

Maine Yankee

RELIABLE ELECTRICITY SINCE 1972

329 BATH ROAD • BRUNSWICK, MAINE 04011 • (207) 798-4100

April 14, 1997

MN-97-55 JRH-97-84

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Attention: Document Control Desk

Washington, D. C. 20555

Reference: (a) License No. DPR-36 (Docket No. 50-309)

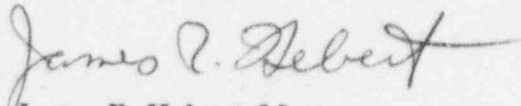
Subject: Maine Yankee Licensee Event Report 97-007, No Radiation Protection
Technician On Site for Greater than Two Hours

Gentlemen:

Please find enclosed Maine Yankee Licensee Event Report 97-007. This report is submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i).

Please contact us should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,



James R. Hebert, Manager
Licensing & Engineering Support Department

mwf

Enclosure

c: Mr. Hubert Miller
Mr. J. T. Yerokun
Mr. D. H. Dorman
Mr. Patrick J. Dostie
Mr. Uldis Vanags

IE221

9704210013 970414
PDR ADOCK 05000309
S PDR



LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

(See reverse for required number of
digits/characters for each block)ESTIMATED BURDEN PER RESPONSE TO COMPLY WITH THIS
MANDATORY INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST: 50.0 HRS.
REPORTED LESSONS LEARNED ARE INCORPORATED INTO THE
LICENSING PROCESS AND FED BACK TO INDUSTRY. FORWARD
COMMENTS REGARDING BURDEN ESTIMATE TO THE INFORMATION
AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (T-6 F33), U.S. NUCLEAR
REGULATORY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, DC 20555-0001, AND
TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION PROJECT (3150-0104), OFFICE OF

FACILITY NAME (1)

Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company

DOCKET NUMBER (2)

50-309

PAGE (3)

1 OF 2

TITLE (4)

No Radiation Protection Technician On Site for greater than two hours.

EVENT DATE (5)			LER NUMBER (6)			REPORT DATE (7)			OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED (8)	
MONTH	DAY	YEAR	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER
03	13	97	97	-- 007 --	00	04	14	97	FACILITY NAME	DOCKET NUMBER
OPERATING MODE (9)		01	THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR 8: (Check one or more) (11)							
POWER LEVEL (10)		00	20.2201(b)		20.2203(a)(2)(v)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		50.73(a)(2)(i)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)
			20.2203(a)(1)		20.2203(a)(3)(i)				50.73(a)(2)(ii)	50.73(a)(2)(x)
			20.2203(a)(2)(i)		20.2203(a)(3)(ii)				50.73(a)(2)(iii)	73.71
			20.2203(a)(2)(iii)		20.2203(a)(4)				50.73(a)(2)(iv)	OTHER
			20.2203(a)(2)(iii)		50.36(c)(1)				50.73(a)(2)(v)	Specify in Abstract below or in NRC Form 366A
			20.2203(a)(2)(iv)		50.36(c)(2)				50.73(a)(2)(vii)	

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)

NAME

Danny P. McDougald, Shift Technical Advisor

TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)

(207)882-6321

COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)

CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NPRDS	CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NPRDS

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)

YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)	MONTH	DAY	YEAR
---	--	-------------------------------	-------	-----	------

ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately 15 single-spaced typewritten lines) (16)

On March 13, 1997, at 0230, with the plant in the refueling shutdown mode, the only Maine Yankee (MY) individual qualified in radiation protection (RP) procedures, left the site due to illness. The Technical Specifications requires one qualified RP technician on site with fuel in the reactor. Allowance is made for accomodating unexpected absence, such as this illness, provided immediate action is taken to restore the staffing position within two hours. The RP supervisor was aware that the MY RP technician had left the site and that the technical specification requirement must be met. The RP supervisor was unaware that the other MY RP technicians were not qualified, was engaged in other activities requiring immediate attention, and did not assess the situation completely. This requirement is stated in the MY RP administrative procedure. The next shift arrived at 0530 with a qualified MY RP technician on site.

The corrective actions were: (1) Performed a formal root cause evaluation, (2) Reviewed previous work schedules since January 1, 1997 to assure that no other similar event had occurred, (3) Identify the qualified MY RP technician on the weekly schedule and in the logbook, and (4) Reinforce training on procedural adherence and the technical specification requirements.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)
TEXT CONTINUATION

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)
		YEA	SEQUENTIAL	REVISI	
Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company	50-309	97	-- 007	-- 00	2 OF 2

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional copies of NRC Form 366A) (17)

INITIAL PLANT CONDITIONS:

On March 13, 1997, the plant was in the refueling shutdown mode.

EVENT DESCRIPTION:

On March 13, 1997, at 0230, the only Maine Yankee (MY) individual qualified in radiation protection (RP) procedures, left the site due to illness. The Technical Specification requires one qualified MY RP technician on site with fuel in the reactor. Allowance is made for accomodating unexpected absence, such as this illness, provided immediate action is taken to restore the staffing position within two hours. The RP supervisor was aware that the MY RP technician had left the site and that the technical specification must be met. The RP supervisor was unaware that the other MY RP technicians were not qualified, was engaged in other activities requiring immediate attention, and did not assess the situation completely. This requirement is also stated in the MY RP administrative procedure. There were other MY RP technicians on site but were not qualified. These technicians had previously been contractors and were recently hired by MY. They were qualified to perform as senior RP technicians but were not trained to MY procedures which involved knowing the Emergency Plan (EP). The next shift arrived at 0530 with a qualified MY RP technician on site.

SAFETY SIGNIFICANCE:

The qualified MY RP technician is required to be on site to assist in the EP, which could occur during refueling for a loss of reactor vessel water level, loss of reactor core energy removal, or a refueling accident. The RP technician would participate in local dose readings to ensure the Radiation Monitoring System (RMS) was reading correctly, if an alarm was present. The control room operators could make the necessary dose projections for radiological releases, if the attendant instrumentation was operable. The safety significance of impacting the operators, by not having a qualified MY RP technician, is considerably less with the plant shut down.

CASUAL FACTORS:

This personnel error was a cognitive error. The RP Supervisor was preoccupied with ongoing work activities being attended by other MY RP technicians that were not qualified to MY procedures. Neither the qualified MY RP technician nor the RP supervisor informed the Plant Shift Superintendent, who is ultimately responsible for calling personnel to the site to meet staffing requirements. The qualified MY RP technician was not clearly identified on the weekly schedule nor did the other technicians know they were not qualified for all RP duties.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

- (1) Performed a formal root cause evaluation.
- (2) Reviewed previous work schedules since January 1, 1997 to assure that no other similar event had occurred. None was identified.
- (3) Identify the qualified MY RP technician on the weekly schedule and in the logbook.
- (4) Reinforce training on procedural adherence and the technical specification requirements.

PREVIOUS SIMILAR EVENTS:

LER 82-014, Shift Technical Advisor not on station.