

AUG 29 1988

Mr. George Sterzinger  
Commissioner  
Department of Public Service  
120 State Street, 3rd Floor  
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Dear Commissioner Sterzinger:

I appreciated the coordination you and members of your staff provided in support of Commissioner Kenneth Carr's meetings on July 6, 1988 with Governor Madeleine Kunin and the various State officials in Montpelier, Vermont. During the introductory meeting Commissioner Carr had with you, you requested that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission comment on the interim report to the Vermont General Assembly entitled "Shutdown Assessment of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Facility," dated December 1987.

Generally, we observed that the interim report did an excellent job in laying out the complexities of issues that must be faced when a significant energy and economic resource available to a state may be terminated for whatever causes or reasoning. In this regard, much of the report addresses various policy options for the State of Vermont which are outside of our statutory responsibilities for providing an adequate level of protection for the health and safety of the public. We appreciated, however, an opportunity to review the report's information on decommissioning which is within our sphere of responsibility and expertise. Brief comment on this matter is offered below.

I have enclosed a copy of a report, entitled "Technology, Safety and Costs of Decommissioning a Reference Boiling Water Reactor Power Station," NUREG/CR-0672, Addendum 3, published in July 1988. This report specifically estimates the decommissioning costs for Vermont Yankee at 93 million 1986 dollars (page 5.1). This is comparable to the cost in your report of 73 million 1981 dollars (page 5-19), if inflation is considered.

As you recognize in your report, immediate dismantlement/DECON of a nuclear power plant is not a likely option at this time because the spent fuel must remain at the reactor site until a Federal repository is available to receive it. The Department of Energy estimates that a Federal repository will not be available until after 2003. Spent fuel storage requires full time security in accordance with 10 CFR Part 73. We estimate that the cost of retaining Vermont Yankee in SAFSTOR with the spent fuel onsite would be \$2 million to \$3 million per year. Most of this cost would be related to the spent fuel storage such as maintenance and monitoring of the spent fuel pool and providing round-the-clock security.

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Mr. George Sterzinger

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I have asked that the State Liaison Officer for Region I provide you with several additional resource documents which you may wish to consider in developing your final report.

Please contact Marie Miller at (215) 337-5246, if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Original signed by  
Victor Stello

Victor Stello, Jr.  
Executive Director  
for Operations

Enclosure:  
As stated

Distribution:

Chairman Zech  
Commissioner Roberts  
Commissioner Carr  
Commissioner Rogers  
GPA  
S. Varga  
B. Boger  
OGC  
D. Mossburg  
B. Clayton  
PDI-3 Green Ticket

Docket File  
NRC & Local PDR  
EDO #003866  
EDO r/f  
T. Murley/J. Sniezek  
F. Miraglia  
PD-3 r/f (w/cy of incoming)  
V. Stello  
PMAS (EDO #3866)  
V. Rooney

\*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE

OFC	:PDI-3	:PDI-3	:PDSNP	:DIR/PDI-3	:ADR	:DRP/DR	:DRPR
NAME	:MRushbrook*	:VRooney*	:Erickson*	:RWessman*	:BBoger*	:SVarga*	:FMiraglia*
DATE	:08/10/88	:08/10/88	:08/10/88	:08/11/88	:08/11/88	:08/12/88	:08/12/88
OFC	:NRR:AD/PROJ	:EDC	:	:	:	:	:
NAME	:TMurley*	:VStello	:	:	:	:	:
DATE	:08/15/88	:08/17/88	:	:	:	:	:

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY



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

*Many in form  
Done  
of Date 8/19/88  
for  
cont.*

**ACTION**

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

*08/19/88*

DUE: ~~08/12/88~~

EDO CONTROL: 0003866  
DOC DT: 07/28/88  
FINAL REPLY:

FROM:

William Russell  
Region I

TO:

Victor Stello

FOR SIGNATURE OF:

**\*\* GRN \*\***

CRC NO:

Stello

DESC:

VERMONT STATE LIAISON OFFICER REQUEST FOR NRC TO  
COMMENT ON SHUTDOWN ASSESSMENT OF THE VERMONT  
YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS

ROUTING:

Memo only:  
Stello  
Taylor  
Hoyle  
Russell, RI

DATE: 08/01/88

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Murley

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

NRR review and provide reply to ~~RE: this EDO~~

*Response to state of Vermont  
for EDO sign*

NRR RECEIVED: AUGUST 3, 1988  
ACTION: DRPR: VARGA

NRR ROUTING: MURLEY/SNIEZEK  
HIRAGLIA  
MARTIN  
GILL/PIE  
MOSSBURG

*Bruce  
Per our discussion  
8/11*

**ACTION**  
DUE TO NRR DIRECTOR'S OFFICE  
BY August 8, 1988