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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRC STAFF TO CONDUCT SPECIAL SECURITY INSPECTIONS
AT THREE NORTHEASTERN NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will conduct special security inspections next week at three nuclear power plants in the northeastern United States where Carl Drega--who killed four people in New Hampshire before being killed in a police shootout this week--worked at various times during the past five years.

Inspections, which will begin Tuesday, will take place at the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant in Vernon, Vt.; at Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station in Plymouth, Mass.; and at Indian Point Unit 3 in Buchanan, N.Y. NRC has been informed that Drega was employed on occasion by contractors at all three sites.

The NRC inspectors will review the provisions of the licensees' physical security plans and their implementation. The inspection team will consist of staff members from the NRC Region I office in King of Prussia, Pa., and from NRC headquarters in Rockville, Md. It will include a representative from the Region I Office of Investigations group. An inspector from the State of Vermont will accompany the NRC staff members at the Vermont Yankee plant.

Inspections will examine both plant-specific and industry-wide implications of the process used to grant unescorted access to workers at nuclear power plants.

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