

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONMAINE YANKEE ATOMIC POWER COMPANYMAINE YANKEE ATOMIC POWER STATIONDOCKET NO. 50-309RECEIPT OF PETITION FOR DIRECTOR'S DECISION UNDER 10 CFR § 2.206

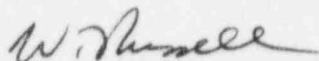
Notice is hereby given that by Petition dated August 19, 1996, Patrick M. Sears (Petitioner) has requested that the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) take action with regard to the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station and all users of the RELAP computer code for emergency core cooling systems analyses. The Petitioner requests that the NRC fine Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company and Yankee Atomic Electric company (YAEC) if records have not been kept in accordance with YAEC's computer code quality assurance procedures, and that the NRC inspect all users of RELAP and fine those users not operating within required computer code verification procedures.

As the basis for his request, the Petitioner states: that the May 5, 1989, statement of Steve Nichols of Maine Yankee that RELAP5YA was "operable" and would be used for subsequent reloads was false; no computer code inspections were performed by the NRC before a 1992 inspection at YAEC by the Petitioner when he was an NRC employee and not again until 1995; the Petitioner was told not to do any more computer code inspections; RELAP is widely used; RELAP has been shown to have serious deficiencies; and the RELAP problem is not confined to the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Plant but is endemic to the industry as a whole.

The request is being treated pursuant to 10 CFR 2.206 of the Commission's regulations. The request has been referred to the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. A copy of the Petition is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555 and at the local public document room located at the Wiscasset Public Library, High Street, P. O. Box 367, Wiscasset, Maine 04578.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 24th day of September 1996.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



William T. Russell, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

ACTION

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM:

DUE: 09/20/96

EDO CONTROL: GT96659

DOC DT: 08/19/96

FINAL REPLY:

Patrick M. Sears
Fairfield, PA

TO:

James Taylor

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

** GRN **

CRC NO:

DESC:

2.206 PETITION RE THERMOHYDRAULIC COMPUTER CODE,
RELAP5YA

ROUTING:

Taylor
Milhoan
Thompson
Blaha
Russell, NRR
HMiller, RI
Lieberman, OE

DATE: 08/28/96

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

OGC

Cyr

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

OGC-96- 003589

NRR RECEIVED:
NRR ACTION:

SEPT. 9, 1996
DRPE:VARGA

NRR ROUTING:

RUSSELL
MIRAGLIA
TAHDANI
ZIMMERMAN
MARTIN
BOHRER