

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Petition of Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC)
and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. for a Certificate)
of Public Good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248 and)
10 V.S.A. §6522 to construct a Second Independent)
Spent Fuel Storage Installation at the Vermont Yankee)
Nuclear Power Station)

Docket No. 8300

PREFILED TESTIMONY OF
ANTHONY R. LESHINSKIE

ON BEHALF OF THE
VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

August 19, 2015

Summary: Mr. Leshinskie's testimony presents the Department's position on several of the criteria set forth in 30 V.S.A. § 248 and 10 V.S.A § 6522.

Prefiled Testimony
of
Anthony R. Leshinskie

- 1 Q. Please state your name and occupation.
- 2 A. My name is Anthony R. Leshinskie and I am the State Nuclear Engineer and
3 Decommissioning Coordinator for the Vermont Public Service Department
4 (“Department” or “DPS”). By gubernatorial appointment, I am also Vermont’s primary
5 representative to the National Transportation Stakeholder’s Forum (NTSF). The NTSF
6 develops plans for transporting Spent Nuclear Fuel to proposed permanent and interim
7 national repositories for high-level radioactive waste (i.e., Spent Nuclear Fuel). My
8 business address is 112 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont.
9
- 10 Q. Please describe your educational background and experience.
- 11 A. I have a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nuclear Engineering from Penn State
12 University and over 27 years of experience working for nuclear fuel and engineering
13 services vendors. During that time, my primary job function was to evaluate reactor
14 response to off-normal, postulated accident and beyond design basis conditions and their
15 resulting impact on nuclear fuel integrity. My experience also extends to nuclear fuel
16 design, reactor core design, reactor instrumentation performance, and documentation
17 demonstrating compliance with NRC regulations and quality assurance standards. I’ve
18 held my current position with the State of Vermont since June 2014.
19
- 20 Q. Have you ever testified before the Vermont Public Service Board before?
- 21 A. This is my first testimony before the Vermont Public Service Board.
22
- 23 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?
- 24 A. The purpose of my testimony is to provide the DPS’s position on the following

1 criteria that are part of the Public Service Board's (PSB) review to determine whether to
2 grant a certificate of public good to Entergy Vermont Yankee, LLC and Entergy Nuclear
3 Operations, Inc. (collectively "Entergy VY" or Applicant"): Section 6522(b)(2) –
4 commitments to remove all spent fuel; and Section 6522(b)(3) – development and
5 implementation of a spent fuel management plan.
6

7 Q. Please address criterion 10 V.S.A. §6522(b)(2), which requires the Board to find that the
8 "applicant has made commitments to remove all spent fuel from Vermont to a federally
9 certified long-term storage facility in a timely manner, consistent with applicable federal
10 standards."

11 A. As Entergy VY notes in Mr. Twomey's prefiled testimony, Entergy has
12 committed, through Memorandums of Understanding filed in Dockets 6545 and 7082 to
13 removing spent nuclear fuel from the site.¹ The timeline for such removal is dependent
14 upon the federal government accepting waste, either to a permanent or an interim storage
15 facility, and the CPG at issue in this proceeding does not impact that timeline one way or
16 another, and thus does not lessen the commitments Entergy has made. In the absence of a
17 federal facility being available to accept VY's spent fuel, the Applicant's proposed action
18 supports its commitment to removing all spent nuclear fuel from Vermont in a timely
19 manner.
20

21 Q. Please address criterion 10 V.S.A. § 6522(b)(3), which requires the Board to find that the
22 "applicant has developed and will implement a spent fuel management plan that will
23 facilitate the eventual removal of those wastes in an efficient manner."

24 A. Vermont Yankee ceased power generation on December 29, 2014. VY certified
25 that all fuel was removed from the reactor vessel (and into the spent fuel pool) on January
26 12, 2015. Entergy VY states in Mr. Thomas' prefiled testimony that it intends to move all
27 of the fuel into dry-cask storage by the end of 2020. As noted above, the timeline for

¹ See Twomey pf. at 13; Docket 6545 MOU at ¶ 11, Docket 7082 MOU at ¶ 8.

1 “eventual removal” is dependent upon the federal government, and the CPG at issue in
2 this proceeding does not impact that timeline one way or another. In the absence of a
3 federal facility being available to accept VY’s spent fuel, the Applicant’s proposed action
4 support its commitment to removing the spent nuclear fuel from Vermont in an efficient
5 manner.

6

7 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

8 A. Yes.