

50-309



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 20, 1996

Ms. Anne D. Burt
Corresponding Secretary
Friends of the Coast - Opposing Nuclear Pollution
Post Office Box 98
Edgecomb, Maine 04556

Dear Ms. Burt:

I am responding to the petition you filed on January 20, 1996 (the Petition), on behalf of the Friends of the Coast - Opposing Nuclear Pollution (Petitioner), in regard to the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station (Maine Yankee), operated by the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company (the licensee). Your petition was considered pursuant to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 2.206 (10 CFR 2.206). The Petition requests that the Commission take expedited action to (1) suspend the operating license of Maine Yankee pending resolution of the Petition; (2) examine and test by plug sampling — or other methods approved by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers — all large piping welds that may have been susceptible to micro-fissures at the time of construction; (3) reanalyze the Maine Yankee containment as one located in an area where seismic risk is not "low"; (4) reduce the licensed operating capacity of Maine Yankee to a level consistent with a flawed containment and/or flawed reactor coolant piping welds; (5) hold an informal public hearing in the area of the plant regarding the Petition; and (6) place the Petitioner on service and mailing lists relevant to the group's interests in safety at Maine Yankee and intention to participate in all public forums opened by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

By letter dated May 13, 1996, Mr. William Russell, Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, acknowledged the NRC's receipt of your Petition, and, for the reasons stated in the letter, denied your request for immediate action suspending the operating license or reducing the licensed operating capacity of Maine Yankee (Requests 1 and, in part, 4.). In addition, for reasons stated in the May 13, 1996, letter, Mr. Russell denied your request for an informal hearing (Request 5). Mr. Russell also stated in the May 13, 1996, letter that your request that the NRC place you on service and mailing lists relevant to your interests in safety at Maine Yankee and your intention to participate in all public forums opened by the NRC (Request 6) was moot, as your attorney had already been added to the Maine Yankee service list.

The remaining specific issues that you raised that were the basis for Requests 2, 3, and 4 of your Petition dated January 20, 1996 (identified above), are fully addressed in the enclosed Director Decision (DD-96-20).

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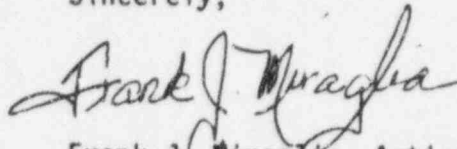
Ms. Anne D. Burt

- 2 -

For the reasons given in the enclosed Director's Decision under 10 CFR 2.206, your remaining requests for NRC action have been denied. A copy of the decision will be filed with the Secretary of the Commission for the Commission's review in accordance with 10 CFR 2.206(c). As provided by this regulation, the decision will constitute the final action of the Commission 25 days after the date of issuance of the decision unless the Commission, on its own motion, institutes a review of the decision within that time.

I have also enclosed a copy of the notice of "Issuance of Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206." This notice includes the complete text of DD-96-20 and is being filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,



Frank J. Miraglia, Acting Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-309

Enclosures: 1. Director's Decision DD-96-20
2. Notice

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

For the reasons given in the enclosed Director's Decision under 10 CFR 2.206, your remaining requests for NRC action have been denied. A copy of the decision will be filed with the Secretary of the Commission for the Commission's review in accordance with 10 CFR 2.206(c). As provided by this regulation, the decision will constitute the final action of the Commission 25 days after the date of issuance of the decision unless the Commission, on its own motion, institutes a review of the decision within that time.

I have also enclosed a copy of the notice of "Issuance of Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206." This notice includes the complete text of DD-96-20 and is being filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Frank J. Miraglia

Frank J. Miraglia, Acting Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-309

Enclosures: 1. Director's Decision DD-96-20
2. Federal Register Notice

cc w/enclosures: See next page

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DATE	10/18/96		10/17/96	10/30/96	11/7/96	11/17/96

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Review 11/13/96
Reviewed changes
in response to
present comments
No legal objections.

Anne D. Burt

cc:

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