



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-1415

August 31, 2007

Mr. Theodore A. Sullivan
Site Vice President
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
P.O. Box 0500
185 Old Ferry Road
Brattleboro, VT 05302-0500

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN - VERMONT
YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION**

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

On August 8, 2007, the NRC staff completed its performance review of Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station for the first half of the calendar year 2007 assessment cycle. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results over the previous twelve months. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Official Use Only--Security Information" will include the security cornerstone review and resultant inspection plan.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter of 2007 at Vermont Yankee was within the Regulatory Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on one finding of low to moderate safety significance (White) in the Public Radiation Safety cornerstone. This finding involved the shipment of a package of contaminated equipment from Vermont Yankee on August 31, 2006, that was not properly prepared and shipped in conformance with the Department of Transportation radiation level limitations. Although the surface of the package was not accessible to members of the public, the condition had the potential to adversely affect personnel receiving the package or responding to an incident involving the package. The NRC has completed a supplemental inspection in accordance with inspection procedure 95001. The results of that inspection were provided in NRC Supplemental Inspection Report 05000271/2007009. As a result of that review, this finding will be closed and will no longer be considered for plant assessment purposes, effective October 1, 2007. Therefore, we plan to conduct the reactor oversight process (ROP) baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection, scheduled through December 31, 2008. In addition to baseline inspections, we plan on conducting an independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) inspection. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed

due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

As you may know, the NRC is currently evaluating the scope and frequency of all of the baseline inspection procedures. If the results of the evaluation, or any other circumstances, cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Mr. Raymond J. Powell, of my staff, at 610-337-6967 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David C. Lew, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-271
License No. DPR-28

Enclosure: Vermont Yankee Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl:

M. R. Kansler, President, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
G. J. Taylor, Chief Executive Officer, Entergy Operations
J. Wayne Leonard, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Entergy Operations
J. T. Herron, Senior Vice President
M. Balduzzi, Senior Vice President, Northeastern Regional Operations
J. DeRoy, Vice President, Operations Support
O. Limpas, Vice President, Engineering
Sr Vice President, Engineering and Technical Services
D. Mannai, Manager, Licensing, Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
Operating Experience Coordinator, Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
W. Maguire, General Manager, Plant Operations, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
N. Rademacher, Director, Engineering, Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
J. F. McCann, Director, Licensing
Manager, Licensing
E. Harkness, Director of Oversight, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Assistant General Counsel, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
J. H. Sniezek, PWR SRC Consultant
M. D. Lyster, PWR SRC Consultant
G. Edwards

cc w/encl:

S. Lousteau, Treasury Department, Entergy Services, Inc.
D. O' Dowd, Administrator, Radiological Health Section, DPHS, DHHS, State of New Hampshire
W. Irwin, Chief, CHP, Radiological Health, Vermont Department of Health
Chief, Safety Unit, Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Mass.
D. Lewis, Pillsbury, Winthrop, Shaw, Pittman LLP
G. D. Bisbee, Esquire, Deputy Attorney General, Environmental Protection Bureau
J. Block, Esquire
J. P. Matteau, Executive Director, Windham Regional Commission
D. Katz, Citizens Awareness Network (CAN)
R. Shadis, New England Coalition Staff
G. Sachs, President/Staff Person, c/o Stopthesale
J. Volz, Chairman, Public Service Board, State of Vermont
Chairman, Board of Selectman, Town of Vernon
C. Pope, State of New Hampshire, SLO
D. O'Brien, State of Vermont, SLO
J. Giarrusso, SLO, MEMA, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO)

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Assistant General Counsel, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
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- G. Edwards

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SUNSI Review Complete: BSN (Reviewer's Initials)

DOCUMENT NAME: ROP-8 2007 Mid-cycle VY Letter.Rev4.wpd

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Letter to T. Sullivan from David C. Lew dated August 31, 2007

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