

March 2, 2005

Mr. Jay K. Thayer
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: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER
STATION (REPORT 05000271/2005001)

Dear Mr. Thayer:

On February 8, 2005, the NRC staff completed its end-of-cycle plant performance assessment of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station. The end-of-cycle review for Vermont Yankee involved the participation of the reactor technical divisions in evaluating performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2004. 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 so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections that may conflict with your plant activities.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include physical protection information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Exempt from Public Disclosure in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390" will include the physical protection review and resultant inspection plan.

Overall, Vermont Yankee operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter 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 Emergency Preparedness cornerstone. Also, the significance and disposition of an apparent violation of 10 CFR 74.19 related to inventory records, procedure adherence, and physical inventory of two spent fuel rod pieces is still under review by NRC management.

The finding in the Emergency Preparedness cornerstone was issued because Entergy did not provide tone alert radios to a portion of the populace that was within the Vermont Yankee emergency planning zone, but outside of siren coverage, so that they could be notified in case of an emergency. In our letter dated February 2, 2005, we informed you that the finding in the Emergency Preparedness cornerstone was of low to moderate safety significance (White). Therefore, in response to this one White finding, we plan to conduct a supplemental inspection using inspection procedure 95001. The objective of the supplemental inspection is to provide assurance that Entergy understands the root causes and contributing causes of the finding, identifies the extent of condition, and establishes corrective actions that are sufficient to prevent recurrence. We request that you inform Mr. Clifford Anderson of my staff of your projected

dates for completing sufficient actions to support the inspection objective so that we may schedule our supplemental inspection.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection, scheduled through September 30, 2006. The plan also contains an inspection of Vermont Yankee's erosion/flow assisted corrosion program that is in response to your request to increase the power output of Vermont Yankee. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved 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 mid-cycle review meeting. Also, pending our final disposition of the apparent violation regarding the inventory of the two spent fuel rod pieces, we may conduct a followup inspection related to this issue.

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).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Clifford Anderson at 610-337-5227 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

A. Randolph Blough, 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. T. Herron, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
D. L. Pace, Vice President, Engineering
B. O'Grady, Vice President, Operations Support
J. M. DeVincentis, Manager, Licensing, Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
Operating Experience Coordinator - Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
J. F. McCann, Director, Nuclear Safety Assurance
M. J. Colomb, Director of Oversight, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
J. M. Fulton, Assistant General Counsel, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
S. Lousteau, Treasury Department, Entergy Services, Inc.

Administrator, Bureau of Radiological Health, State of New Hampshire
Chief, Safety Unit, Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Mass.
D. R. Lewis, Esquire, Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge
G. D. Bisbee, Esquire, Deputy Attorney General, Environmental Protection Bureau
J. Block, Esquire
J. P. Matteau, Executive Director, Windham Regional Commission
M. Daley, New England Coalition on Nuclear Pollution, Inc. (NECNP)
D. Katz, Citizens Awareness Network (CAN)
R. Shadis, New England Coalition Staff
G. Sachs, President/Staff Person, c/o Stopthesale
J. Sniezek, PWR SRC Consultant
R. Toole, PWR SRC Consultant
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, SLO Designee
State of New Hampshire, SLO Designee
State of Vermont, SLO Designee

Mr. Jay K. Thayer

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Distribution w/encl:

S. Collins, RA

J. Wiggins, DRA

C. Anderson, DRP

D. Florek, DRP

S. Lee, RI OEDO

D. Roberts, NRR

R. Ennis, PM, NRR

V. Nerses, Backup PM, NRR

D. Pelton, DRP, Senior Resident Inspector

A. Rancourt, DRP, Resident OA

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

ROPreports@nrc.gov (All IRs)

DRS Director

DRS Deputy Director

DRS Branch Chiefs

D. Screnci, PAO

N. Sheehan, PAO

RidsNrrDipmlipb@nrc.gov

Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO)

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SISP Review Complete: Cja (Reviewer's Initials)

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OFFICE	RI : DRP		RI : DRP		RI : DRP				
NAME	Florek		Anderson		Blough				
DATE	02/22/05		02/22/05		03/01/05				

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Vermont Yankee
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2005 - 09/30/2006

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Type
	71152	- PI&R SAMPLE: RCIC TIMELINE	2			
1	IP 71152	Identification and Resolution of Problems		03/21/2005	03/25/2005	Baseline Inspections
	MODS	- MODS & 50.59	4			
1	IP 7111102	Evaluation of Changes, Tests, or Experiments		03/28/2005	04/01/2005	Baseline Inspections
	7111401	- EXERCISE EVALUATION & EP PI VERIFICATION	3			
1	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation		05/23/2005	05/27/2005	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		05/23/2005	05/27/2005	Baseline Inspections
	7112202	- PUB RAD SAFETY - RADWASTE	1			
1	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation		07/25/2005	07/29/2005	Baseline Inspections
	EPU	- EPU REVIEW - EROSION/FAC PROGRAM	1			
1	IP 71004	Power Uprate		07/25/2005	07/29/2005	Other Routine
	71121	- OCC RAD SAFETY	1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		08/08/2005	08/12/2005	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		08/08/2005	08/12/2005	Baseline Inspections
	71152B	- PI&R	4			
1	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems		09/12/2005	09/16/2005	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems		09/26/2005	09/30/2005	Baseline Inspections
	71121	- OCC RAD SAFETY	1			
1	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		10/26/2005	10/30/2005	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		10/26/2005	10/30/2005	Baseline Inspections
	7111108G	- INSERVICE INSPECTION	1			
1	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR		10/31/2005	11/04/2005	Baseline Inspections
	7112203	- PUB RAD SAFETY - REMP	1			
1	IP 7112203	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program		12/05/2005	12/09/2005	Baseline Inspections
	7111112B	- MAINTENANCE RULE	1			
1	IP 7111112B	Maintenance Effectiveness		12/12/2005	12/16/2005	Baseline Inspections
	71121	- OCC RADIATION SAFETY	1			
1	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		01/09/2006	01/13/2006	Baseline Inspections
	7112103	- OCC RAD SAFETY - INSTRUMENTS	1			
1	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		01/23/2006	01/27/2006	Baseline Inspections
	SSDI	- SSDI	7			
1	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		07/31/2006	08/04/2006	Baseline Inspections
	71114	- EP PRGM INSP & PI VERIFICATION	1			
1	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing		08/07/2006	08/11/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing		08/07/2006	08/11/2006	Baseline Inspections

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Vermont Yankee
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2005 - 09/30/2006

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Type
	71114	- EP PRGM INSP & PI VERIFICATION	1			
1	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		08/07/2006	08/11/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies		08/07/2006	08/11/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		08/07/2006	08/11/2006	Baseline Inspections
	SSDI	- SSDI	7			
1	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		08/14/2006	08/18/2006	Baseline Inspections
	711111B	- LICENSED OPERATOR REQUAL PROGRAM	3			
1	IP 711111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program		08/21/2006	08/25/2006	Baseline Inspections
1	IP 711111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program		08/28/2006	09/01/2006	Baseline Inspections