



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
2100 RENAISSANCE BOULEVARD, SUITE 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-2713

January 30, 2018

Corey Daniels
Director, Nuclear Decommissioning
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
320 Governor Hunt Road
Vernon, VT 05354

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 05000271/2017004, ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC., VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, VERNON, VERMONT

Dear Mr. Daniels:

On December 31, 2017, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its quarterly inspection under Inspection Manual Chapter 2561, "Decommissioning Power Reactor Inspection Program," at the permanently shutdown Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VY). On-site inspections were performed on October 30, 2017 – November 1, 2017. In-office reviews of information supplied by Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. were also performed during the inspection period. The inspection examined activities conducted under your license as they relate to safety and compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations, and the conditions of your license. The inspection consisted of observations by the inspector, interviews with personnel, and a review of procedures and records. The results of the inspection were discussed with you and other members of the VY staff on January 8, 2018, and are described in the enclosed report. No findings of safety significance were identified.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response, will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be made available to the Public without redaction.

Current NRC regulations and guidance are included on the NRC's website at www.nrc.gov; select **Radioactive Waste; Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities**; then **Regulations, Guidance and Communications**. The current Enforcement Policy is included on the NRC's Website at www.nrc.gov; select **About NRC, Organizations & Functions; Office of Enforcement; Enforcement documents**; then **Enforcement Policy** (Under 'Related Information'). You may also obtain these documents by contacting the Government Printing Office (GPO) toll-free at 1-866-512-1800. The GPO is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays).

C. Daniels

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No reply to this letter is required. Please contact Steve Hammann at 610-337-5399 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Raymond J. Powell, Chief
Decommissioning, ISFSI, and Reactor Health
Physics Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket No. 05000271

License No. DPR-28

Enclosure: Inspection Report 05000271/2017004
w/Attachment

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

C. Daniels

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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I

INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection No. 05000271/2017004
Docket No. 05000271
License No. DPR-28
Licensee: Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy)
Facility: Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VY)
Location: Vernon, VT 05354
Inspection Dates: October 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017
Inspector: Stephen Hammann, Senior Health Physicist
Decommissioning, ISFSI, and Reactor Health Physics Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, Region I
Approved By: Raymond Powell, Chief
Decommissioning, ISFSI, and Reactor Health Physics Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, Region I

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
NRC Inspection Report No. 05000271/2017004

An announced quarterly inspection was completed at Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VY) on December 31, 2017. On-site inspections were conducted on October 30, 2017 – November 1, 2017. In-office reviews of information supplied by Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy) were also performed during the inspection period. The inspection included a review of design changes and modifications; and site corrective actions, self-assessments and audits. The inspection consisted of observations by the inspector, interviews with Entergy personnel, a review of procedures and records, and plant walk-downs. The NRC's program for overseeing the safe operation of a shutdown nuclear power reactor is described in Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 2561, "Decommissioning Power Reactor Inspection Program."

Based on the results of this inspection, no findings of safety significance were identified. Previously, on June 26, 2017, a violation was issued for failure to perform daily source checks of plant personnel contamination monitors. VY has completed all the required corrective actions and the violation is now closed.

REPORT DETAILS

1.0 Background

On January 12, 2015, VY certified the permanent removal of fuel from the reactor vessel [Agencywide Document and Access Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15013A426]. This met the requirements of 10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 50.82(a)(1)(i) and 50.82(a)(1)(ii). On January 20, 2015, the NRC notified VY that the Operating Reactor Assessment Program would cease on January 24, 2015, and that implementation of the Decommissioning Power Reactor Inspection Program would begin on January 25, 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15020A482). VY is currently in the SAFSTOR phase of decommissioning as described in IMC 2561.

2.0 SAFSTOR Performance and Status Review

a. Inspection Scope [Inspection Procedures (IPs) 37801, 40801]

The inspector performed an on-site inspection on October 30, 2017 – November 1, 2017. In-office reviews of information supplied by Entergy were also performed during the inspection period. The inspection consisted of observations by the inspector, interviews with Entergy personnel, a review of procedures and records, and plant walk-downs.

The inspector conducted document reviews and interviews with plant personnel to verify Entergy procedures and processes conformed to the regulations and guidance associated with 10 CFR 50.59 and that changes made by Entergy under 10 CFR 50.59 did not require prior NRC approval. The inspector also reviewed Entergy's applicability determination process that is used to determine if an evaluation is needed. The inspector reviewed the qualification and training for 10 CFR 50.59 evaluators and process applicability determination evaluators. The inspector reviewed meeting minutes for the last two Safety Review Committee meetings.

The inspector reviewed documents and interviewed VY personnel to verify Entergy management performed audits and self-assessments, and ensured issues were identified and corrected in accordance with the site's corrective action program (CAP). The inspector reviewed a representative selection of CAP documents to determine if a sufficiently low threshold for problem identification existed, follow-up evaluations were of sufficient quality, and Entergy assigned timely and appropriate prioritization for issue resolution commensurate with the significance of the issue. The inspector reviewed the site audits for the past year to verify audits were critical of site performance and corrective actions were initiated if necessary. The inspector also reviewed the project quality plan for the spent fuel loading and transfer project.

The inspector reviewed the corrective actions taken by VY associated with the violation issued June 26, 2017 for failure to perform daily source checks of plant personnel contamination monitors.

b. Observations and Findings

The inspector determined that 10 CFR 50.59 screenings and evaluations are being performed and that Entergy has trained and qualified individuals to perform the

evaluations. The inspector determined that changes under 10 CFR 50.59 did not require prior NRC approval and safety reviews were performed for design changes and modifications in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements, license conditions and the Final Safety Analysis Report.

The inspector determined that issues were being identified and entered into the CAP in a timely manner and the issues were effectively screened, prioritized and evaluated commensurate with their safety significance. The inspector verified audits were being performed by qualified individuals independent of the organization being audited and that management reviewed the audits and associated corrective actions. The inspector verified the Nuclear Independent Oversight organization continues to perform audits and surveillances of decommissioning activities.

c. Conclusions

Based on the results of this inspection, no findings of safety significance were identified. VY has completed all the required corrective actions for a previous violation for failure to perform daily source checks of plant personnel contamination monitors.

3.0 Exit Meeting Summary

On January 8, 2018, the inspector presented the inspection results, via teleconference, to Corey Daniels, Director, Nuclear Decommissioning, and other members of Entergy's staff. The inspector confirmed that proprietary information was not removed from the site.

PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

Licensee

H. Breite, Sr. Lead Engineer
M. Chamberlain, QA Specialist
C. Chappell, Manager - Design and Programs
C. Daniels, Director, Nuclear Decommissioning
J. Ewell, Senior HP Specialist
D. Giard, Specialist, CAA
J. Laughney, NIOS Supervisor
W. Lynch, Engineering
M. Pletcher, Radiation Protection and Chemistry Manager
S. Shippey, RP Shift Technician
T. Silko, Licensing

State of Vermont

A. Leshinskie, Engineer

ITEMS OPEN, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

None

LIST OF DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

Condition Reports

CR-VTY-2017-00023, 00035, 00050, 00175, 00788, 00910, 001045, 001058, 001262

Procedures and Programs

V-EN-LI-100, Rev. 20, Process Applicability Determination
V-EN-LI-101, Rev. 14, 10 CFR 50.59 Evaluations
V-EN-LI-102, Rev. 28, Corrective Action Program
V-EN-OM-119, Rev. 17, Independent Safety Review
V-EN-QV-100, Rev. 14, Conduct of Nuclear Independent Oversight at Vermont Yankee
V-EN-QV-102, Rev. 5, Quality Control Inspection Program
V-EN-QV-108, Rev. 11, QA Surveillances and Assessments
V-EN-QV-109, Rev. 33, Vermont Yankee Quality Assurance Audit Process
V-EN-QV-130, Rev. 16, Vermont Yankee Safety Review Committee
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, Rev. 5, Quality Assurance Program Manual

Miscellaneous

VY Nuclear Power Station, Biennial 10 CFR 50.59 Report
Vermont Yankee Apparent Cause Evaluation, CR-VTY-2017-00435
Quality Assurance Audit Reports QA-2-6-14-15-2017-VY-1, QA-12-18-3-2017-VY-1,
QA-13-2017-VY-1, QA-13-2017-VY-2
Project Quality Plan PQP-VTY-2016-001, 2nd ISFSI Pad & Related Modifications
Project Quality Plan PQP-VTY-2017-001, Spent Fuel Loading and Transfer
Vermont Yankee SRC Meeting, Member Exit Report, October 25, 2017
Vermont Yankee Safety Review Committee Meeting 2017-01 Minutes, dated June 26, 2017
Vermont Yankee Technical Requirements Manual, Rev. 60
Process Applicability Determination, Form 9.1, EC 54428

LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

ADAMS	Agencywide Document and Access Management System
CAP	Corrective Action Program
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
Entergy	Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
IMC	Inspection Manual Chapter
IP	Inspection Procedure
NRC	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
VY	Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station