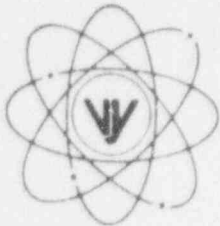


# VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



Ferry Road, Brattleboro, VT 05301-7002

REPLY TO:  
ENGINEERING OFFICE

580 MAIN STREET  
BOLTON, MA 01740  
(508) 779-6711

October 31, 1996  
BVY 96-134

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

- References:
- (a) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)
  - (b) USNRC Bulletin 95-02, "Unexpected Clogging of a Residual Heat Removal (RHR) Pump Strainer While Operating in Suppression Pool Cooling Mode," NRY 95-147, dated October 17, 1995
  - (c) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, "30-Day Response to NRC Bulletin 95-02," BVY 95-123, dated November 16, 1995
  - (d) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, "Response to Bulletin 95-02 Requested Action 2," BVY 95-138, dated December 18, 1995

**Subject: Final Response to Bulletin 95-02**

In Reference (b), the NRC alerted licensees to Residual Heat Removal (RHR) strainer clogging experienced during an event at a US BWR facility. This clogging occurred when suppression pool cooling was initiated in response to a stuck open relief valve. In Reference (c) Vermont Yankee committed to testing the RHR pump suction strainers in December, 1995. In Reference (d), Vermont Yankee submitted the results of this RHR pump testing and documented that visual inspections of the Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) strainers and torus water sampling would be completed during the 1996 refueling outage.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the response required by Reference (b) documenting completion of the visual inspection of the ECCS and Reactor Core Isolation Cooling (RCIC) strainers and the torus water sampling. Additionally, this letter confirms that the torus has been thoroughly cleaned during this refueling outage, in conformance with Requested Action 3 of Reference (b).

Based on the information provided in Enclosure 1, Vermont Yankee believes that the confirmation inspections of Requested Action 2 of Reference (b) and the water sampling recommended in Requested Action 5 of Reference (b) have been satisfactorily completed. These actions have confirmed the operability of safety systems which take suction from the torus at Vermont Yankee.

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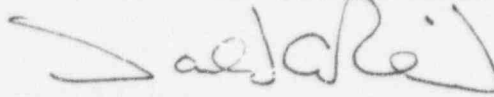
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United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
October 31, 1996  
Page 2 of 2

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

Sincerely,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

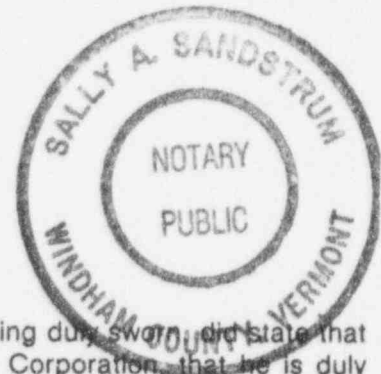


Donald A. Reid  
Vice President, Operations

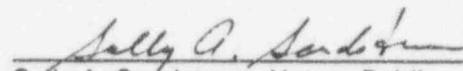
Enclosure 1: Additional Information in Response to Bulletin 95-02

cc: USNRC Region 1 Administrator  
USNRC Project Manager - VYNPS  
USNRC Resident Inspector - VYNPS

STATE OF VERMONT           )  
  )ss  
WINDHAM COUNTY            )



Then personally appeared before me, Donald A. Reid, who, being duly sworn, did state that he is Vice President, Operations, of Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation, that he is duly authorized to execute and file the foregoing document in the name and on the behalf of Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation, and that the statements therein are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

  
Sally A. Sandstrum, Notary Public  
My Commission expires February 10, 1999

## Enclosure 1

### Additional Information in Response to Bulletin 95-02

#### Requested Action 2 of Bulletin 95-02

"The operability evaluation in Requested Action 1 above should be confirmed through appropriate test(s) and strainer inspection(s) within 120 days of the date of this bulletin."

#### Vermont Yankee Response

In Reference (d), Vermont Yankee reported the results of RHR pump testing and committed to an inspection of the ECCS system strainers during the next refueling outage. ECCS strainer (including RCIC) inspections were performed during our recently completed refueling outage. The divers observed that all ECCS strainers (including RCIC) were clean and in good condition. This completes the committed actions for Requested Action 2 of Reference (b).

#### Requested Action 5 of Bulletin 95-02

"Consider additional measures such as suppression pool water sampling and trending of pump suction pressure to detect clogging of ECCS suction strainers."

#### Vermont Yankee Response

During the recently completed refueling outage, Vermont Yankee used divers to inspect and clean the torus. Sampling and visual observations during the torus cleaning and suction strainer inspections confirmed that fibers were not present in the Vermont Yankee torus. Any longer term trending issues associated with ECCS suction strainers (such as pump suction pressure trending and torus water sampling) will be reconsidered as part of our evaluation of NRC Bulletin 96-03. This completes our consideration of Requested Action 5 of Reference (b).