



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

March 4, 2011

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

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR
POWER STATION (REPORT 05000271/2010001)**

Dear Mr. Colomb:

On February 10, 2011, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its end-of-cycle performance review of Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter will include the NRC's assessment of your performance in the Security Cornerstone and its security-related inspection plan.

The NRC determined that overall, Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined that the performance at Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

On April 5, 2010, the NRC Executive Director for Operations approved a deviation from the ROP (ML100960321) to provide for additional inspection resources associated with onsite groundwater contamination, and inspection of your response to a Demand for Information that was issued by the NRC on March 1, 2010 (ML100570237). On June 11, 2010, the NRC completed inspection and assessment activities associated with your response to the Demand for Information and communicated to you that your actions were acceptable (ML101670271). On January 7, 2011, the NRC issued an inspection report (ML110070085) concerning the inspection of your actions to resolve on-site groundwater contamination at Vermont Yankee. The NRC has determined that further inspection is required to ascertain if your station procedures and groundwater movement model are sufficient to monitor remediation of the existing groundwater contamination plume. It was determined that this further inspection can be conducted within the planned baseline inspection activities. However, the NRC has decided to sustain the April 5, 2010, deviation from the ROP until all criteria have been met as delineated in the memorandum.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2012. In addition to the baseline inspections, an inspection related to the operation of the independent spent fuel storage facility is scheduled. This routine inspection is conducted to determine whether Vermont Yankee is operating the independent spent fuel storage facility in conformance with NRC commitments and requirements. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle performance review. Inspections scheduled beyond March 2012 are also contingent upon the outcome of various review activities associated with Vermont Yankee's license renewal application. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant.

In addition to the inspection activities detailed in the enclosed plan, we have scheduled a review of your proposed commitments made during the license renewal application process. This activity will take place the week of October 17, 2011, during the next refueling outage, and will include an inspector review of Aging Management Program (AMP) implementation. This review will be conducted using Temporary Instruction 2516/001, "Review of License Renewal Activities," which is currently under development. The overall purpose of the review is to assess progress of your voluntary actions associated with monitoring passive components within the scope of license renewal and as tentatively accepted by the staff's safety evaluation report. The Temporary Instruction will be available on the NRC Web site at the following address once it is finalized: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/insp-manual/temp-instructions/>.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be 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).

Please contact Donald Jackson of my staff at 610-337-5306 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



William M. Dean
Regional Administrator
Region I

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

Enclosure: Vermont Yankee Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

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Sincerely,
/RA/
William M. Dean
Regional Administrator
Region I

Enclosure: Vermont Yankee Inspection/Activity Plan
cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

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OFFICE	RI/DRP	lhp	RI/DRP	RI/DRP	RI/ORR
NAME	T Setzer/TCS		D Jackson/DEJ	D Roberts/DJR	WDean/WMD
DATE	03/02/11		03/02/11	03/03/11	03/03/11

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Vermont Yankee
 Inspection / Activity Plan
 01/01/2011 - 06/30/2012

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
		71152B - PI&R		7
1	04/04/2011 04/08/2011	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems	
1	04/18/2011 04/22/2011	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems	
		71124-OA - GROUND WATER TEAM INSPECTION		1
1	04/13/2011 04/14/2011	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
		EP EX - EP EXERCISE EVALUATION		5
1	05/02/2011 05/06/2011	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1	05/02/2011 05/06/2011	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1	05/02/2011 05/06/2011	IP 71151-EP01	Drill/Exercise Performance	
1	05/02/2011 05/06/2011	IP 71151-EP02	ERO Drill Participation	
1	05/02/2011 05/06/2011	IP 71151-EP03	Alert & Notification System	
		71124 - HP-DOSE / REMP / ISFSI		1
1	05/23/2011 05/27/2011	IP 60855.1	Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants	
1	05/23/2011 05/27/2011	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	05/23/2011 05/27/2011	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
		7111121 - CDBI		7
1	06/06/2011 06/10/2011	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1	06/20/2011 06/24/2011	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1	06/27/2011 07/01/2011	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
		71124 - RETS INSPECTION		1
1	06/27/2011 07/01/2011	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
		71124 - HP-ACCESS / ALARA / PI VERIFICATION		1
1	10/03/2011 10/07/2011	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	10/03/2011 10/07/2011	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	10/03/2011 10/07/2011	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	10/03/2011 10/07/2011	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent	
		7111108G - INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	10/10/2011 10/14/2011	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
		71124 - HP INSTRUMENT		1
1	05/21/2012 05/25/2012	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
		MODS - PERMANENT PLANT MODIFICATIONS		3
1	06/04/2012 06/08/2012	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
1	06/18/2012 06/22/2012	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	

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