



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 29, 2014

Vice President, Operations  
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.  
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station  
P.O. Box 250  
Governor Hunt Road  
Vernon, VT 05354

SUBJECT: VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION - REQUEST FOR  
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING ENTERGY REQUEST FOR  
RESCISSION OF AND SCHEDULER RELIEF FROM ORDER EA-13-109 ON  
RELIABLE HARDENED CONTAINMENT VENTS (TAC NO. MF3225)

Dear Sir or Madam:

On November 22, 2013, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. submitted an application for rescission of and scheduler relief from Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Order EA-13-109, "Issuance of Order to Modify Licenses with Regard to Reliable Hardened Containment Vents Capable of Operation Under Severe Accident Conditions (Effective Immediately)."

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff is reviewing the submittal and has determined that additional information is needed to complete its review. The specific questions are found in the enclosed request for additional information (RAI). Based on our discussions, we understand that a response to the RAI will be provided within 30 days of the date of this letter.

Please contact me at (301) 415-1364 if you have any questions on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas V. Pickett".

Douglas V. Pickett, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch I-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-271

Enclosure:  
Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
REGARDING RELIEF FROM ORDER EA-13-109  
ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC.  
VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION  
DOCKET NOS. 50-271

On November 22, 2013, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy), submitted an application (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML13330A861) for rescission of and scheduler relief from Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Order EA-13-109, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Hardened Containment Vents Capable of Operation Under Severe Accident Conditions (Effective Immediately)." The NRC staff is reviewing the submittal and has the following question:

Question 1

Order EA-13-109 (ADAMS Accession No. ML13130A067) requires that Vermont Yankee submit an overall integrated plan by June 30, 2014, that describes how compliance with the Phase 1 requirements of the Order will be achieved. Your letter dated November 22, 2013, requested that this schedule be modified such that the Vermont Yankee overall integrated plan would be submitted "...no later than startup from the first refueling outage that begins after June 30, 2014...." The justification for this request is that plans are in place for the permanent shutdown of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station in late 2014 and that the function of primary containment will cease once you submit the 10 CFR 50.82 certifications that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel and that the plant will not be permitted to restart.

While the NRC staff fully understands your intentions to permanently shut down the Vermont Yankee facility, the staff also understands that Entergy is under no legal obligation to shut down the facility and, furthermore, your application specifically states that resources will not be expended to perform the required analysis to prepare the overall integrated plan. The staff is concerned that if your current plans change and you decide to enter an extended shutdown period as opposed to submitting the 10 CFR 50.82 certifications, Vermont Yankee would not be prepared to meet the requirements of the Order on schedule. Therefore, the staff requests that you modify your request to state that the Vermont Yankee overall integrated plan will be submitted no later than startup from the first refueling outage that begins after June 30, 2014, or a fixed date, whichever is earlier.

Enclosure

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Sincerely,

/ra/

Douglas V. Pickett, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch I-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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**ADAMS ACCESSION NO.: ML14024A041**

OFFICE	LPL1-1/PM	LPL1-1/LA	JLD/BC	LPL1-1/BC
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