

FEBRUARY 12, 1997

Mr. Donald Reid
Vice President, Operations
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation
RD 5, Box 169
Ferry Road
Brattleboro, Vermont 05301

SUBJECT: NRC INTEGRATED INSPECTION REPORT 50-271/96-11

Dear Mr. Reid:

On January 18, 1997, the NRC completed an inspection at your Vermont Yankee reactor facility. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During the 6-week period covered by this inspection period, your conduct of activities at the Vermont Yankee facility was generally characterized by safety-conscious operations, sound engineering and maintenance practices, and careful radiological work controls.

We found that you have continued to improve engineering performance by enhancing several programs. These enhanced programs included your performance engineering, quality assurance audits, major project work list, and the design basis documentation programs. Modifications were found to be technically sound and the impact of changes were evaluated thoroughly.

With respect to your design basis documentation (DBD) efforts, we encourage your continued efforts in this area. The emergency diesel generator room tornado protection and degraded grid voltage operator action issues illustrate that old design issues exist at your facility and that the scope of your staff's DBD review appears appropriate. However, your continued attention is warranted to ensure other potentially safety significant design vulnerabilities do not languish further.

In the area of plant support, we found that you had an overall effective program for occupational radiation protection including audits and appraisals with timely corrective actions for identified problems, good internal and external radiation exposure controls, good control of radioactive materials and contamination, and a strong program to maintain occupational radiation exposures as low as reasonably achievable.

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Donald Reid
Vermont Yankee

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No reply to this report is necessary and your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Conte, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 5
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report 50-271/96-11
Docket No. 50-271

cc w/encl:

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J. Duffy, Licensing Engineer, Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation
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Vermont Yankee

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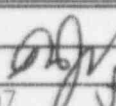
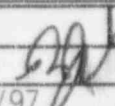
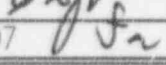

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