



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

March 5, 2012

Mr. Chris Wamser
Site Vice President
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
320 Governor Hunt Road
Vernon, VT 05354

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR
POWER STATION (REPORT 05000271/2011001)

Dear Mr. Wamser:

On February 14, 2012, the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff completed its end-of-cycle performance review of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (Vermont Yankee). The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter will include the NRC's assessment of your performance in the Security Cornerstone and its security-related inspection plan.

The NRC determined that overall, Vermont Yankee operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance at Vermont Yankee during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at Vermont Yankee.

Last year, given the uncertainty regarding plant operations beyond March 2012 due to ongoing reviews and legal proceedings, the NRC staff conducted performance reviews for Vermont Yankee at the end of the first and third calendar year quarters of 2011. The purpose of these interim performance reviews was to perform an overall review and assessment of Vermont Yankee performance during the previous four calendar year quarters. Accordingly, the NRC conducted quarterly performance reviews of Vermont Yankee in May and November and determined that there were no issues associated with the plant's safety performance that warranted additional attention by the NRC. As a result, the NRC concluded that ROP baseline inspections would continue at your facility. These reviews were conducted using guidance contained in NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program."

Through this quarterly assessment process, the NRC has not observed any change in focus or commitment by Entergy related to assuring safe operations of Vermont Yankee that would indicate additional NRC oversight or assessment in 2012 is currently needed. However, the NRC will continue to monitor the legal proceedings and ongoing reviews associated with

Vermont Yankee and will reinstitute a similar assessment process if such an approach is warranted. The NRC will return to its normal oversight with mid- and end-of-cycle performance reviews for calendar year 2012.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection, scheduled through June 30, 2013. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. In addition to the baseline inspections, the NRC will perform Temporary Instruction 2515/182, "Review of the Implementation of the Industry Initiative to Control Degradation of Underground Piping," in July 2012. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes.

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 the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at 610-337-5200 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Dr. Ronald R. Bellamy, Branch Chief
Division of Reactor Projects

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

Enclosure: Vermont Yankee Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

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OFFICE	RI/DRP	RI/DRP			
NAME	TSetzer	RBellamy			
DATE	02/29/12	03/01/12			

Vermont Yankee
Inspection / Activity Plan
01/01/2012 - 06/30/2013

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
1	01/09/2012 01/13/2012	71003 IP 71003	- LR COMMITMENTS INSP Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal	6
1	01/23/2012 01/27/2012	IP 71003	Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal	
1	04/09/2012 04/12/2012	71124 IP 71124.01	- RAD HAZARD ACCESS/ALARA Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	1
1	04/09/2012 04/12/2012	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	07/30/2012 08/03/2012	9/24EXM U01851	- VY INITIAL OL EXAM	5
1	08/27/2012 08/31/2012	U01851	FY12-VERMONT YANKEE INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	
1	09/24/2012 10/05/2012	U01851	FY12-VERMONT YANKEE INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSING EXAM	
1	05/21/2012 05/25/2012	7111107T IP 7111107T	- TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK Heat Sink Performance	1
1	06/04/2012 06/09/2012	MODS IP 7111117T	- PERMANENT PLANT MODIFICATIONS Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	4
1	06/18/2012 06/22/2012	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
1	07/23/2012 07/27/2012	7111111B IP 7111111B	- VY ON-SITE REQUAL INSP W/ P/F RESULTS Licensed Operator Requalification Program	2
1	07/09/2012 07/13/2012	71124 IP 60855	- RAD AIRBORNE & DOSE ASSESSMENT & ISFSI Operation Of An ISFSI	1
1	07/09/2012 07/13/2012	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	07/09/2012 07/13/2012	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	07/16/2012 07/20/2012	TI182 IP 2515/182	- DEGRADATION OF UNDERGROUND PIPING Review of the Implementation of the Industry Initiative to Control Degradation of Underground Piping	1
1	09/10/2012 09/21/2012	EP PROGR IP 7111402	- EP PROGRAM INSPECTION Alert and Notification System Testing	1
1	09/10/2012 09/21/2012	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1	09/10/2012 09/21/2012	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
1	09/10/2012 09/13/2012	71124.05 IP 71124.05	- RAD MONT INSTRUMENT Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	1
1	10/01/2012 12/31/2012	92702 IP 92702	- FOLLOWUP TO CONFIRMATORY ORDER (QA/QC) Followup On Corrective Actions For Violations And Deviations	1
1	10/15/2012 10/19/2012	71152 IP 71152	- QUARTERLY PI&R SAMPLE -TAGGING Problem Identification and Resolution	1

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

Vermont Yankee
 Inspection / Activity Plan
 01/01/2012 - 06/30/2013

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
1	11/05/2012 11/08/2012	71124 - RADIOACTIVE EFFLUENT MONITORTREATMENT PI		1
1	11/05/2012 11/08/2012	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1	11/05/2012 11/08/2012	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
1	11/05/2012 11/08/2012	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent	
1	03/01/2013 06/30/2013	INSP - OPERATION OF AN ISFSI		1
1	03/01/2013 06/30/2013	IP 60855	Operation Of An ISFSI	
1	03/11/2013 03/15/2013	7111108G - INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	03/11/2013 03/15/2013	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
1	03/11/2013 03/15/2013	71124 - HP INSPECTION 01 02 03 & 04		1
1	03/11/2013 03/15/2013	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	03/11/2013 03/15/2013	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	03/11/2013 03/15/2013	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1	03/11/2013 03/15/2013	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1	04/14/2013 04/19/2013	71124.07 - RAD ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PROGRAM		1
1	04/14/2013 04/19/2013	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
1	05/13/2013 05/17/2013	71124.08 - RADWASTE		1
1	05/13/2013 05/17/2013	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
1	06/03/2013 06/07/2013	EP EX - EP EXERCISE EVALUATION		5
1	06/03/2013 06/07/2013	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1	06/03/2013 06/07/2013	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1	06/03/2013 06/07/2013	PI&R - PI&R		4
1	06/03/2013 06/07/2013	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
1	06/17/2013 06/21/2013	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	

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