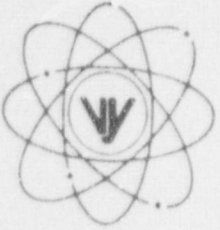


# VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



Ferry Road, Brattleboro, VT 05301-7002

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

May 29, 1997  
BVY 97-67

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

- References:
- (a) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)
  - (b) Letter, USNRC to VYNPC, NVY 97-22, dated February 25, 1997
  - (c) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, BVY 97-40, dated March 26, 1997
  - (d) Letter, USNRC to VYNPC, NVY 97-50, dated April 17, 1997
  - (e) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, BVY 97-57, dated April 29, 1997
  - (f) Letter, USNRC to VYNPC, NVY 97-62, dated May 1, 1997
  - (g) Telecon, VYNPC to USNRC, dated May 23, 1997

**Subject: Vermont Yankee Response to NRC Comments Regarding Offsite Power System Design**

In Reference (b) the NRC requested additional information regarding the adequacy of the delayed offsite power circuit at Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VYNPS) which Vermont Yankee provided in Reference (c). In Reference (d) the NRC responded with additional comments regarding Vermont Yankee's offsite power system design, in particular concerning whether the Vernon Hydroelectric Station may be credited as an alternate AC source if it is also considered a delayed source of offsite power.

In Reference (e) Vermont Yankee concluded that the current licensing basis credits the Tie Line from the adjacent Vernon Hydroelectric station as Vermont Yankee's delayed access offsite power source. Consequently, Vermont Yankee informed the NRC that it would evaluate, by May 25, 1997, alternatives for achieving compliance with the requirements of the Station Blackout (SBO) Rule (10 CFR 50.63) and that any necessary equipment modifications would be implemented as soon as practicable but not later than restart from the 1998 refueling outage. In Reference (f) the NRC accepted this schedule. In Reference (g), the NRC and Vermont Yankee agreed that the evaluation of alternatives would be completed by May 30, 1997.

Vermont Yankee currently plans to implement modifications to the existing Backfeed through the main generator step up transformer to make Backfeed an acceptable delayed source of offsite power without reliance on the Vernon Tie. Analyses will be available to support the capacity, capability and timeliness of the Backfeed. Thereafter, subject to appropriate licensing actions, the Vernon Tie, Vermont Yankee's previously approved Station Blackout AAC source,

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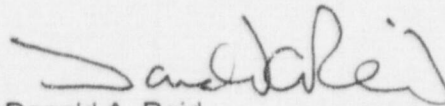
will no longer be credited as a delayed offsite power source and therefore will be available to meet the requirements of 10 CFR 50.63.

Appropriate FSAR and Technical Specification changes will be completed as part of the design change package. A proposed change to the Vermont Yankee Technical Specifications will be submitted to the NRC by 9/30/97.

We trust this provides sufficient information. However, should you have questions or require additional information, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



Donald A. Reid  
Vice President, Operations

c: USNRC Region I Administrator  
USNRC Project Manager - VYNPS  
USNRC Resident Inspector - VYNPS