

HAZARDS ANALYSIS BY THE RESEARCH AND POWER REACTOR SAFETY BRANCH

DIVISION OF LICENSING AND REGULATION

IN THE MATTER OF

YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY

PROPOSED CHANGE NO. 16

Introduction

Pursuant to the provision of paragraph 3.A. of License No. DPR-3, as amended, Yankee Atomic Electric Company in Proposed Change No. 16 dated January 18, 1962 requested authorization to install an instrumentation connection in the high side line to the wide range pressurizer level differential pressure cell. This connection, together with the appropriate valving and connecting piping which Yankee proposes to install, would permit control of accurate pressure measuring equipment from a position outside the vapor container. If the Change is authorized, it is Yankee's intention to install this equipment at the time of the next reactor refueling.

Discussion

Yankee has reported that pressure instrumentation, with an accuracy greater than that of the existing control board-mounted equipment, is required for periodic reactor physics testing. The method which has been employed in the past to obtain accurate pressure data involved subjecting the pressurizer drain valve to service beyond that originally intended. Installation of the proposed connection and related piping would obviate the necessity for the use of the pressurizer drain valve during reactor physics testing, and would permit manual control of pressure measuring instrumentation at a position external to the containment vessel. We believe that both the saving of wear on the pressurizer drain valve and the establishing of a better means of controlling the pressure measuring instrumentation are in the interest of greater safety and should be authorized.

Conclusion

Based on our review of the Proposed Change, we have concluded that it does not present significant hazards considerations not described or implicit in the license application as amended to June 23, 1961. We have further concluded that there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public would not be endangered by operation of the facility as proposed.

Robert H. Bryan, Chief
Research & Power Reactor Safety Branch
Division of Licensing and Regulation

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Date:

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