

DCS No: 50271/850809
Date: 8/9/85

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-85-56

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:

Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp.
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station
Vernon, Vermont
Docket No. 50-271

Licensee Emergency Classification:
____ Notification of Unusual Event
____ Alert
____ Site Area Emergency
____ General Emergency
X Not Applicable

Subject: UNPLANNED RADIATION EXPOSURE

At 6:30 p.m., 8/8, an HP technician experienced an unplanned exposure by entering the traversing incore probe (TIP) room when the system probes were thought to be secured in their designated housing shields. The general radiation level was measured to be about 300 Rem/hr with the highest reading being about 1,000 Rem/hr. Apparently the radiation source was the attaching cable to the TIP probe (activated while stuck in-core and only withdrawn manually about 2 hours before the technician entry). TLD reading later indicated the HP technician received a dose of 1.29 Rem; extremity exposures are uncertain since he was not wearing extremity dosimetry.

An auxiliary operator accompanying the HP technician apparently did not actually enter the room and received a lower dose (pocket dosimeter reading was 270 mR).

Initial indications are that this unplanned exposure was apparently because of technician inexperience and training inadequacies. Region I is monitoring licensee followup actions. A BWR Radiological Protection Section Chief and a Senior Resident Inspector have been dispatched to the site. The licensee will not re-enter the TIP room until that evolution is thoroughly planned.

The State of Vermont has been notified.

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488-1327

E. McCabe
488-1231

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Licensee: _____
(Reactor Licensees)

Region I Form 83
(Rev. July, 1984)

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