

OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRMANUNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

April 14, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR: RECORD

FROM: Ken E. Brockman

SUBJECT: DROP-IN VISIT -- DR. ANDY KADAK, PRESIDENT
YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY (YAEC)

On March 4, 1992, Dr. Andrew Kadak, President of Yankee Atomic Electric Company met with me and the Chairman to discuss items of mutual interest. Dr. Kadak had called on March 3 to schedule the meeting. He was also meeting with the other Commissioners and the EDO.

Dr. Kadak's main purpose in the visit was to personally describe to the Chairman why the Board of Directors had voted not to pursue further operations at Yankee Rowe. He described the financial issues which had been considered and the uncertainties that would still be facing the plant. He emphasized that without an assumption that the costs associated with vessel recovery could be amortized through a 20 year renewal period, the financial numbers just did not add up.

Dr. Kadak was especially complimentary of the professionalism displayed by the NRC staff over the previous 9 months. However, he was somewhat critical of how a draft Generic Letter concerning pressure vessel embrittlement (which included a request for information) portrayed the technical staff of YAEC. The Chairman agreed to review the Generic Letter and subsequently asked the EDO to ensure that the information relative to Yankee Rowe (Background Information) was fair and factual.

In closing, Dr. Kadak shared the plans that YAEC had for the Rowe facility. He indicated that the materials program ongoing at the Ford Test Reactor, the sampling equipment being developed, and the advanced NDE methods (UT) being pursued would be completed for the good of the industry. He hoped that there would be an interest on the part of the government and the industry to finance testing of the Rowe pressure vessel so that some of the questions that had been raised concerning material embrittlement and chemistry effects could be empirically ascertained.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:00 a.m.

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