



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 31, 1996

MEMORANDUM TO: Edward L. Jordan, Director  
Office for Analysis and Evaluation  
of Operational Data

FROM: James M. Taylor *[Signature]*  
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: INDEPENDENT SAFETY ASSESSMENT OF MAINE YANKEE POWER STATION

As requested by Chairman Jackson on May 28, 1996 and in order to provide an independent evaluation of licensee safety performance as a follow-on to the Event Inquiry (Case No. 96-04S) transmitted by the Chairman's memorandum dated May 24, 1996, and to provide a broader basis for any further actions or safety decisions outside those specific issues, you are tasked to conduct a Safety Assessment of Maine Yankee Power Station. In performing this effort you will report directly to the Chairman. The Assessment shall utilize the basic methodology of the Diagnostic Evaluation Program described in NRC Management Directive 8.7, dated June 7, 1991.

The overall goals and objectives of the Independent Safety Assessment are:

- Provide independent assessment of conformance to the design and licensing basis
- Provide independent assessment of operational safety performance
- Evaluate effectiveness of licensee self-assessments, corrective actions and improvement plans
- Determine root cause(s) of safety significant findings and conclusions

You are directed to coordinate with the State of Maine to facilitate participation by State representatives. State participation should be consistent with the provisions of the Commission's Policy on Cooperation with States at Commercial Nuclear Power Plants (57 FR 6462, 2/25/92). You are authorized to assemble a team of highly qualified and experienced inspectors and reviewers as follows. This memo places a Commission level priority on your selection of team members from AEOD, RES and Regions II, III and IV and authorizes negotiation of contract support through task orders of existing contracts.

You are requested to develop a detailed charter, team composition and work plan by June 9, 1996.

9606130081

XA

10/17/96

Enclosure 1

Edward L. Jordan

- 2 -

Please keep the Chairman and me informed of your progress in this effort and provide for periodic briefings describing key findings and conclusions.

cc: Chairman Jackson  
Commissioner Rogers  
Commissioner Dicus  
SECY  
J. Milhoar  
W. Russell  
D. Morrison  
T. Martin  
E. Ebnetter  
R. Miller  
L. Callan  
W. Beecher  
L. Norton  
D. Rathbun  
K. Cyr  
J. Lieberman  
G. Caputo