

# VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

SEVENTY SEVEN GROVE STREET  
RUTLAND, VERMONT 05701

B.4.2.1  
WVY 79-109

REPLY TO:  
ENGINEERING OFFICE  
TURNPIKE ROAD  
WESTBORO, MASSACHUSETTS 01581  
TELEPHONE 617-366-9011

September 21, 1979

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region I  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Attention: Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director

References: (1) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)  
(2) USNRC Letter to VYNPC dated August 7, 1979  
IE Bulletin 79-18

Dear Sir:

Subject: Response to IE Bulletin 79-18; Audibility Problems Encountered  
on Evacuation of Personnel from High-Noise Areas

The following is submitted in response to your request concerning Vermont  
Yankee's alarm/evacuation system.

Item 1 - An extensive survey was conducted by the Vermont Yankee staff  
and Gai-tronics Company in October, 1976, to determine those  
areas of the plant which did not provide adequate audible  
(alarm) capability. As a result of the subsequent evaluation,  
the system was improved to correct the deficient areas found  
during the above survey. In addition, a tone generator and a  
volume boost circuit were also installed. The tone generator  
can be heard throughout the plant while the volume boost affects  
outside speakers only.

Since the October, 1976 survey, other questionable areas have  
been identified during Emergency and Fire Drills and are listed  
below. These areas were identified as areas where announcements  
were not at all times intelligible.

- a) Turbine Building, outside lube oil storage room, elevation 248'
- b) Turbine Building, east wall by south access to Reactor Building, elevation 252'
- c) South Warehouse, remote areas
- d) Old Service Building, rest room, elevation 260'
- e) AOG Building, Dryer Skid Room "B"

1246 356  
7910310 211 Q

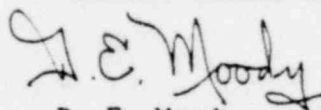
Item 2 - The communication system will be further modified to incorporate a second distinctive tone alarm to be used (exclusively) prior to Local Emergency announcements. In addition, the necessary procedures will be revised to require all personnel to take pre-established steps leading to evacuation, if required, upon the initiation of this special alarm. These actions would include identification of the alarm, proceeding to a location, if necessary, to clearly hear the subsequent announcement or calling his immediate supervisor for further direction. This modification will be completed by December 5, 1979, dependent upon the receipt of the necessary hardware.

Following the installation of the tone alarm, the problem areas noted in Item 1 will be resurveyed. If the new alarm is determined to be inadequate for the areas, further correction actions will be pursued and a new schedule will be submitted to your office at that time.

We trust that the above supplied information adequately addresses the requests contained in Reference (b); however, should you desire any additional information, do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



D. E. Moody  
Manager of Operations

dmp

1216 357