

engineering design inspections, including an inspection to verify portions of the Licensee's design control process and maintenance of the Licensees's FSAR commitments. The results of the NRC design inspection conducted at Vermont Yankee were reported in Inspection Report 97-201 dated August 27, 1997.

With respect to CAN's conclusion that the Licensee needs to correct serious deficiencies in its design change control process and should undertake a historical review of its design control documentation to verify its accuracy, the NRC staff has taken action as noted in the discussion related to LER 96-20 with respect to identifying and correcting design change control process deficiencies. In the October 9, 1996 letter to all licensees, including Vermont Yankee, the NRC staff requested information to verify, among other things, the adequacy of the design change control process and to determine the rationale for concluding that design-basis requirements are properly translated into operating, maintenance, and testing procedures. As also noted in the discussion related to LER 96-20, the Licensee has undertaken a review of the fire protection design bases to search for the type of problems involved in LER 96-20, and believes that the current modification programs are adequate to prevent similar problems.

With respect to CAN's conclusion that the Licensee should perform a global evaluation to determine how many modifications have been inadequately tested since startup, as noted in the discussion related to LER 96-20, the Licensee has been required to provide verification of the design change control process, including among other things the rationale for concluding that design basis requirements are translated into testing procedures.

With respect to CAN's conclusion that the Licensee needs to initiate a thorough retraining program to review and emphasize the underlying safety purposes of TSs, the FSAR, design bases and NRC regulations in relation to routine operation of the Vermont Yankee facility, emergency preparedness, and practical implementation of the NRC's "defense in depth" philosophy, the NRC staff disagrees. In the discussion related to LER 96-22, the NRC staff addresses CAN's assertion that the Licensee misconstrues the purposes of TS LCO as part of a "chronic pattern of misunderstanding" of TS, FSAR design bases and NRC regulations. The NRC staff finds no basis to require such a retraining program.

Finally, CAN strongly recommends that the Licensee's Vermont Yankee staff receive training on the proper use of the "Single Failure Criterion." In the discussion related to LER 96-25, the NRC staff addresses what seems to be the basis for CAN's recommendation: i.e. the perception that the Licensee failed to properly apply the Single Failure Criterion in assessing the significance of a leaking isolation valve in LER 96-25. Compliance with Section 50.73 does not require that the assessment consider an additional single failure. The enforcement conference related to the minimum flow valves concerned a problem in implementation of the Single Failure Criterion; not a misunderstanding of the requirements of the Single Failure Criterion. Because the Licensee did not err in the instance described in LER 96-25 and the Petition provides no other instances in which problems were caused by a misunderstanding of the Single Failure Criterion, the NRC staff finds no basis for requiring additional training.

### III. Conclusion

The NRC staff has reviewed the information submitted by the Petitioner. The Petitioner's request is granted in that the NRC staff has evaluated the majority of issues and LERs raised in the Memoranda provided by the Petitioner to see if enforcement action is warranted based on the information contained therein. The NRC staff has discussed each Memorandum above and described any related enforcement action taken for those issues and LERs which are closed. The NRC will continue the same process and consideration for the LERs that remain open and documentation of any inspection and/or enforcement action will be consistent with agency practices and will also be the subject of a Final Director's Decision.

As provided in 10 CFR 2.206(c), a copy of this Decision will be filed with the Secretary of the Commission for the Commission's review. This Decision will become the final action of the Commission 25 days after issuance, unless the Commission, on its own motion, institutes review of the Decision in that time.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 8th day of October 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Original signed by  
Samuel J. Collins,

Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-213]

### Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company, Haddam Neck Plant; Notice of Meeting Regarding Post-Shutdown Decommission Activities Report

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) previously published a Notice of Receipt (62 FR 46783, dated September 4, 1997) of the Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report (PSDAR), dated August 22, 1997, for the Haddam Neck Plant (HNP) located in Middlesex County, Connecticut, Town of Haddam.

In that previous **Federal Register** Notice, the NRC stated that it would hold a public meeting in the vicinity of the Haddam Neck Plant within 60 days of that notice. The purpose of this informational meeting is to (1) describe the licensee's planned activities, (2) describe the regulatory process for decommissioning, (3) hear public comments regarding health and safety, and protection of the environment during decommissioning, and (4) provide an opportunity for State and local representatives to participate. The licensee, Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Co., will discuss their plans to decommission the Haddam Neck Plant. The NRC will discuss the PSDAR and the license termination process, and describe the program for future plant oversight. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the PSDAR and the meeting will be transcribed by a court reporter.

The meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 27, 1997 from 6:30 pm to 10:00 pm in the auditorium of the Haddam Killingsworth High School on Little City Road in Higganum, Connecticut.

The PSDAR is available for public inspection at the local public document room located in the Russell Library, 123 Broad Street, Middletown, CT 06457, and at the Commission Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20037.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of October 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Seymour H. Weiss,**

Director, Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning Project Directorate, Division of Reactor Program Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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