

October 26, 1999

Mr. Robert Wanczyk  
Acting Director of Operations  
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation  
185 Old Ferry Road  
Brattleboro, Vermont 05301

SUBJECT: NRC INTEGRATED INSPECTION REPORT 50-271/99-07

Dear Mr. Wanczyk:

On September 12, 1999, the NRC completed an inspection at your Vermont Yankee (VY) facility. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During the six weeks covered by this inspection period, the overall conduct of activities at Vermont Yankee was characterized by safe plant operations. We noted that damage was sustained to refueling equipment on August 25 during movement of a new fuel bundle (non-irradiated), however, no fuel was damaged and the potential consequences were bounded by more limiting events described in the Final Safety Analysis Report. Recovery actions were carefully planned and well executed. Notwithstanding VY's good response to this occurrence, the procedure for moving fuel from the preparation machine did not identify an important operational limit associated with the use of the refueling bridge.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that one Severity Level IV violation of NRC requirements occurred. This violation is being treated as a Non-Cited Violation (NCV), consistent with Appendix C of the Enforcement Policy. The NCV involved the failure to develop an adequate procedure for operation of the refueling bridge, relative to moving fuel out of the fuel preparation machine. The NCV is further described in the subject inspection report. If you contest the violation or severity level of the NCV, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your denial, to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington DC 20555-0001, with a copies to the Regional Administrator, Region I; and the Director, Office of Enforcement, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; and the NRC Resident Inspector at the Vermont Yankee facility.

PORADOCK

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

IE:01

Robert Wanczyk

2

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practices," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

Randall A. Musser, Acting Chief  
Projects Branch 5  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No.: 50-271  
License No.: DPR-28

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report 50-271/99-07

cc w/encl:

R. McCullough, Operating Experience Coordinator - Vermont Yankee  
G. Sen, Licensing Manager, Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation  
D. Rapaport, Director, Vermont Public Interest Research Group, Inc.  
D. Tefft, Administrator, Bureau of Radiological Health, State of New Hampshire  
Chief, Safety Unit, Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
D. Lewis, Esquire  
G. Bisbee, Esquire  
J. Block, Esquire  
T. Rapone, Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety  
D. Katz, Citizens Awareness Network (CAN)  
M. Daley, New England Coalition on Nuclear Pollution, Inc. (NECNP)  
State of New Hampshire, SLO Designee  
State of Vermont, SLO Designee  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, SLO Designee

Robert Wanczyk

3

Distribution w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

PUBLIC

Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)

NRC Resident Inspector

H. Miller, RA/J. Wiggins, DRA (1)

C. Anderson, DRP

R. Summers, DRP

R. Junod, DRP

Distribution w/encl (VIA E-MAIL):

M. Tschiltz, RI EDO Coordinator

E. Adensam, NRR

R. Croteau, NRR

R. Correia, NRR

D. Screnci, PAO

Inspection Program Branch, NRR (IPAS)

DOCDESK

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\BRANCH5\1-VY\INSPECT\VY9907.WPD

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the box: "C" = Copy without attachment/enclosure "E" = Copy with attachment/enclosure "N" = No copy

OFFICE	RI/DRP	E	RI/DRP	E
NAME	BMcDermott <i>RM for</i>		RMusser <i>RM</i>	
DATE	10/26/99		10/26/99	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION I

Docket No. 50-271  
Licensee No. DPR-28

Report No. 50-271/99-07

Licensee: Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation

Facility: Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station

Location: Vernon, Vermont

Dates: August 2 - September 12, 1999

Inspectors: Brian J. McDermott, Senior Resident Inspector  
Edward C. Knutson, Resident Inspector  
Richard A. Laura, Senior Resident Inspector, Pilgrim NPS  
Javier M. Brand, Resident Inspector, Seabrook NPS  
Raymond K. Lorson, Senior Resident Inspector, Seabrook NPS

Approved by: Randall A. Musser, Acting Chief  
Projects Branch 5  
Division of Reactor Projects