

November 22, 1996

Mr. Henry R. Myers
Post Office Box 88
Peaks Island, ME 04108

Dear Mr. Myers:

I am responding to your letter of September 16, 1996 to Chairman Shirley Ann Jackson, in which you expressed concern about the discovery of a cut wire in safety-related circuitry located in the control room area of the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station. You also stated that this matter raises serious doubt as to whether maintenance and testing procedures were conducted in accordance with U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regulations. Specifically, you requested that the NRC, considering the findings of the NRC Independent Safety Assessment Team at Maine Yankee, address the eight questions that you presented in your letter.

The circumstances surrounding the discovery of the cut wire are currently under NRC review. The licensee has implemented corrective actions to verify the proper operation of both the affected and other, similar circuits. The licensee also has completed its root cause analysis specific to the cut wire, and that, too, is currently under NRC staff review. The NRC is in the process of determining what action, if any, is appropriate. Therefore, the questions you raise will be addressed in a forthcoming inspection report. This inspection report will be placed in the local public document room. The NRC staff also will provide you with a copy of the inspection report when it is issued.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Frank J. Miraglia

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

DRPE:NRR
DDorman*
10/21/96

DRPE:NRR
SVarga*
10/25/96

AEOD
Jordan*
10/23/96

OE
Lieberman*
10/24/96

ADPR
Zimmerman*
10/28/96

OGC
JGoldberg*
11/5/96

NRR
FMiraglia*
11/6/96

EDO
JTaylor
11/12/96

OCM
SJackson**
11/22/96

*See previous concurrence

**Concurred with edits - See Attached

020018



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 22, 1996

Mr. Henry R. Myers
Post Office Box 88
Peaks Island, ME 04108

Dear Mr. Myers:

I am responding to your letter of September 16, 1996 to Chairman Shirley Ann Jackson, in which you expressed concern about the discovery of a cut wire in safety-related circuitry located in the control room area of the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station. You also stated that this matter raises serious doubt as to whether maintenance and testing procedures were conducted in accordance with U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regulations. Specifically, you requested that the NRC, considering the findings of the NRC Independent Safety Assessment Team at Maine Yankee, address the eight questions that you presented in your letter.

The circumstances surrounding the discovery of the cut wire are currently under NRC review. The licensee has implemented corrective actions to verify the proper operation of both the affected and other, similar circuits. The licensee also has completed its root cause analysis specific to the cut wire, and that, too, is currently under NRC staff review. The NRC is in the process of determining what action, if any, is appropriate. Therefore, the questions you raise will be addressed in a forthcoming inspection report. This inspection report will be placed in the local public document room. The NRC staff also will provide you with a copy of the inspection report when it is issued.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Frank J. Miraglia, Jr.", is written over the typed name.

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

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket File

PUBLIC (w/incoming)

EDO #96722

PDI-3 Reading (w/incoming)

JTaylor

JMilhoan

HThompson

JBlaha

EJordan, AEOD

FMiraglia/ATHadani

JP Lieberman

RZimmerman

TMartin, DRPM

SVarga

JZwolinski

EMerschhoff, AEOD

DDorman

HMiller, RI

RConte, RI

JGoldberg, OGC

PMilano

NOlson

OPA

OCA

NRR Mail Room (EDO#96722 w/incoming)

CNorsworthy

EPeyton

SECY (CRC-96-1016)

KCyr, OGC

ACTION

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM:

DUE: 10/07/96

EDO CONTROL: GT96722

DOC DT: 09/16/96

FINAL REPLY:

Henry R. Myers

TO:

Chairman Jackson

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

** PRI **

CRC NO: 96-1016

Chairman Jackson

DESC:

ROUTING:

CUT WIRE IN SAFETY-RELATED CIRCUITRY LOCATED IN
THE MAINE YANKEE CONTROL ROOM AREA

Taylor
Milhoan
Thompson
Blaha
HMiller, RI
Jordan, AEOD
Cyr, OGC

DATE: 09/24/96

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Russell

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

NRR ROUTING:

SEPTEMBER 24, 1996

NRR ACTION:

DRPE:VARGA

NRR ROUTING:

RUSSELL
MIRAGLIA
THADANI
ZIMMERMAN
MARTIN
BOHRER

ACTION

DUE TO NRR DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

BY

Oct. 2, '96