

January 14, 1999

Mr. Gregory A. Maret  
Director of Operations  
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation  
185 Old Ferry Road  
Brattleboro, VT 05301

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE TESTING REGARDING THE INSERVICE  
TESTING (IST) PROGRAM AT VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER  
STATION (TAC NO. MA4273)

Dear Mr. Maret:

By letter dated November 20, 1998, you requested NRC approval to perform alternative testing to that specified by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel code, Section XI, and ASME/ANSI OM, "Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants." The testing involves vibration testing of the high pressure coolant injection and reactor core isolation cooling pumps.

We have reviewed the proposed request and concluded that you have provided an acceptable alternative to the referenced requirements. We therefore conclude that authorization of the your proposed alternative would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i) the alternative is authorized.

Our detailed evaluation and conclusions are documented in the enclosed safety evaluation.

Sincerely,

/s/  
William M. Dean, Director  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-271  
Enclosure: Safety Evaluation  
cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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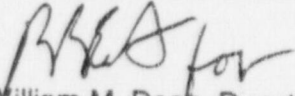
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Docket No. 50-271

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

G. Maret

cc:

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