



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-1415

September 1, 2009

Mr. Michael Colomb
Site Vice President
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
Vernon, VT 05354

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN –
VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION**

Dear Mr. Colomb:

On August 11, 2009, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Official Use Only – Security Information" will include the security cornerstone review and resultant inspection plan.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter at Vermont Yankee was within the Licensee Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct reactor oversight process (ROP) baseline inspections at your facility.

In our annual assessment letter dated March 4, 2009 [ML090630467]¹, we informed you of an existing cross-cutting theme in the aspect of document and procedure adequacy (H.2(c))². During the past six months, the NRC staff reviewed your action plan and corrective actions for this cross-cutting theme. To date, these actions appear to be adequate and effective given there have been no new findings with cross-cutting aspects in H.2(c) in the last two quarters. There is only one inspection finding for the current twelve month assessment period with a cross-cutting aspect in H.2(c), so the cross-cutting theme no longer exists.

¹ Designation in parentheses refers to an ADAMS accession number. Documents referenced in this letter are publicly available using the accession number in ADAMS.

² This is a descriptor which correlates to the cross cutting aspect in Inspection Manual Chapter 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program."

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection, scheduled through December 31, 2010. In addition to the baseline inspections, an independent spent fuel storage installation inspection will be performed. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

As you may know, the NRC is currently evaluating the scope and frequency of all the baseline inspection procedures as part of our biennial review of the ROP. If the results of the evaluation, or any other circumstances, cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (610) 337-5306 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Donald E. Jackson, Chief
Projects Branch 5
Division of Reactor Projects

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

Enclosure: Vermont Yankee Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl:

Vice President, Operations, Entergy Nuclear Operations
Senior Vice President, Entergy Nuclear Operations
Vice President, Oversight, Entergy Nuclear Operations
Senior Manager, Nuclear Safety & Licensing, Entergy Nuclear Operations
Senior Vice President and COO, Entergy Nuclear Operations
Assistant General Counsel, Entergy Nuclear Operations
Manager, Licensing, Entergy Nuclear Operations
Hon. Molly Kelly, New Hampshire Senate
S. Lousteau, Treasury Department, Entergy Services, Inc.
D. O' Dowd, Administrator, Radiological Health Section, DPHS, State of New Hampshire
W. Irwin, Chief, CHP, Radiological Health, Vermont Department of Health
Chief, Safety Unit, Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Mass.
D. Lewis, Pillsbury, Winthrop, Shaw, Pittman LLP
G. D. Bisbee, Esquire, Deputy Attorney General, Environmental Protection Bureau
J. P. Matteau, Executive Director, Windham Regional Commission
D. Katz, Citizens Awareness Network (CAN)
R. Shadis, New England Coalition Staff
G. Sachs, President/Staff Person, c/o Stopthesale
J. Volz, Chairman, Public Service Board, State of Vermont
Chairman, Board of Selectman, Town of Vernon
C. Pope, State of New Hampshire, SLO
D. O'Brien, State of Vermont, SLO
J. Giarrusso, SLO, MEMA, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
J. Angil, II, Manager, Vermont Emergency Management Agency
U. Vanags, State Nuclear Engineer, Vermont Department of Public Service
J. Block, Esquire
S. Shaw
G. Edwards

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection, scheduled through December 31, 2010. In addition to the baseline inspections, an independent spent fuel storage installation inspection will be performed. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (610)337-5306 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Donald E. Jackson, Chief
Projects Branch 5
Division of Reactor Projects

Distribution w/encl:
S. Collins, RA
M. Dapas, DRA
D. Lew, DRP
J. Clifford, DRP
L. Trocine, RI, OEDO
J. Lubinski, NRR
M. Kowal, NRR
J. Kim, PM, NRR
J. Hughey, NRR
D. Jackson, DRP
T. Setzer, DRP

A. Rao, DRP
G. Newman, DRP
J. Krafty, DRP
H. Jones, DRP
A. Rancourt, DRP
D. Bearde, DRP
Region I Docket Room
(w/concurrences)
RidsNrrDirslpab@nrc.gov
ROPreportsResource@nrc.gov
D. Roberts, DRS
P. Wilson, DRS

DRS Branch Chiefs
L. Scholl, DRS
D. Silk, DRS
D. Screnci, PAO
N. Sheenan, PAO
R. Barkley, ORA

SUNSI Review Complete: dej (Reviewer's Initials)

Adams Accession No. ML09244044

DOC. NAME: S:\ROP-10 Mid-Cycle Review\Branch 5\2009 Mid-Cycle Assessment Letter VY.doc

After declaring this document "An Official Agency Record" it will **will not** be released to the Public.

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	RI/DRP	RI/DRP
NAME	ARosebrook//dej for	TSetzer/dej for	DJackson/dej
DATE	08/25/09	08/25/09	08/31/09

*See prior concurrence

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Vermont Yankee

Inspection / Activity Plan

07/01/2009 - 12/31/2010

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			ISFSI - ANNUAL SAMPLE - ISFSI INSPECTION		1
1	01/01/2009	12/31/2009	IP 60855	Operation Of An ISFSI	
			7111107T - HEAT SINK INSP		1
1	09/21/2009	09/25/2009	IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	
			71121 - OCC RAD SAFETY		1
1	09/21/2009	09/25/2009	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas	
1	09/21/2009	09/25/2009	IP 7112102-7112102R	ALARA - Required	
			MODS - PERMANENT PLANT MODIFICATIONS		4
1	11/16/2009	11/20/2009	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
1	12/07/2009	12/11/2009	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
			2515/173 - GROUNDWATER TI		1
1	11/16/2009	11/20/2009	IP 2515/173	Review of the Implementation of the Industry Ground Water Protection Voluntary Initiative	
1	11/16/2009	11/20/2009	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			ISFSI - ANNUAL SAMPLE - ISFSI INSPECTION		1
1	01/01/2010	12/31/2010	IP 60855	Operation Of An ISFSI	
			TI-177 - MANAGING GAS ACCUMULATION IN ECCS		3
1	01/11/2010	01/15/2010	IP 2515/177	Managing Gas Accumulation In Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal & Containment Spray System	
			7111108G - INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	05/03/2010	05/07/2010	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
			71121.01 - HP OUTAGE INSPECTION		1
1	05/03/2010	05/07/2010	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas	
1	05/03/2010	05/07/2010	IP 7112102-7112102R	ALARA - Required	
			7111111B - REQUAL INSP WITH P/F RESULTS		3
1	07/19/2010	07/23/2010	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
			71121.03 - HP INSTRUMENTS		1
1	05/24/2010	05/28/2010	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment	
			11/29EXM - INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM		5
1	11/01/2010	11/05/2010	U01791	FY11- VERMONT YANKEE INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	
1	11/29/2010	12/10/2010	U01791	FY11- VERMONT YANKEE INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	
			EP PROGR - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION		1
1	08/15/2010	08/20/2010	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1	08/15/2010	08/20/2010	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing	
1	08/15/2010	08/20/2010	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1	08/15/2010	08/20/2010	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
1	08/15/2010	08/20/2010	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Vermont Yankee
Inspection / Activity Plan
07/01/2009 - 12/31/2010

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			TRI FIRE - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION		3
1	09/13/2010	09/17/2010	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1	09/27/2010	10/01/2010	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
			71121.01 - OCC HP INSPECTION		1
1	10/04/2010	10/08/2010	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas	
1	10/04/2010	10/08/2010	IP 7112102-7112102R	ALARA - Required	
			71122.02 - RW TRANSPORTATION		1
1	10/18/2010	10/22/2010	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation	
			71122.01 - EFFLUENTS INSPECTION		1
1	12/06/2010	12/10/2010	IP 7112201	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.