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Entergy

STATE OF VERMONT
DEPT OF PUBLIC SERVICE
MONTPELIER, VT.
05620-2601

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Vermont Yankee
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Michael J. Colomb
Site Vice President

BVY 11-021

March 18, 2011

ATTN: Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: Core Plate Hold Down Bolt Inspection Plan and Analysis
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
Docket No. 50-271
License No. DPR-28

REFERENCES:

1. Letter, Entergy to USNRC, "License Renewal Application," BVY 06-009, dated January 25, 2006
2. Letter, Entergy to USNRC, "License Renewal Application, Amendment 11," BVY 06-079, dated August 22, 2006
3. Letter, Entergy to USNRC, "License Renewal Application Annual Update," BVY 10-069, dated December 30, 2010
4. Letter, Entergy to USNRC, "Deviation from BWRVIP-25 Inspection Requirements," BVY 11-024, dated March 21, 2011

Dear Sir or Madam:

On January 25, 2006, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. and Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC (Entergy) submitted the License Renewal Application (LRA) for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VYNPS) as indicated by Reference 1. In Amendment 11 to the LRA (Reference 2), Entergy committed to either install core plate wedges or complete a plant-specific analysis to determine the acceptance criteria for continued inspection of the core plate hold down bolts in accordance with BWR Vessel and Internals Project, BWR Core Plate Inspection and Flaw Evaluation Guidelines (BWRVIP-25) and submit the inspection plan and analysis to the NRC two years prior to the period of extended operation (PEO) for NRC review and approval. In Reference 3, Entergy provided an update to the commitment to indicate that the inspection plan and analysis would be provided one year prior to the PEO.

Attachment 1 of this letter contains the plant-specific analysis report and is considered proprietary information by General Electric (GE). In accordance with 10CFR2.390(b)(1), an affidavit attesting to the proprietary nature of the enclosed information and requesting withholding from public disclosure is included with Attachment 1. Attachment 2 is the same GE report with the proprietary information removed and is provided for public disclosure.

In Reference 1 it was reported that VYNPS performs VT-3 inspection of 50% of the top of the core plate hold down bolts every other refueling outage. Beginning with the spring 2007 refueling outage, based on no recordable indications or degradation being observed in the previous inspections, VYNPS changed the inspection frequency to 25% of the top of the core plate hold down bolts every other refueling outage in accordance with the VYNPS Reactor Vessel Internals (RVI) Inspection Program. There have been no recordable indications or

degradation observed since the inspection frequency was changed. VYNPS will continue to inspect 25% of the core plate hold down bolts every other refueling outage using the VT-3 method in accordance with the RVI Program until the inspection guidance of BWRVIP-25 is revised by the Electric Power Research Institute and approved by the NRC. Reference 4 provides notification of deviation from the BWRVIP-25 inspection requirements and a commitment to implement the revised guidance upon NRC approval.

This letter contains no new regulatory commitments. Should you have any questions or require additional information concerning this submittal, please contact Mr. Robert Wanczyk at 802-451-3166.

Sincerely,

[MJC/PLC]

Attachments: 1. Vermont Yankee Core Plate Bolt Stress Analysis Report (Proprietary Version)

2. Vermont Yankee Core Plate Bolt Stress Analysis Report (Non-proprietary Version)

cc: Mr. Eric J. Leeds, Director (w/o attachments)
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USNRC Resident Inspector (w/o attachments)

Ms. Elizabeth Miller, Commissioner (w/o attachments)
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