

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I

Report No. 50-271/85-37

Docket No. 50-271

License No. DPR-28

Licensee: Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation
RD 5, Box 169
Ferry Road
Brattleboro, Vermont 05301

Facility Name: Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station

Type of Meeting: Enforcement Conference

Meeting At: NRC Region I, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania

Meeting Date: October 21, 1985

Prepared By:

G. C. Smith, Safeguards Specialist

11/25/85
date

Approved by:

R. R. Keimig, Chief, Safeguards Section
Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguard Branch

11-25-85
date

Meeting Summary: An Enforcement Conference was held at NRC Region I, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, on October 21, 1985 to discuss the findings of Special Inspection No. 50-271/85-31. That inspection was conducted to review the undetected entry of an unauthorized individual into the site protected area. During that inspection, an additional violation was identified which involved the lack of compensatory measures for an inoperative zone of the protected area perimeter alarm system. The meeting was attended by NRC and licensee management and lasted about two hours, during which the circumstances surrounding the event and the licensee's proposed corrective actions were discussed.

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DETAILS

1. Meeting Attendees

a. Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation

W. Murphy, Vice President and Manager of Operations
J. Pelletier, Plant Manager
R. Milligan, Administrative Supervisor
J. Babbitt, Security Supervisor

b. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

T. Murley, Regional Administrator
J. Allan, Deputy Regional Administrator
T. Martin, Director, Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards
R. Starostecki, Director, Division of Reactor Projects
J. Joyner, Chief, Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards Branch
E. Wenzinger, Chief, Projects Branch 3
W. Kushner, Acting Chief, Safeguards Section
L. Tripp, Chief, Projects Section 3A
J. Gutierrez, Regional Counsel
D. Holody, Enforcement Specialist
G. Smith, Safeguards Specialist
C. Tavares, Physical Security Inspector

2. Summary of Discussion

Dr. Murley opened the meeting. Attendees were introduced. Mr. Martin described the purpose of the enforcement conference. Mr. Smith then summarized the findings of the special inspection he conducted into the undetected entry of an unauthorized individual into the site protected area through the warehouse vehicle gate. Mr. Smith also addressed his discovery of a blind spot in the CCTV coverage of the protected area perimeter that existed under certain conditions. No compensatory measures had been implemented for the deficient coverage. (Those findings are documented in NRC Region I Inspection Report No. 50-271/85-31.)

Mr. Martin then expressed Region I's concern relative to the two violations of NRC requirements. He specifically noted that the numerous activities taking place at the warehouse vehicle gate, which apparently interfered with the ability of the guard at the gate to detect the unauthorized entry, had been observed by members of the licensee's and the contractor's security management, but that no action was initiated to obtain assistance for the guard. He also questioned the awareness of security management and alarm station operators who had not noticed the blind spot in the CCTV coverage of the protected area perimeter. Mr. Starostecki stated that there did not appear to be adequate management attention to or oversight of the security program or adequate awareness on the part of security personnel to identify and report weaknesses.

Mr. Murphy stated that he shared the NRC's concerns about implementation of the security program and requested Mr. Milligan to discuss the corrective actions which had been committed to during the exit interview on September 26, 1985, at the conclusion of the special inspection. Mr. Milligan stated that all of the corrective actions have been implemented and that a procedure had been developed outlining the guard's duties at the warehouse vehicle gate. Mr. Pelletier then identified additional actions being initiated to reinforce the program. These actions included the establishment of a task force to review the security program, to identify problems and to propose corrective actions, and the planned installation of an additional CCTV camera to cover the blind spot in the protected area perimeter. Mr. Pelletier added that the task force would consist of seven contract and three licensee personnel from the existing security organization.

Mr. Martin questioned the makeup of the task force and Mr. Joyner suggested that the task force be augmented with outside independent assistance. Mr. Martin also questioned the procedure that was developed to address the guard's duties at the warehouse gate and whether it was detailed enough to provide adequate guidance to personnel at that post.

Mr. Pelletier stated that the makeup of the task force would be reconsidered to determine if independent assistance was necessary. Mr. Milligan stated that the warehouse vehicle gate post procedure would be reviewed to determine if the detail in the procedure was adequate to provide necessary guidance to security officers.

Conclusion of Meeting

Dr. Murley concluded the meeting by stating that the Region I staff would evaluate the licensee's corrective action and that a decision regarding the appropriate enforcement action would be forthcoming.