Entergy

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

Christopher J. Wamser
Site Vice President

BVY 12-037

June 11, 2012

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

SUBJECT: Entergy's 90-Day Response to the March 12, 2012, Information Request, Action Plan for Completing Emergency Communication and Staffing Assessments
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
Docket No. 50-271
License No. DPR-28

REFERENCES:
1. NRC letter to Entergy, *Request for Information Pursuant to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations 50.54(f) Regarding Recommendations 2.1, 2.3, and 9.3 of the Near-Term Task Force Review of Insights from the Fukushima Dai-ichi Accident*, dated March 12, 2012, NVY 12-016
2. Entergy letter to NRC, *Entergy's 60-Day Response to the March 12, 2012, Information Request, Action Plan for Completing Emergency Communication and Staffing Assessments*, dated May 11, 2012, BVY 12-032

Dear Sir or Madam:

On March 12, 2012, the NRC issued Reference 1. Enclosure 5 of Reference 1 contains specific requested actions and requested information associated with Recommendation 9.3 for Emergency Preparedness programs. In accordance with 10 CFR 50.54, "Conditions of licenses," paragraph (f), addressees were requested to submit a written response to the information requests. The letter also provided requested due dates for written responses.

In accordance with the Reference 2 (60-day response), on May 11, 2012, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. submitted an alternative course of action for providing the requested information. The alternative course of action included revised information due dates and the basis for those dates. As described in the alternative course of action, Attachment 1 to this letter transmits the responses to the following information requests: Enclosure 5 communications request #2 and staffing requests #3, #4, and #5.

The new commitments contained in this submittal are summarized in Attachment 2.

Should you have any questions regarding the content of this letter, please contact Mr. Robert J. Wanczyk at (802) 451-3166.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.
Executed on June 11, 2012.

Sincerely,

CJW/jmd

Attachments: 1. Request for Information 90-Day Emergency Preparedness Response
2. List of Regulatory Commitments

cc: Mr. Eric J. Leeds
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Mr. William M. Dean
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BVY 12-037
Docket No. 50-271

Attachment 1

Request for Information 90-Day Emergency Preparedness Response

Request for Information (RFI) 90-Day Emergency Preparedness Response

Communications:

RFI 2 – Describe any interim actions that have been taken or are planned to be taken to enhance existing communications systems power supplies until the communications assessment and the resulting actions are complete.

Two uninterruptible power supplies (UPSs) have been received to provide backup power upon loss of all alternating current power for radio communications systems for onsite response teams and offsite field monitoring teams. The schedule for installation of the UPSs will be provided with the communications assessment by October 31, 2012, as previously committed to in the 60-day response (Reference 2).

In addition to existing emergency response radios and B.5.b dedicated radios, ten (10) additional portable digital radios including extra batteries/chargers have been purchased, received and deployed to be used for communications with onsite response teams or offsite field monitoring teams.

Eleven (11) battery-operated satellite phones have been purchased, received and deployed for emergency response personnel for onsite and offsite communications.

Staffing:

RFI 3 – Identify how the augmented staff would be notified given degraded communications capabilities.

Expectations have been communicated to the Emergency Response Organization (ERO) to respond to their assigned emergency response facilities when made aware of an area-wide loss-of-grid that results in degraded communications capability. This will be included in the ERO annual requalification training by December 12, 2012.

RFI 4 – Identify the methods of access (e.g., roadways, navigable bodies of water and dockage, airlift, etc.) to the site that are expected to be available after a widespread large scale natural event.

Various types of transport to VY are applicable including: walking, ATV, personal vehicle, helicopter, and watercraft.

VY is in the process of augmenting agreements with the States of Vermont, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire to obtain logistical support for the transport of emergency responders to VY in the event of a large-scale natural disaster that inhibits site access. The States are the central coordinating agency for mutual aid in their states for all state, local, and federal resources. This would include clearing of access roads as conditions warrant, water and air transportation support, etc. as needed. VY anticipates that applicable agreements/arrangements will be established by October 30, 2012.

In support of these agreements, VY is evaluating potential staging areas to be used by the emergency responders, if they are available, as common locations for transport to the site. This evaluation will be completed by October 30, 2012.

RFI 5 – Identify any interim actions that have been taken or are planned prior to the completion of the staffing assessment.

Entergy is currently assessing initial on-shift ERO staffing at VY for event conditions in response to the requirements of changes to 10CFR Parts 50, Appendix E, Section IV(A)(9), by December 24, 2012. Although limited to the time following a design-basis event initiation until the on-shift ERO is augmented, this assessment is expected to provide an initial indication of the adequacy of staffing to respond to beyond design-basis events.

Food and water to support extended presence of emergency workers at VY is on site.

References:

1. NRC letter to Entergy, *Request for Information Pursuant to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations 50.54(f) Regarding Recommendations 2.1, 2.3, and 9.3 of the Near-Term Task Force Review of Insights from the Fukushima Dai-ichi Accident*, dated March 12, 2012, NVY 12-016

2. Entergy letter to NRC, *Entergy's 60-Day Response to the March 12, 2012, Information Request, Action Plan for Completing Emergency Communication and Staffing Assessments*, dated May 11, 2012, BVY 12-032

Attachment 2

List of Regulatory Commitments

List of Regulatory Commitments

The following table identifies those actions committed to by Entergy in this document. Any other statements in this submittal are provided for information purposes and are not considered to be regulatory commitments.

COMMITMENT	TYPE (Check One)		SCHEDULED COMPLETION DATE (If Required)
	ONE-TIME ACTION	CONTINUING COMPLIANCE	
Include instructions for Emergency Response Organization (ERO) to respond to their assigned emergency response facilities when made aware of an area-wide loss-of-grid in the ERO annual requalification training.	X		December 12, 2012
Vermont Yankee (VY) is augmenting agreements with the States of Vermont, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire to obtain logistical support for the transport of emergency responders to VY in the event of a large-scale natural disaster that inhibits site access. VY is also evaluating additional potential staging areas to be used by the emergency responders, if they are available, as common locations for transport to the affected site.	X		October 30, 2012