

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 08/19/04

EDO CONTROL: G20040541

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FINAL REPLY:

Governor James H. Douglas

TO:

~~Chairman Diaz~~

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

\*\* PRI \*\*

CRC NO: 04-0505

Chairman Diaz

DESC:

Inspection at Vermont Yankee and Request for  
Public Briefings

ROUTING:

Reyes  
Virgilio  
Kane  
Merschhoff  
Norry  
Dean  
Burns/Cyr  
Miller, RI

DATE: 08/09/04

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Dyer

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET**

*Date Printed: Aug 11, 2004 16:47*

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<b>PAPER NUMBER:</b>	LTR-04-0505	<b>LOGGING DATE:</b>	08/06/2004
<b>ACTION OFFICE:</b>	EDO		
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	GOV James Douglas		
<b>AFFILIATION:</b>	VT-GOV		
<b>ADDRESSEE:</b>	Nils Diaz		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Concerns upcoming engineering inspection at Vermont Yankee power station		
<b>ACTION:</b>	Signature of Chairman		
<b>DISTRIBUTION:</b>	RF, SECY to Ack		
<b>LETTER DATE:</b>	08/06/2004		
<b>ACKNOWLEDGED</b>	No		
<b>SPECIAL HANDLING:</b>	Made publicly available in ADAMS via SECY/EDO/DPC		
<b>NOTES:</b>	Commission Correspondence		
<b>FILE LOCATION:</b>	ADAMS		
<b>DATE DUE:</b>	08/23/2004	<b>DATE SIGNED:</b>	

JAMES H. DOUGLAS  
GOVERNOR



State of Vermont  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

August 6, 2004

Mr. Nils J. Diaz, Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C., 20555

RE: Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station  
License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)  
Technical Specification Proposed Change No. 263  
Extended Power Uprate  
Temporary Instruction 2515/158

Dear Chairman Diaz:

As the Independent Engineering Assessment inspection team prepares to begin its work next week at the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, I would like to make several requests that I feel are important to ensure the integrity of the process and public confidence in the outcome.

First, we are pleased that three independent contractors will be assigned to this team. I request that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) certify to Vermont's Public Service Commissioner that each of these independent contractors meets the strict objectivity standards required and has no conflict of interest. Second, I request that the NRC make all members of the Independent Engineering Assessment team available for regular briefings with the Vermont State Nuclear Advisory Panel during, and at the completion of, the inspection. Third, I would like NRC to be available for briefings with both the Commissioners of Public Safety and Public Service on an as needed basis to be determined by the State.

Considering the importance of the inspection findings to the safety and security of Vermont's residents, as well as to the future operation of the facility, I also urge the NRC to extend its hearing request period a reasonable time beyond the completion of the special engineering investigation. Such an extension would allow interested parties and the State of Vermont the opportunity to have the findings available before the deadline to request a formal hearing.

I know you appreciate the significance of this engineering inspection to the State of Vermont and its residents and I want to thank you for your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James H. Douglas".

James H. Douglas  
Governor

JHD/tbb