

**VERMONT YANKEE LICENSING DEPARTMENT**  
**Outgoing NRC Correspondence Distribution**

**FOR INFORMATION**

BVY 14-012

DATE: 2/20/14

YES  NO 10CFR19.11(a)(4) action? If yes,  
posting required within 2 working days after dispatch.

SUBJECT: RAI Response for

Order EA-13-109, Hardened Vent

LICENSING LEAD: J. Meyer

COMMITMENTS: YES (Enter EN-LI-110)  NO

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.**  
Vermont Yankee  
320 Governor Hunt Road  
Vernon, Vermont 05354  
Tel: (802) 257-7711

**Christopher J. Wamser**  
Site Vice President

BVY 14-012

February 20, 2014

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

**SUBJECT:** Response to Request for Additional Information Regarding Entergy Request For Rescission of and Scheduler Relief from Order EA-13-109 on Reliable Hardened Containment Vents (TAC No. MF 3225) Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station  
Docket No. 50-271  
License No. DPR-28

**REFERENCES:**

1. Letter, Entergy to NRC, "Entergy's Request for Rescission of and Schedule Relief from Commission Order Modifying License With Regard To Reliable Hardened Containment Vents Capable of Operation Under Severe Accident Conditions (Order Number EA-13-109)," BVY 13-101, dated November 22, 2013 (ML13330A861)
2. Letter, NRC to Entergy, "Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station - Request For Additional Information Regarding Entergy Request For Rescission Of And Scheduler Relief From Order Ea-13-109 On Reliable Hardened Containment Vents (TAC No. MF3225)," NVY 14-005, dated January 29, 2014 (ML14024A041)

Dear Sir or Madam:

In Reference 1, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy) submitted an application for rescission of and schedule relief from Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Order EA-13-109, "Issuance of Order to Modify Licenses with Regard to Reliable Hardened Containment Vents Capable of Operation Under Severe Accident Conditions (Effective Immediately) for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station.

In Reference 2, NRC provided a Request for Additional Information concerning our submittal. This letter provides a response to your request for additional information.

This letter contains no new regulatory commitments.

Should you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Mr. Coley Chappell at (802) 451-3374.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct;  
executed on February 20, 2014.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Recchia", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

[CJW/JTM]

Attachment: Response to Request for Additional Information

cc: Mr. William M. Dean  
Regional Administrator, Region 1  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
2100 Renaissance Blvd., Suite 100  
King of Prussia, PA 19406-2713

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
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Rockville, MD 20852-2378

NRC Senior Resident Inspector  
Vermont Yankee

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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Rockville, MD 20852-2378

Mr. Christopher Recchia, Commissioner  
Vermont Department of Public service  
112 State Street, Drawer 20  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2601

## **Attachment**

Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station  
Response to Request for Additional Information

RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
REGARDING RELIEF FROM ORDER EA-13-109  
ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC.  
VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION  
DOCKET NO. 50-271

On November 22, 2013, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy), submitted an application (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML 13330A861) for rescission of and scheduler relief from Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Order EA-13-109, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Hardened Containment Vents Capable of Operation Under Severe Accident Conditions (Effective Immediately)." The NRC staff is reviewing the submittal and has the following question:

Question 1

Order EA-13-109 (ADAMS Accession No. ML 13130A067) requires that Vermont Yankee submit an overall integrated plan by June 30, 2014, that describes how compliance with the Phase 1 requirements of the Order will be achieved. Your letter dated November 22, 2013, requested that this schedule be modified such that the Vermont Yankee overall integrated plan would be submitted "...no later than startup from the first refueling outage that begins after June 30, 2014...." The justification for this request is that plans are in place for the permanent shutdown of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station in late 2014 and that the function of primary containment will cease once you submit the 10 CFR 50.82 certifications that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel and that the plant will not be permitted to restart.

While the NRC staff fully understands your intentions to permanently shut down the Vermont Yankee facility, the staff also understands that Entergy is under no legal obligation to shut down the facility and, furthermore, your application specifically states that resources will not be expended to perform the required analysis to prepare the overall integrated plan. The staff is concerned that if your current plans change and you decide to enter an extended shutdown period as opposed to submitting the 10 CFR 50.82 certifications, Vermont Yankee would not be prepared to meet the requirements of the Order on schedule. Therefore, the staff requests that you modify your request to state that the Vermont Yankee overall integrated plan will be submitted no later than startup from the first refueling outage that begins after June 30, 2014, or a fixed date, whichever is earlier.

Response:

Entergy modifies its request in Attachment 1 of the November 22, 2013 (Reference 1) application as follows: Entergy shall, no later than June 30, 2015 or startup from the first refueling outage that begins after June 30, 2014, whichever is earlier, submit to the Commission for review, an Overall Integrated Plan, including a description of how compliance with Phase 1 requirements described in Attachment 2 of the Order will be achieved.