

March 3, 1997

Richard P. Sedano, Commissioner
State of Vermont, Department of Public Service
112 State Street
Drawer 20
Montpelier, VT 05620-2601

Dear Commissioner Sedano:

Thank you for your November 13, 1996, letter concerning a change made at Vermont Yankee to the containment isolation valve configuration for the containment spray and residual heat removal systems. As you noted, this matter was the subject of a letter dated October 15, 1996, from the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation (VYNPC) to the staff. The staff requested additional information which VYNPC provided by letter dated November 15, 1996.

The staff considered safety issues as well as applicability of 10 CFR 50.59 to the configuration change and concluded in the safety assessment accompanying the attached letter to VYNPC that the change was acceptable and does not require prior NRC approval. We believe that the enclosed safety assessment answers the questions you had raised concerning this issue. If you have any other questions, please call me at (301) 415-3045.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

Vernon L. Rooney, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-271

Attachment: Safety Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. L. Rooney", is written over a horizontal line.

Vernon L. Rooney, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate 1-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-271

Enclosure: Safety Assessment

cc w/encl: See next page

D. Reid
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power
Corporation

cc:

Regional Administrator, Region I
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

R. K. Gad, III
Ropes & Gray
One International Place
Boston, MA 02110-2624

Mr. Richard P. Sedano, Commissioner
Vermont Department of Public Service
120 State Street, 3rd Floor
Montpelier, VT 05602

Public Service Board
State of Vermont
120 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

Chairman, Board of Selectmen
Town of Vernon
P.O. Box 116
Vernon, VT 05354-0116

Mr. Richard E. McCullough
Operating Experience Coordinator
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
P.O. Box 157
Governor Hunt Road
Vernon, VT 05354

Mr. Robert J. Wanczyk, Plant Manager
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
P.O. Box 157, Governor Hunt Road
Vernon, VT 05354

Mr. Ross B. Barkhurst, President
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation
Ferry Road
Brattleboro, VT 05301

Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station

G. Dana Bisbee, Esq.
Deputy Attorney General
33 Capitol Street
Concord, NH 03301-6937

Resident Inspector
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P.O. Box 176
Vernon, VT 05354

Chief, Safety Unit
Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place, 19th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Mr. David Rodham, Director
ATTN: James Muckerheide
Massachusetts Civil Defense Agency
400 Worcester Rd.
P.O. Box 1495
Framingham, MA 01701-0317

Mr. Raymond N. McCandless
Vermont Division of Occupational
and Radiological Health
Administration Building
Montpelier, VT 05602

Mr. J. J. Duffy
Licensing Engineer
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power
Corporation
580 Main Street
Bolton, MA 01740-1398