

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 12, 1986

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

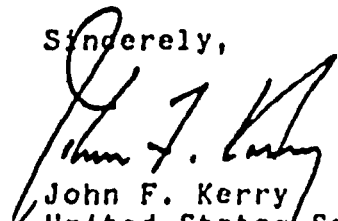
Dear Mr. Denton:

I have reviewed the correspondence between you and Mr. A. Giordano of Mass Alert concerning his request that representatives of the NRC travel to Franklin County in Massachusetts to meet with citizens to discuss safety issues at both the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Station in Vernon, Vermont and the Yankee Atomic Plant in Rowe, Massachusetts.

While your letter may have clarified some of the issues raised by Mr. Giordano and many others, it is clear to me that there are many other legitimate concerns that a public hearing or meeting could address in a manner that would serve to further allay the fears of area residents. I believe that an informal meeting between residents and NRC personnel knowledgeable about reactor design and safety would certainly help answer the many questions that my constituents have about the nuclear power plant in their backyard.

Thank you for your attention to this issue and I would be happy to have my office work out any arrangements for the aforementioned meeting.

Sincerely,


John F. Kerry
United States Senate

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The Honorable John F. Kerry
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Kerry:

Your letter of August 12, 1986 expressed the desire for an informal meeting between the NRC and citizens in the State of Massachusetts concerning safety issues at both the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Station in Vernon, Vermont and the Yankee Nuclear Power Station in Rowe, Massachusetts. In 1986 alone, at least four meetings with NRC participation have already been held in the vicinity of these power plants to discuss a variety of issues. The most recent case was a meeting open to the public, with officials from the State of Vermont and NRC representatives on August 14, 1986 in Brattleboro, Vermont on the subject of the performance of the Vermont Yankee containment in the event of an accident.

Since numerous opportunities with public involvement have already been provided, further meetings would not be productive unless their purpose was clearly defined and they related to issues not previously covered. I have asked my staff to work through the NRC Office of Congressional Affairs to coordinate with your staff to determine if there are other legitimate concerns relating to the Yankee or Vermont Yankee plants that a public meeting could productively address and set up a suitable forum. Such a plan would enable my staff to be responsive to public concerns and yet most efficiently use our limited travel and manpower resources. I appreciate your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Victor Stello, Jr.

Victor Stello, Jr.
Executive Director
for Operations

*See previous concurrences

Office:	PM/PAD#1	PD/PAD#1	BWD2	BWD2	AD/PWR-A
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Date:	08/25/86	08/27/86	08/27/86	08/27/86	08/27/86

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