

DCS No.: 05000213041116
Date: November 16, 2004

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-04-14

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region I staff on this date.

Facility

Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company
Haddam Neck Plant
362 Injun Hollow Road
East Hampton, CT 06424-3099

Licensee Emergency Classification

☒ Notification of Unusual Event
☐ Alert
☐ Site Area Emergency
☐ General Emergency
☐ Not Applicable

Docket No.: 050-00213
License No.: DPR-61

SUBJECT: FIRE INSIDE CONTAINMENT STRUCTURE AT DECOMMISSIONING REACTOR SITE

At 7:13 a.m., on November 16, 2004, workers at the Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company's Haddam Neck Plant identified a smoldering fire inside the containment structure. The Control Room requested offsite firefighting assistance. The offsite fire responders responded to the scene, but were not needed to extinguish the fire. An onsite fire brigade responded and extinguished the fire by 9:25 a.m. There were no injuries to personnel. The licensee declared an Unusual Event at 9:27 a.m., and exited it at 10:16 a.m.

Workers had performed demolition activities using an oxygen-acetylene torch inside containment during the previous day. These activities had been completed at 3:45 p.m. on November 15, 2004, and the associated fire watch was completed at 4:15 p.m. The presence of smoke was identified, but was not considered unusual, as a result of the activities being performed. When workers entered containment the next morning to resume cutting, they detected the smell of smoke. The workers identified wood cribbing and other materials that had apparently ignited from the previous day's activities, although no visible flames were apparent.

The containment building is under negative pressure, and no release of radioactive materials occurred from this event. The fire did not threaten any of the spent fuel storage areas on the Haddam Neck site. A Region I Inspector and Branch Chief are on site for a routine inspection, and will be reviewing the licensee's initial corrective actions. There was local media interest in the event.

The licensee notified the State of Connecticut of this event.

The Region I Office of Public Affairs is prepared to respond to media inquiries.

The information is current as of 2:30 p.m., November 16, 2004.

Contact: Laurie Kauffman
610-337-5323

Mark Roberts
610-337-5094

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Licensee: _____
(Reactor Licensees)

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