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USNRC  
Washington DC 20555

Hello,

I am writing with several concerns regarding the announcement last week by the Board of Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company that it will retain an outside company to run the Maine Yankee plant. Aside from a number of lesser issues, this raises for me several questions: who runs the plant? who is liable for the plant? who is responsible for actions taken at the plant? in short, who is the licensee?

Let's suppose some infraction is committed at the plant and you, the NRC, decides a fine is an appropriate penalty; whom will you fine — the owner or the operator? It seem that the responsible party for management issues will be the consultant, Entergy. Barring a change in the license, will you be able to hold Entergy responsible?

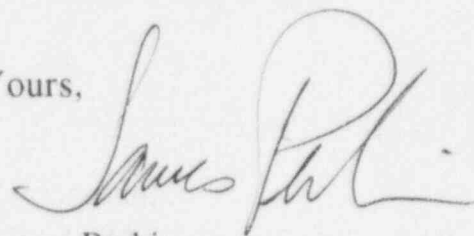
The Maine press has quoted the Maine Yankee Chairman as claiming that this is an unprecedented relationship. Has the NRC considered how it will deal with the thorny issues? If so, would you please refer me to the relevant documents?

Fundamentally, may a non-licensee act in the capacity of a licensee at a regulated nuclear power plant? Is a license modification required? Must the license be transferred?

This action by Maine Yankee apparently will turn over de facto control of the plant to another company; what is the responsibility of the regulator? What steps are you required to take and what opportunity for significant participation and intervention will be offered to the public?

I will appreciate your prompt and timely response to these questions. Thank you very much.

Yours,



James Perkins