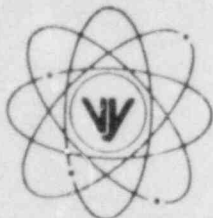


VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



RD 5, Box 169, Ferry Road, Brattleboro, VT 05301

February 23, 1984

FVY 84-13

REPLY TO:

ENGINEERING OFFICE

1671 WORCESTER ROAD

FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 01701

TELEPHONE 617-872-8100

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

Attention: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Mr. D. G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing

References: (a) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)
(b) Letter, USNRC to VYNPC, Order for Modification of License, dated January 9, 1981
(c) Letter, USNRC to VYNPC, Generic Letter 81-09, dated January 23, 1981
(d) Letter, USNRC to VYNPC, Generic Safety Evaluation Report (SER) for BWR Scram Discharge System, dated December 1, 1980
(e) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, Proposed Change No. 103 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-28, dated January 10, 1983
(f) Letter, USNRC to VYNPC, Amendment No. 76 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-28, dated March 28, 1983

Subject: Request to Rescind Order for Modification of License - BWR
Scram Discharge System

Dear Sir:

Vermont Yankee was ordered, via Reference (b), to install an Automatic Air Dump System as an interim action to address concerns related to BWR Scram Discharge Systems. By Reference (c), the NRC issued Supplement 1 to the Generic Safety Evaluation Report (SER) for BWR Scram Discharge Systems, which states in part that the Automatic Air Dump System "is only required in the interim until permanent modifications are in place to improve hydraulic coupling between the scram discharge volume and the scram level instrumentation."

The purpose of this letter is to request that you rescind the subject Order for Modification of License [Reference (b)]. The basis for our request is that improved hydraulic coupling has been achieved with the installation of various scram discharge volume (SDV) modifications during our 1983 refueling outage. These modifications were installed consistent with the design and performance criteria recommended by the BWR Owners Group for long-term Scram Discharge System modifications. The installation of these modifications is also reflected in Proposed Change No. 103 to our Technical Specifications, submitted to the NRC via Reference (e) and subsequently approved by the NRC via Reference (f).

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PDR ADDCK 05000271
P PDR

*Adol
1/0*

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Mr. D. G. Eisenhut

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Significant Hazards Consideration

The Commission has provided guidance concerning the application of standards for determining whether or not a significant hazards consideration exists by providing certain examples [48FR14870]. One of these examples (iv) of actions which involves no significant hazards consideration is a relief granted upon demonstration of acceptable operation from an operating restriction that was imposed because acceptable operation was not yet demonstrated. This assumes that the operating restriction and the criteria to be applied to a request for relief have been established in a prior review, and that it is justified in a satisfactory way that the criteria has been met.

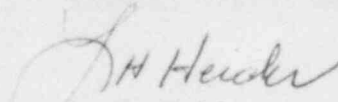
As discussed above, the requirement for the Automatic Air Dump System was intended as an interim action until certain long-term or permanent SDV modifications were installed. Because we have subsequently installed the necessary long-term modifications associated with improving hydraulic coupling between the scram discharge volume and the scram level instrumentation, the Automatic Air Dump System is no longer necessary. These modifications were installed consistent with the PWR Owners Group design and performance criteria, which have been previously reviewed and approved by the NRC as indicated in the Staff's December 1980 Generic SER [Reference (d)].

Based on the above, we have concluded that the interim requirement for the Automatic Air Dump System has been satisfied and that rescinding the subject Order for Modification of License does not constitute a significant hazards consideration as defined in 10CFR50.92(c).

We trust that our request is deemed acceptable; however, should you have any questions, please contact us. Because this matter has a bearing on our plans for the 1984 refueling outage, your prompt attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION


L. H. Heider
Vice President

JBS/pf

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Mr. D. G. Eisenhut

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS)
)ss
MIDDLESEX COUNTY)

Then personally appeared before me, L. H. Heider, who, being duly sworn, did state that he is a Vice President of Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation, that he is duly authorized to execute and file the foregoing document in the name and on the behalf of Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation and that the statements therein are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

J. B. Sinclair
J. B. Sinclair
My Commission Expires

Notary Public
June 6, 1984

