VERMONT YANKEE
NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

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REPLY TO:
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FVY 84-77

July 3, 1984

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Mr. Domenic B. Vassallo, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 2
Division of Licensing

References:
a) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)
b) Letter, USNRC to VYNPC, I&E Information Notice 84-41, dated 6/1/84
c) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, FVY 84-22, dated 3/13/84
d) NUREG 0313, Revision 1
e) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, FVY 84-27, dated 3/23/84
f) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, FVY 84-45, dated 5/15/84

Dear Sir:

Subject: Vermont Yankee 1984 Refueling Outage Weld Joint Inspection Program

The purpose of this letter is to provide additional information regarding the Weld Joint Inspection Program being undertaken at Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station during the present refueling outage. The program was originally submitted via Reference c) and supplemented via References e) and f).

We have recently received I&E Information Notice 84-41, Intergranular Stress Corrosion Cracking in Boiling Water Reactors [Reference b)], and have evaluated the technical concerns as they apply to Vermont Yankee. The information notice addresses three areas of concern: the recirculation system suction nozzles (N1 nozzles), the jet pump inlet nozzles (N2 nozzles), and the jet pump instrument nozzles (N8 nozzles).

At Vermont Yankee the N1 safe ends are Type 304L stainless steel. The nozzle buttering was re-buttered following vessel heat treatment with Type 308L stainless steel, and the original furnace-sensitized safe ends were replaced with the current 304L safe ends. We consider this installation to be "conforming" as defined by Reference d).

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The N2 safe ends are Type 304 stainless steel, and were installed subsequent to vessel heat treatment. The nozzle buttering is Type 308L containing greater than 5% ferrite and has a less-complex metallurgical composition than that identified in Reference b). The buttering was applied prior to vessel heat treatment. These safe ends will be replaced during the recirculation pipe replacement project scheduled to begin in September 1985.

The N8 instrument penetration assemblies are fabricated from Type 304L stainless steel and are of a different design than those identified in Reference b). The nozzle buttering was re-buttered with 308L following vessel heat treatment, and the original furnace-sensitized safe ends were replaced with the current 304L safe ends. Like the N1 safe ends, this installation is considered "conforming".

Based on the above, we have concluded that no augmented inspections are warranted during this refueling outage. Since we are scheduled to complete the present scope of inspections by July 16, 1984, any concerns regarding this position should be brought to our attention no later than July 14, 1984; otherwise we will consider this position accepted.

Very truly yours,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

Warren P. Murphy
Vice President and
Manager of Operations

WPM/dm