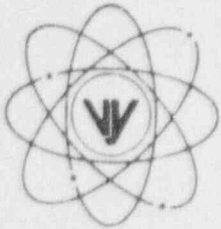


VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION



Ferry Road, Brattleboro, VT 05301-7002

REPLY TO
ENGINEERING OFFICE
580 MAIN STREET
BOLTON, MA 01740
(508) 779-6711

November 27, 1996
BVY 96-152

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

References: (a) License No. DPR-28 (Docket No. 50-271)
(b) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, BVY 96-58, dated May 28, 1996
(c) Telecon, USNRC to VYNPC, November 19, 1996
(d) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, BVY 96-133, dated October 28, 1996
(e) Telecon, USNRC to VYNPC, dated November 5, 1996
(f) Letter, VYNPC to USNRC, BVY 96-132, dated October 26, 1996

Subject: Response to Request for Additional Information Regarding Vermont Yankee Request for Exemption from 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R

In Reference (b), Vermont Yankee requested exemption from the requirements of 10CFR50, Appendix R, Section III.G, "Fire protection of safe shutdown capability," to permit use of Rockbestos Firezone®R fireproof cable in plant areas that require enclosing cables in a fire barrier having a 1-hour fire rating. In Reference (c), the NRC requested that Vermont Yankee provide details of the surveillance that will be performed on the cables which are the subject of this exemption request. The purpose of this letter is to provide the requested information.

Vermont Yankee intends to revise an existing plant procedure, "Surveillance of Plant Fire Barriers and Fire Rated Assemblies," to incorporate a requirement to examine, once per operating cycle, the affected Firezone®R cables.

Additionally, in Reference (d), Vermont Yankee informed the NRC that a roving fire watch had been established in the east and west Switchgear rooms at the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station as an Appendix R compensatory measure. Based on a discussion with NRC staff, [Reference (e)], Vermont Yankee has removed the Appendix R roving fire watch in the east and west Switchgear rooms but will continue to maintain a roving fire watch in the east and west Switchgear rooms in accordance with the Vermont Yankee Technical Specifications [Reference (f)].

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

Sincerely,

VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION

James J. Duffy
James J. Duffy
Licensing Engineer

030037

c: USNRC Region I Administrator
USNRC Resident Inspector - VYNPS
USNRC Project Manager - VYNPS

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