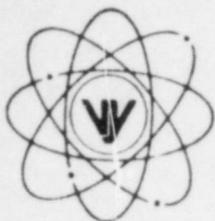


# VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



RD 5, Box 169, Ferry Road, Brattleboro, VT 05301

FVY 86-70

REPLY TO:

ENGINEERING OFFICE

1671 WORCESTER ROAD  
FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 01701  
TELEPHONE 617-872-8100

July 25, 1986

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attn: Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Reference: a) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)

Dear Sir:

Subject: Primary Containment Leak Rate Testing

This letter is written to provide formal notification of the results of the Type A Leak Rate Test performed in accordance with Appendix J to 10CFR50 and Vermont Yankee's corrective action plan, including our schedule for the next Type A test. The summary report of the Type A, B, and C leak rate testing will be provided under separate cover.

In June 1986, Vermont Yankee performed a Type A Integrated Leak Rate Test (ILRT) which had an as-found leakage in excess of the 0.6 wt %/day allowed by Technical Specifications. The as-found leakage was measured to be 0.78 wt %/day after 11 hours of testing.

The cause of the failure was determined to be due to leaks from the following:

1. drywell head manway cover;
2. 2 vacuum breaker shaft seals;
3. packing leaks on 5 valves in the atmosphere control system;
4. 2 TIP tubing fittings; and
5. 1 fitting on a torus instrument line.

The leaking penetrations were repaired and after increasing pressure to the test pressure, a second Type A ILRT was performed. The measured leakage during the second test was 0.11 wt %/day.

From the visual inspections performed, it was determined that the major contributor to the failure was leakage from the drywell head manway. This penetration had not been opened during the outage. Since the manway cover was not removed, the cover bolts were not checked for tightness. Repair of the penetration consisted of retorquing the cover bolts. To prevent recurrence, the procedure for installation of the drywell head is being revised to add a step to torque the bolts on the manway cover during installation of the drywell

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
July 25, 1986  
Page 2

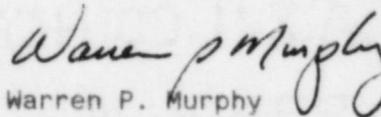
head. It will be noted in the procedure that this is to be done even if the cover has not been removed. Although the other leaks were not considered to be major contributors to the test failure, they were also repaired prior to the start of the second Type A ILRT.

Since this is the first Type A test failure since 1978 and since the cause was identified and corrective actions initiated to prevent recurrence, Vermont Yankee does not feel that an increased test frequency is required and will perform the next test at the interval specified in 10CFR50 Appendix J. Therefore, based on this requirement, the next test will be performed during the 1989 refueling outage.

Should you require additional clarification or information, please feel free to contact us.

Very truly yours,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



Warren P. Murphy  
Vice President and  
Manager of Operations

/dm