



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 3, 2022

Jack Priest, Director
Department of Public Health
Radiation Control Program
Bureau of Environmental Health
Schrafft Center, Suite 1M2A
529 Main Street
Charlestown, MA 02129

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION
INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION DECOMMISSIONING
FUNDING PLANS

Dear Jack Priest:

By letters dated December 10, 2018 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession No. ML18354A738), and December 10, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML22010A012), as supplemented by letter dated August 3, 2022 (ADAMS Accession No. ML22237A063), Yankee Atomic Electric Company (YAEC) submitted updated decommissioning funding plans (DFPs) for the independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) at Yankee Nuclear Power Station (Yankee Rowe) site for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's review and approval. The NRC staff is currently reviewing the above updated DFPs submitted by YAEC. As part of the review process, we are seeking your consultation on the updated DFPs for the Yankee Rowe ISFSI.

The NRC regulations at Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 72, "Licensing Requirements for the Independent Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel, High-Level Radioactive Waste, and Reactor-Related Greater than Class C Waste," govern the storage of spent nuclear fuel (spent fuel) generated at commercial nuclear power reactors licensed by the NRC. Spent fuel that has been removed from the reactor's spent fuel pool is typically stored at a nuclear power plant's ISFSI.

The NRC requires its licensees to plan for the eventual decommissioning of their licensed facilities prior to license termination. On June 17, 2011, the NRC published a final rule amending its decommissioning planning regulations (76 *Federal Register* (FR) 35512). The final rule amended the NRC regulation, 10 CFR 72.30, which concerns financial assurance and decommissioning for ISFSIs. This regulation now requires each holder of, or applicant for, a license under 10 CFR Part 72 to submit, for NRC review and approval, a DFP. The purpose of

Upon removal of the enclosure,
this document is decontrolled.

J. Priest

2

the DFP is to demonstrate the licensee's financial assurance (i.e., that funds will be available to decommission the ISFSI). The NRC staff is currently reviewing the information submitted by YAEC.

Specifically, the NRC must determine whether YAEC DFPs contain the information required by 10 CFR 72.30(c), and whether YAEC has provided reasonable assurance that funds will be available to decommission Yankee Rowe ISFSI.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 51, which contains the NRC regulations that implement the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the agency has prepared a separate draft environmental assessment (EA) for Yankee Rowe ISFSI for the proposed action (enclosed). We are providing your office with the opportunity to review the draft EA and comment on environmental issues prior to the public issuance and publication of the EA. We request that distribution and use of the enclosed draft EA be limited only to those staff involved in the review and comment process.

Please submit any comments within 30 days from the date of this letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Document Control Desk, ATTN: Yoira Diaz-Sanabria, Mail Stop: TWFN 4B34, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. If you have any questions, please contact Tilda Liu of my staff by telephone at 404-997-4730, or by e-mail at Tilda.Liu@nrc.gov. The NRC staff will consider your timely comments and will revise the EA, as appropriate, before its final issuance and publication. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Signed by Diaz-Sanabria, Yoira
on 11/03/22

Yoira K. Diaz-Sanabria, Chief
Storage and Transportation Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 72-31
License No.: SFGL-13
EPID No.: L-2017-FPR-0074

Enclosure:
Draft EA for Yankee Rowe ISFSI

J. Priest

3

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION
INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION DECOMMISSIONING
FUNDING PLANS

DOCUMENT DATE: November 3, 2022

DISTRIBUTION:

PJehle, OGC

DHabib, NMSS

ADAMS Accession Nos: ML22291A448 (pkg); ML22291A449 (ltr); ML22291A450 (encl)

OFFICE	NMSS/DFM/STLB:PM	NMSS/DFM/STLB:LA	NMSS/DFM/STLB:BC
NAME	TLiu	WWheatley	YDiaz-Sanabria
DATE	11/1/2022	11/1/2022	11/03/2022

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY