

July 31, 2007

Mr. Michael A. Balduzzi
Sr. Vice President & COO
Regional Operations, NE
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
440 Hamilton Avenue
White Plains, NY 10601

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF SCHEDULE FOR THE CONDUCT OF REVIEW OF THE
VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION LICENSE RENEWAL
APPLICATION

Dear Mr. Balduzzi:

The safety evaluation report (SER) with confirmatory items, in support of the staff's review of the Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC, license renewal application for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VYNPS), was issued on March 30, 2007. The staff identified six confirmatory items related to the identification of the nonsafety-related portions of the service water, circulating water, and reactor water cleanup systems to be included within the scope of license renewal.

In February 2007, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Region I performed a license renewal scoping inspection and reviewed the information related to these confirmatory items. The inspection team determined that VYNPS had not identified all boundaries of nonsafety-related systems, attached to safety-related systems to be included within the scope of license renewal, as documented in the June 5, 2007, inspection report. Subsequently, the applicant reviewed the boundaries of nonsafety-related systems, attached to safety-related systems, to be included within the scope of license renewal to address the issues identified during the inspection. During a telephone conversation on June 1, 2007, the staff requested that VYNPS address the completeness of scoping activities for nonsafety-related systems, attached to safety-related systems as a supplemental response to an earlier request for additional information (RAI 2.1-2).

By letter dated July 3, 2007, VYNPS provided additional information, as a supplemental response to the RAI 2.1-2, to address the confirmatory items, and to address the issues identified during the NRC inspection. The letter included the scoping boundaries for certain nonsafety-related systems within the scope of license renewal and discussed new component types. However, the letter did not provide sufficient information to allow the staff to complete its review. During a telephone conversation on July 5, 2007, the staff requested that VYNPS indicate any new component types which were brought within the scope of license renewal due to the identification of the scoping boundaries identified in the July 3, 2007, letter to the NRC. By letter dated July 30, 2007, VYNPS provided additional information which included sixteen new systems to be added to the scope of license renewal, changes to thirty six systems related to nonsafety-related system components, and addition or revision to thirty two aging management review (AMR) tables.

The staff has performed an initial review of the information that VYNPS provided by letter dated July 30, 2007, and has determined that substantial changes have been included in the areas of scoping and AMR. In addition, the information that was provided does not incorporate certain commitments made to the NRC as a result of the staff's audit and review activities. Therefore, the staff requests that VYNPS review the information contained in the July 30, 2007, letter for accuracy and submit the revised information.

Due to the volume and complexity of the information, the final SER will not be issued on August 1, 2007, as originally scheduled. Upon receipt of satisfactory information which allows us to complete our review, the NRC staff will issue a revised review schedule. The staff will extend the overall schedule beyond the nominal thirty months (with hearing) by a minimum of two months plus the length of time required by VYNPS to submit the revised information.

This letter can be accessed in the Agency Documents Access and Management System, under (Accession No. ML072120050). If you have any questions, please contact Jonathan Rowley of my staff by telephone at 301-415-4053 or via e-mail at JGR@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Director
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-271

cc: See next page

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/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Director
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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cc: See next page

ADAMS Accession No.: ML072120050

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Letter to M. Balduzzi, from PTKuo, dated July 31, 2007

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VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION LICENSE RENEWAL
APPLICATION

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