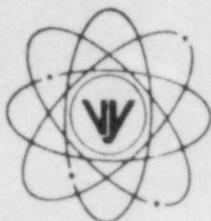


# VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



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

FVY 87-18

REPLY TO

ENGINEERING OFFICE

1671 WORCESTER ROAD

FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 01701

TELEPHONE 617-872-8100

February 5, 1987

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

Attn: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Daniel R. Muller, Director  
BWR Project Directorate #2  
Division of BWR Licensing

References: a) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)  
b) Letter, USNRC to VYNPC, NRY 85-187, dated 8/29/85  
c) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, FVY 86-30, dated 3/31/86  
d) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, FVY 86-81, dated 9/2/86  
e) Letter, USNRC to VYNPC, NRY 86-218, dated 10/24/86  
f) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, FVY 86-117, dated 12/19/86  
g) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, FVY 86-122, dated 12/19/86

Dear Sir:

Subject: Vermont Yankee Containment Safety Initiatives - Status Update

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with an updated status of Vermont Yankee's Containment Safety Study initiatives. In our letter of December 19, 1986 [Reference f)], we provided you with a summary of several of the major analyses and engineering studies initiated by Vermont Yankee to address containment performance concerns associated with severe accidents. Vermont Yankee's progress to date and current plans [provided the schedular extensions requested in Reference g) are approved] related to these initiatives are as follows:

1. Vermont Yankee proposes to implement a modification to the plant to insure a reliable and controllable alternate containment spray path. Generally, this modification will involve providing an alternate source of power to four motor-operated valves to allow remote operation of these valves in a station blackout type of scenario. Vermont Yankee will notify you of our schedule to implement this modification and the specific design upon completion of the engineering design effort (July 1987).

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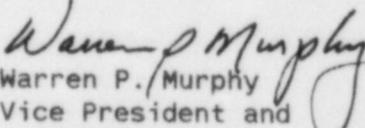
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
February 5, 1987  
Page 2

2. Vermont Yankee is continuing analyses and calculations addressing the performance characteristics of the diesel fire pump when used to provide water via the service water, RHR service water, and RHR system to either the reactor vessel or containment spray header. These results will provide the criteria to determine modifications necessary to ensure the containment spray headers perform when required. Vermont Yankee will notify you of our schedule to implement modifications if required and the specific design upon completion of the engineering design effort (July 1987).
3. Vermont Yankee proposes to implement a modification to the plant to ensure a reliable and controllable vent path from the containment wetwell. Our engineering study evaluating the details of this vent path is progressing on schedule. The concept presently under evaluation involves an independent pipe from the wetwell airspace with the appropriate valving and manual control circuitry to allow for initiation and positive termination of venting, if required. Vermont Yankee will notify you of our schedule to implement this modification and the specific design upon completion of the engineering design effort (July 1987).

We trust that this information is of assistance regarding your considerations of our letter of December 19, 1986 [Reference g)] which requested modification of certain schedular commitments impacted by our past and continuing safety initiatives. Should you have any questions or require additional information concerning these matters, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

  
Warren P. Murphy  
Vice President and  
Manager of Operations

/dm