



VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

SEVENTY SEVEN GROVE STREET
RUTLAND, VERMONT 05701

B.3.2.1
WVY 79-13

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

February 9, 1979

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Mr. Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Operating Reactors

References: (a) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)
(b) Letter, R. W. Reid, to. R. H. Groce, dated 1/28/77,
forwarding Amendment No. 29 to License No. DPR-28

Enclosure: (A) Cask Rigging Analysis - 1600 Series
Cask with Redundant Ears.

Dear Sir:

Subject: Fuel Pin Examination - Cask Fixture Analysis

Preparations are being made to retrieve fuel rods from several failed bundles at the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant and ship them to General Electric's Vallecitos Nuclear Center for detailed hot cell examination to determine the cause of gadolinia rod failures. The fuel rods will be punctured and the fission gas released to 1000 mil stainless steel bottles. The rods will then be sheared into sections of appropriate length to fit into a G.E. 1600 series cask for shipment from the site.

Reference (b) requires that any cask being used over the fuel pool be evaluated with respect to potential cask drop accidents and that USNRC approval be obtained. Accordingly, Vermont Yankee herewith submits supporting information for the General Electric 1600 Series Cask and transport mechanism and requests that the USNRC concur with the attached information and permit Vermont Yankee to utilize this cask and lifting device with our previously approved reactor building crane. We do not anticipate using the redundant feature of the main hooks since the weight of the cask (20,000 lbs.) represents less than 10% of the crane/main hook capacity.

Your review of this submittal involves a single safety issue and does not involve a significant hazards consideration. For these reasons, Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation proposes this submittal as a Class III application. A payment of \$4,000.00 is enclosed.

A001
2/3

790214 0277

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

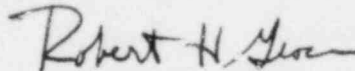
February 9, 1979
Page 2

Vermont Yankee believes that the NRC revised fee schedule is illegal. We are aware that this fee schedule is being contested before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and therefore submit the enclosed fee under protest without waiving our right to contest the validity of this fee or the entire NRC fee schedule, and without waiving any right to recover, in whole or in part, all fees paid or to be paid under the invalid fee schedule.

We trust this information is sufficient for your evaluation of the adequacy of this cask fixture. We respectfully request your immediate attention to this matter as our current plans are to begin this activity upon receipt of your concurrence. Feel free to contact us should you require clarification or additional information.

Very truly yours,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



Robert H. Groce
Licensing Engineer