



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

May 22, 2015

Site Vice President
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 – EVALUATION OF
10 CFR 50.54(p)(2) CHANGES TO SECURITY PLANS (TAC NO. MF4785)

Dear Sir or Madam:

By letter dated May 19, 2014 (not publicly available), as supplemented by letter dated December 11, 2014 (not publicly available), Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (the licensee), submitted the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station's (VY's) security plans (Physical Security Plan, Safeguards Contingency Plan, and Training and Qualification Plan), Revision 14, under the provisions of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) paragraph 50.54(p)(2). These security plans (Revision 14) were submitted prior to the permanent cessation of power operations of VY. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed its review of the VY's security plans and the staff's evaluation of the security plans is enclosed.

Based on the permanent cessation of power operations and permanent removal of fuel from the reactor vessel, the licensee submitted a revision to the security plans on April 1, 2015, to the NRC pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(p)(2). This revision is currently under review by the NRC staff.

Please contact me at (301) 415-4125 or by e-mail at James.Kim@nrc.gov, if you have any questions on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James Kim", is positioned above the typed name and title.

James Kim, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV-2 and Decommissioning
Transition Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-271

Enclosure:
Staff Evaluation

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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STAFF EVALUATION OF 10 CFR 50.54(p)(2) CHANGES TO SECURITY PLANS

ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC.

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION

DOCKET NO. 50-271

By letter dated May 19, 2014 (not publicly available), as supplemented by letter dated December 11, 2014 (not publicly available), Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (the licensee), submitted the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station's (VY's) security plans (Physical Security Plan, Safeguards Contingency Plan, and Training and Qualification Plan), Revision 14, under the provisions of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) paragraph 50.54(p)(2).

The review of the licensee's security plans was conducted consistent with the applicable requirements of 10 CFR Part 73, "Physical Protection of Plants and Materials," as well as the guidance contained within the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR) Procedure LIC 800, "Security Review Procedure for 10 CFR 50.54(p)(2)," and Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 03-12, Revision 7, "Template for Security Plan, Training and Qualification Plan, Safeguards Contingency Plan [and Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation Security Program]," which has been endorsed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

The regulations in 10 CFR 50.54(p)(2) state, in part: "[t]he licensee may make changes to the plans...without prior Commission approval if the changes do not decrease the safeguards effectiveness of the [security] plans. The licensee shall...submit...a report [to the NRC] containing a description of each change within 2 months after a change is made."

The NRC staff's review consisted of determining whether the licensee properly concluded that the changes did not decrease the safeguards effectiveness of the Commission-approved security plans.

The NRC staff compared these changes with the previous Revision 13 of VY's security plans, which was dated September 19, 2013, and referred to the guidance documents listed above.

The NRC staff noted that the licensee's Revision 14 of the security plan included the items, as summarized below:

- Item 1: Sections 1, 2 and 14 of the Physical Security Plan, along with Section 14.1 were changed to address 10 CFR Part 37, "Physical Protection of Category 1 and Category 2 Quantities of Radioactive Material," requirements.
- Item 2: Section 5.6 of the Safeguards Contingency Plan was revised to address the Local Law Enforcement Agency (LLEA) search functions; however the requirements for 10 CFR 73.55(n)(5) and 10 CFR 73.55(j)(1) were not fully described.

Enclosure

- Item 3: Section 7 of the Safeguards Contingency Plan, addressed the use of LLEA personnel for searching requirements, but did not address the requirements described in 10 CFR 73.56, "Personnel access authorization requirements for nuclear power plants," and 10 CFR Part 26, "Fitness for Duty Programs."

In the supplemental letter dated December 11, 2014, the licensee provided additional information that clarified the three items addressed above. The additional information for these items are summarized below. The licensee determined that no additional changes to the security plans are required as a result of this additional information.

- Item 1: The licensee provided additional clarification for incorporating the 10 CFR Part 37 Security Plan into the Physical Protection Program. The licensee described how protection against theft, diversion or sabotage to 10 CFR Part 37 material is implemented. No degradation to the 10 CFR Part 73 Security Plan has occurred by the incorporation of the 10 CFR Part 37 requirements.
- Item 2: The licensee provided additional clarification on how the requirements for 10 CFR 73.55(n)(5) and 10 CFR 73.55(j)(1) are met, and described that testing of communication capabilities are addressed in the VY Physical Security Plan implementing procedure SPSP-OPS-08109, "Operational Inspection and Testing of Security Equipment."
- Item 3: The licensee provided a pointer to the section and page number in the Safeguards Contingency Plan to address the use of LLEA personnel for searching, to satisfy the requirements described in 10 CFR 73.56 and 10 CFR Part 26.

The NRC staff has determined that the licensee properly concluded that the reported changes do not result in a decrease in safeguards effectiveness. Therefore, the staff recommends no further regulatory actions.

The effectiveness of the implementation of this revision is subject to future NRC review and inspection.

May 22, 2015

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Please contact me at (301) 415-4125 or by e-mail at James.Kim@nrc.gov, if you have any questions on this issue.

Sincerely,

/RA/

James Kim, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV-2 and Decommissioning
Transition Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-271

Enclosure:
Staff Evaluation

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

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*See memo date May 7, 2015

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DATE	5/19/15	5/19/15	5/7/15	5/22/15	5/22/15

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