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YANKEE ROWE SHUTTING PLANT; NRC MEETING POSTPONED

Yankee Atomic Electric Company has informed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that it is voluntarily shutting down its nuclear power plant near Rowe, Massachusetts, pending further review of questions of embrittlement of the reactor vessel. They may not restart without Commission approval.

In view of this development, the Commission is postponing its meeting scheduled for October 2 to consider a recommendation from the NRC staff that, in view of uncertainties involving the reactor vessel, the plant should be shut down.

NRC Chairman Ivan Selin praised the action of Yankee Rowe in voluntarily shutting the plant down.

"They have acted very responsibly. We will continue to work with the utility in assessing this important matter," Chairman Selin said.

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