarding whether the NRC has any policy regarding the videotaping of Licensing Board sessions. Although Mr. Devey was aware of no written policy, he informed us that the Licensing Board is currently soliciting bids to install a videotaping system in its hearing room. Thus, not only does it appear that there is no official NRC policy against videotaping Licensing Board sessions, but the Licensing Board itself is actively pursuing the means to videotape its sessions. In addition, petitioners are aware that the Commission meeting room is equipped for videotaping, and that sessions there are videotaped regularly.
- 5) The videotaping of the prehearing conference would not be obtrusive. Petitioners would set up a camera on a stationary tripod, and plug into the existing sound system by means of a

jack in the back of the hearing room. The equipment does not require lights, nor does it require the excessive use of cable. Petitioners have made arrangements with Mr. Dewey to test the system in advance of the prehearing conference if the taping is allowed.

6) The Franklin County Commission has authorized petitioners to state that it will not be able to send a representative to the prehearing conference, and therefore strongly supports this motion. Counsel for the NRC staff has stated that the staff neither supports nor opposes this motion. Counsel for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has stated that it assents to the motion. Counsel for YAEC has stated that he will oppose the motion.

For the foregoing reasons, the motion should be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Curran

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July 10, 1996

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Diane Curran, certify that on July 10, 1996, copies of the foregoing CITIZENS AWARENESS NETWORK'S AND NEW ENGLAND COALITION ON NUCLEAR POLLUTION'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO VIDEOTAPE PREHEARING CONFERENCE were served by first class mail and/or by FAX on the following, as indicated below:

*Docketing and Service U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 11555 Rockville Pike Rockville, MD 20852

Office of Comm. App. Adjudication Mail Stop 016-G-15 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

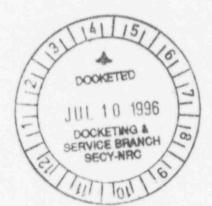
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