LICENSEE: Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation January 16, 1997

FACILITY: Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION ON DECEMBER 23, 1996, IN THE OFFICES OF THE NRC CONCERNING A PLANNED PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENT TO PREPARE RELOAD ANALYSIS FOR FUEL CYCLE 20

On December 20, 1996, the NRC staff met with representatives of Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation (VYNPC, the licensee) at the licensee's request to be briefed on VYNPC's plans for analysis in preparation for Vermont Yankee (VY) fuel cycle 20 reload. A list of meeting attendees is included as Enclosure 1. Enclosure 2 are copies of the licensee's handouts.

Fuel for fuel cycle 20 will be ordered in March of 1997 although fuel is not scheduled for core loading until March 1998. Fuel of the GE 13 (9x9) design is planned for the reload, rather than the GE 8 (8x8) fuel design most recently used. Core design will be based on an 18-month fuel cycle with 97% operating efficiency. The final contract for design of the core had not been closed at the time of the meeting, but VYNPC senior management have decided on the approach to be used.

VYNPC plans to enter into a contract in which core design is performed by General Electric (GE) with independent GE oversight by Yankee Nuclear Services Division (YNSD), and YNSD in-turn over seen by VYNPC. VYNPC pointed out advantages and high expectations for this arrangement. Advantages included independent analysis of VY's loss-of-coolant with RELAP 5YA and with the SAFER/GESTR codes in order to identify differences. Once differences are identified and understood they will be resolved in a conservative manner as appropriate.

Other major licensing matters discussed included: 1) VYNPC status of 50.54f response - VYNPC expects to meet the schedule; 2) valve MS 77 leak response plans - no recent degradation has been observed. Plans for repair or replacement are proceeding simultaneously and 3) electronic data base for licensing correspondence. This is expected to be ready in the spring of 1997.

original signed by A. Wang for

Vernon L. Rooney, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-271

Enclosures: 1. List of meeting attendees
2. VYNPC Handouts

cc w/encls: See next page

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OFFICE	PM:PDI-1	E	LA:PDI-1		D:PDI-1					
NAME	VRooney/rsl		SLittle		SBajwa					
DATE	01/16/97		01/13/97		01/16/97		01/ /97		01/ /97	

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 16, 1997

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Alan Wang For

Vernon L. Rooney, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-271

Enclosures: 1. List of meeting attendees
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cc w/encls: See next page

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Meeting Summary Memorandum

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EMAIL w/enclosure 1
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R. Zimmerman
S. Varga
J. Zwolinski
S. Bajwa
V. Rooney
S. Little
E. Jordan
W. Dean
R. Conte, Region 1
Ta Huang
Ron Frahm
E. D. Kendrick

DF01

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LIST OF ATTENDEES

MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

CONCERNING A PLANNED PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENT

TO PREPARE RELOAD ANALYSIS FOR FUEL CYCLE 20

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

DECEMBER 20, 1996

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Vernon Rooney	NRR/PDI-1
S. Singh Bajwa	NRR/PDI-1
Ta Huang	NRC/DSSA/SRXB
Ron Frahm	NRC/DSSA/SRXB
E. D. Kendrick	NRC/DSSA/SRXB
Frank Helin	Vermont Yankee
Edward L. Harms	Vermont Yankee
Tom Harrison	McGraw Hill
Jim Duffy	Vermont Yankee
Bob Sojka	Vermont Yankee

Enclosure 1

Receptive To Change

NRR Presentation
December 23, 1996

VY/GE/YNSD Partnership

- Transition to GE 13 Fuel Design
- Reload Design, Bundle Design, Mechanical Design, Core Follow
- Independent Verification
- Management Oversight
- Redundant LOCA
- More Expensive Alternative

Transition Process

- Senior Management Decision
- Process Similar To Design Change
- Operations Involvement & Training
- Stability & SOER Recognition
- Long Lead Times
- Third Party Reviews

Partnership Synergy

- General Electric
  - Safer/Gestr
  - GE 13 Experience
  - Industry Awareness
  - Method Consistency
  - Approved Methods
  - DBD Understanding
  - Skilled Expertise
- Vermont Yankee
  - Safety Culture
  - Experienced Staff
  - Engaged Mgt.
  - Aggressive PORC
  - Dedicated Staff
  - Ownership
  - Responsiveness

Improvement Expectations

- Independent Verification of Margins
- Consistency With BWR Fleet
- Expanded Industry Knowledge
- Greater Management Oversight
- Minimize Transition Risk
- Positive Mix Of Expertise & Tools
- Higher Quality Products

Best Utility Position For;

- Issues Emerging From ITS, DBD & ISP
- MEOD, ARTS, MELLA & Uprate
- Maintenance of CLB & DBD
- Response to Industry Issues
- Finding & Fixing Our Own Problems
- Core Performance Monitoring

Evidence of Culture Changes

- New CEO
- Eleven YNSD Cycles
- Plant Condition
- New FDW Heaters
- Core Shroud Repair
- 1996 LER's
- ITS, ISP, DBD
- Self Assessment
- Licensing
- Appendix R, J
- IST, MOV, FAA
- Event Reports
- System Engineers
- Business Plan
- Engineering
- $6.5 Mil DBD

Total Operating Revenue (Fuel + Capacity Costs in $000)