

From: Neil Sheehan *RS*  
To: INTERNET: smalheer@sover.net; INTERNET: Susan.smallheer@rutlandherald.com  
Date: 6/9/04 5:28PM  
Subject: re: VY steam dryer cracking

Susan,

I tried calling your number but got no answer.

In any case, try as I might, I have not been able to find someone this afternoon who knows exactly how many cracks were found in the the steam dryer at Vermont Yankee. I might be able to do that tomorrow if you're still interested.

I can tell you this, though. The steam dryer does not perform a safety function. However, the NRC was concerned about the possibility that the one of the cracks could degrade to the point where a "loose part" would be generated that could impact the operation of safety-related equipment. Entergy repaired the cracks that were in external portions of the dryer. Then Entergy, with assistance from General Electric, analyzed the cracks that were not repaired and determined that the unrepaired cracks could not cause loose parts or impact dryer performance. NRC reviewed this analysis and did not identify any safety concerns for operation at the current power level. Our review of this issue will be documented in an upcoming inspection report. The NRC's review of Vermont Yankee's extended power uprate request will also review whether the steam dryer can support safe operation at the uprated power level.

Regards,  
Neil  
NRC Public Affairs  
(610) 337-5331

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**Subject:** re: VY steam dryer cracking  
**Creation Date:** 6/9/04 5:28PM  
**From:** Neil Sheehan

**Created By:** NAS@nrc.gov

Recipients	Action	Date & Time
Susan smallheer (INTERNET: Susan.smallheer@rutl	Transferred	06/09/04 05:28PM

sover.net smalheer (INTERNET: <u>smalheer@sover.net</u> )	Transferred	06/09/04 05:28PM
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Post Office	Delivered	Route
Susan		
sover.net	INTERNET: rutlandherald.com	INTERNET

Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	2086	06/09/04 05:28PM

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