

FEB 7 1975

Docket No. 50-29

Yankee Atomic Electric Company
ATTN: Mr. G. Carl Andognini, Assistant
to the Vice President
20 Turnpike Road
Westboro, Massachusetts 01581

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS
POOR QUALITY PAGES

Gentlemen:

Your letters dated September 13 and November 5, 1974, presented the results of Yankee's evaluation of postulated spent fuel shipping cask drop accidents at Yankee-Rowe, to determine the possible damage to safety related features and to assess the probability of occurrence of these postulated events.

Your evaluation has shown that if the spent fuel shipping cask were assumed to drop in the spent fuel pool, damage to the pool floor could occur that would cause loss of pool water at a greater rate than the available pool water makeup capability. The existing yard crane system provided for handling the cask does not have the necessary features to preclude a cask drop and the associated unacceptable consequences. Therefore, in lieu of adding features to the spent fuel pool to provide assurance that the pool could withstand the loads generated by a cask drop, you propose to modify the yard crane system in a manner that will provide a high level of confidence that the likelihood of a cask drop will be negligible.

We have reviewed your proposed plan for modifying the yard crane system which includes: (1) replacement of the existing trolley with a 100 ton capacity trolley designed to a safety factor of 5, (2) derating of this trolley to 50 tons in conjunction with the use of a replacement bridge to provide a safety factor of 10 for the hoisting machinery handling the 32 ton spent fuel shipping cask, (3) redundant brakes and other features that would make the crane single failure proof, and (4) limit switches that will preclude movement of the trolley and the bridge over stored spent fuel. In addition, as a result of recent discussions with members of your staff, during which we provided guidance on current crane design criteria, you will make other modifications to further upgrade the yard crane system to the extent practicable.

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Based on our review of the information you have provided in your letters of September 13 and November 5, 1974, and the discussions with members of your staff, we find that your planned approach of upgrading of the yard crane system in lieu of structural modifications would be an acceptable approach to resolve the safety issues associated with the Handling of the spent fuel shipping cask at Yankee-Rowe; however, additional information is necessary. Therefore, to complete our evaluation of your submittal we need information on the final details of the modifications to the yard crane system including preoperational testing.

In order to meet our review schedule we will need a response to this request by March 28, 1975.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
Karl R. Goller

Karl R. Goller, Assistant Director
for Operating Reactors
Division of Reactor Licensing

cc: Mr. Donald G. Allen, President
Yankee Atomic Electric Company
20 Turnpike Road
Westboro, Massachusetts 01581

Based on our review of the information you have provided in your letters of September 13 and November 5, 1974, and the discussions with members of your staff, we find that your planned approach of upgrading of the yard crane system in lieu of structural modifications would be an acceptable approach to resolve the safety issues associated with the handling of the spent fuel shipping cask at Yankee-Rowe, however, additional information is necessary. Therefore, to complete our evaluation of your submittal we need information on the final details of the modifications to the yard crane system including preoperational testing.

In order to meet our review schedule we will need a response to this request by February 28, 1975.

Sincerely,

Karl R. Goller, Assistant Director
for Operating Reactors
Division of Reactor Licensing

cc: Mr. Donald G. Allen, President
Yankee Atomic Electric Company
20 Turnpike Road
Westboro, Massachusetts 01581

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