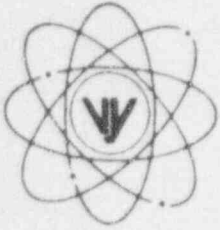


VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



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REPLY TO
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December 16, 1996
BVY 96-159

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

References: (a) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)

Subject: 1997 Vermont Yankee Emergency Exercise Objectives

Enclosed are Vermont Yankee's objectives for the 1997 full-participation biennial exercise scheduled for Wednesday, March 19, 1997. This enclosure provides the scope of the exercise and the objectives to be fulfilled, including specific objectives to demonstrate, where appropriate, the effectiveness of corrective actions taken with regard to areas previously identified during NRC inspections, prior emergency exercises and drills, and our internal evaluation process.

Your questions and comments concerning the Vermont Yankee 1997 Emergency Preparedness Exercise should be addressed to Mr. Edward C. Porter, Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation, P.O. Box 169, Ferry Road, Brattleboro, Vermont 05301. Mr. Porter can be reached at (802) 258-4175

We trust that the information provided is acceptable; however, should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

James J. Duffy
Licensing Engineer

Enclosure

c: USNRC Region I Administrator
USNRC Resident Inspector - VYNPS
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**VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE**

1997 EXERCISE OBJECTIVES

**VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE
1997**

1997 VERMONT YANKEE EXERCISE OBJECTIVES

In order to demonstrate the emergency response preparedness of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, an emergency preparedness exercise will be conducted on Wednesday, March 19, 1997. This year's exercise is a full-participation biennial exercise, which will involve full participation from Vermont Yankee, State of Vermont, State of New Hampshire, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and local communities within the plume exposure emergency planning zone (EPZ).

Exercise objectives have been developed to evaluate and test certain elements of the Vermont Yankee emergency preparedness program. The objectives were also based on previous NRC inspection items and corrective actions identified and taken by Vermont Yankee. The objectives will be used to ascertain the required input to the exercise scenario sequence of events and to establish the controller exercise evaluation criteria. The specific exercise objectives to be demonstrated are as follows:

A. Emergency Classification and Accident Assessment

1. Demonstrate the ability of Control Room personnel to recognize emergency initiating events and properly classify the condition in accordance with pre-established emergency action levels.
2. Demonstrate the ability of Control Room personnel and TSC staff to coordinate the assessment of plant conditions and corrective actions to mitigate accident conditions.
3. Demonstrate that information concerning plant conditions can be transmitted between the Control Room and the TSC in a timely manner.
4. Demonstrate the ability of the TSC staff to initiate and coordinate corrective actions in an efficient and timely manner.
5. Demonstrate the ability of appropriate TSC staff to participate with the Control Room and the EOF/RC in EALs and classification discussions.*
6. Demonstrate the ability to assess data from appropriate chemistry samples in support of accident assessment activities and plant conditions.
7. Demonstrate the ability to effectively use the Emergency Response Facility Information System (ERFIS) in the assessment and trending plant of conditions.

* Indicates an identified item from the 1996 Exercise.

B. Notification and Communication

1. Demonstrate the ability of Control Room personnel to complete timely plant announcements of declared emergency classifications.
2. Demonstrate that messages are transmitted in an accurate and timely manner and that decisions, information and messages are properly logged and documented.*
3. Demonstrate the capability to notify federal and state authorities of emergency classification and significant changes in plant status in accordance with established procedure.
4. Demonstrate that appropriate status boards are used to display pertinent accident information at the various emergency response facilities.*
5. Demonstrate that adequate emergency communication systems are in place to facilitate transmittal of data among the emergency response facilities and federal and state authorities.
6. Demonstrate that off-site monitoring teams (if necessary) can appropriately identify their location when reporting sample results to the EOF.
7. Demonstrate the ability to provide adequate briefings to off-site monitoring teams (if necessary) as conditions and information change.
8. Demonstrate the ability to adequately communicate plant updates to plant personnel as plant conditions and status information change.*

C. Direction and Control

1. Demonstrate the proper transfer of responsibilities from SE/PED to the DCO, and subsequently to the TSC Coordinator and Site Recovery Manager as appropriate.
2. Demonstrate the capability of key emergency response facility management personnel to direct and coordinate their respective emergency response activities in an efficient and timely manner.
3. Demonstrate appropriate coordination of activities with federal and state government agencies.

* Indicates an identified item from the 1996 Exercise.

D. Emergency Response Facilities

1. Demonstrate the ability of station and corporate personnel to activate and staff the emergency response facilities in a timely manner.
2. Demonstrate and test the adequacy and effectiveness of emergency response facilities, operations, and equipment.

E. Plant Augmentation and Staffing

1. Demonstrate the adequacy of plant emergency notification methods and procedures to augment plant staff and resources.
2. Demonstrate the ability to use outside resources to provide technical assistance and logistical support.
3. Demonstrate the ability to plan shift staffing and manpower to provide for future manpower and logistics needs.

F. Radiological Exposure Control

1. Demonstrate the ability to provide adequate radiation protection controls for on-site emergency response personnel including dosimetry, equipment, and protective clothing.*
2. Demonstrate the ability to monitor and track radiation exposure of on-site emergency response personnel.
3. Demonstrate the ability to monitor radiological conditions of Emergency Response Facilities and implement appropriate habitability controls.*

G. In-Plant Corrective and Repair Actions

1. Demonstrate the ability to dispatch and deploy on-site assistance teams in a timely fashion, consistent with plant conditions and assigned function.
2. Demonstrate the ability to provide adequate briefings to on-site assistance teams on job assignments and tasks.
3. Demonstrate the ability of on-site assistance teams to perform corrective actions on plant equipment during emergency conditions.

* Indicates an identified item from the 1996 Exercise.

4. Demonstrate the ability to provide adequate administrative controls and documentation for necessary repairs of plant equipment and systems during an emergency situation.

H. Radiological Assessment

1. Demonstrate that adequate dose assessment activities can be performed to determine off-site radiological consequences.
2. Demonstrate that radiological assessment personnel at the EOF can obtain radiological and meteorological data in a timely manner.
3. Demonstrate the ability to perform timely assessment of off-site radiological conditions to support the formulation of protective action recommendations for the plume exposure pathway.
4. Demonstrate the ability to assess potential off-site radiological consequences based on plant conditions.
5. Demonstrate the ability to project plume trajectory and potentially affected downwind sectors (if necessary) using computer dose assessment model (METPAC).
6. Demonstrate adequate staffing, equipment readiness check, and deployment (if necessary) of off-site monitoring teams.*
7. Demonstrate the use of appropriate equipment and procedures to perform off-site radiological monitoring (if necessary).

I. Protective Action Decision Making

1. Demonstrate the ability to implement appropriate on-site protective measures for emergency response personnel.
2. Demonstrate the adequacy of the protective action decision making process to make appropriate recommendations concerning plant conditions and off-site radiological consequences.

* Indicates an identified item from the 1996 Exercise.

J. Public Information

1. Demonstrate the ability to develop and periodically disseminate timely and accurate press releases to the public and the news media.
2. Demonstrate the ability to provide briefings and to interface with the public and news media.
3. Demonstrate the ability to communicate and coordinate news releases between the EOF and the News Media Center.
4. Demonstrate the ability to provide rumor control.
5. Demonstrate the ability to coordinate news releases with the state's public information representatives.

K. Parallel and Other Actions

1. Demonstrate the adequacy of methods to establish and maintain access control and personnel accountability within the protected area.
2. Demonstrate the licensee's capability for self-critique and ability to identify areas needing improvement.

The annual Radiological monitoring drill and semiannual Health Physics drill will be included as part of this exercise. A separate Health Physics drill will be held to demonstrate the actual sample collection and analysis of in-plant chemistry samples which includes the use of the Post Accident Sampling System (PASS).

* Indicates an identified item from the 1996 Exercise.