

RAS 2841

50-423-LA-3

Official Transcript of Proceedings

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Title: Connecticut Nuclear Energy Advisory Committee Subcommittee Meeting on Decommissioning: Millstone Proceeding

Docket Number: ASLBP 00-771-01-LA

Location: (not provided)

Date: Thursday, January 4, 2001

Work Order No.: NRC-096 Pages 1-89

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T-1001-10 = SECY-032

SECY-02

1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

3 + + + + +

4 CONNECTICUT NUCLEAR ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

5 SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING ON DECOMMISSIONING

6 (MIDAC)

7 + + + + +

8 MILLSTONE PROCEEDING

9 ASLBP Docket No.

10 00-771-01-LA

11 + + + + +

12 THURSDAY

13 JANUARY 4, 2001

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1	I-N-D-E-X	
2	Opening Remarks	3
3	Presentation of Decommissioning of Unit 1,	
4	Brian Ford	4
5	Questions and Answers	9
6	Approval of Minutes of December 7, 2000	
7	Meeting	68
8	Old Business	68
9	Adjourn	89
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think I'm going
3 to call this meeting to order. We have enough people
4 here right now and I think I'm going to call the
5 meeting to order.

6 I'm sorry for the seating arrangements.
7 I hope everybody has a good pair of legs. We didn't
8 quite -- this is where MIDAC usually meets anyway, so
9 we did make an effort to try to get a little larger
10 room, but that is in use tonight. We do appreciate
11 everything that (Inaudible) does provide it and it is
12 this room tonight.

13 What I am going to do is I'm going to skip
14 the minutes of our December 7th meeting for the
15 moment. We'll take care of that during our business
16 portion of our meeting and I'd like to get just right
17 to our decommissioning update and as well as our
18 presentation for this meeting on the Unit 1 spent fuel
19 rods.

20 Now I realize that not everybody does have
21 an agenda and I didn't bring enough for everybody.
22 However, that will be the agenda for this evening. We
23 will be discussing the decommissioning updates as well
24 as the Unit 1 spent fuel rods, after which we will go
25 right into our business meeting for MIDAC.

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1 So without further ado, I'd like to
2 introduce Brian Ford who is the Director of the
3 decommissioning for Unit 1 and Brian will be providing
4 us with the updates of the decommissioning as well as
5 any regulatory (Inaudible).

6 And again, I'm sorry (Inaudible). We have
7 a couple of extra chairs.

8 MR. FORD: Good evening. As Pearl said we
9 have basically three topics for tonight or two topics,
10 an update on the unit decommissioning projects and a
11 discussion of the fuel pins.

12 There's two main topics I'd like to talk
13 about tonight, one the unit separation projects. As
14 we've discussed, those are the projects that are
15 basically removing the reliance of the operating units
16 from the decommissioning units. Since we met the last
17 time we completed several of the projects. In
18 December, we completed five of them. We have five
19 more scheduled for completion in January with six
20 remaining to be completed before April of this year.

21 The main item of interest in this that is
22 also our regulatory update is that the NRC approval
23 that was needed to implement the 4160 design change
24 was received. That work is on-going currently and
25 should be completed in the next week and a half or so.

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1 Unless there's some questions as we go, I
2 wasn't going to go into the details of the projects at
3 this time.

4 On the decommissioning projects, the new
5 spent fuel pool cooling system work is on-going and
6 the new system should be placed in service in the next
7 couple of weeks. The work is going fine. We've also
8 got work on the building ventilation systems on-going
9 as you all saw in -- two were last time. We have the
10 two systems. The first system, the one that supports
11 the spent fuel pool area itself is being tested and
12 finished powering up -- powered up over these weeks.
13 It should also be started up this month.

14 The ventilation system for the balance of
15 the unit work is on-going and it should be started up
16 in March. It's one of the last systems that will be
17 turn on as we go forward.

18 The other item is the miscellaneous
19 electric work. Basically, the work to power up all of
20 the equipment throughout the plant that we -- lights,
21 security lighting, that kind of thing, that work is
22 on-going, on schedule and we don't see any problems.

23 So the overall summary here is that we
24 expect to meet the goal of having the unit at cold and
25 dark and in our long term stable condition by April of

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1 this year.

2 With that I wanted to give an update on or
3 have a discussion on the fuel rods accountability
4 issue. As we discussed in the last Committee meeting,
5 Millstone Unit 1 has been performing a reconciliation
6 and verification of the spent fuel pool records. This
7 reconciliation verification effort is part of the on-
8 going Unit 1 decommissioning.

9 As I'm sure you all have read in the
10 newspapers, we did find during this effort that the
11 location of two of the full length irradiated fuel
12 rods is not properly tracked in the records that we
13 have and at the time of our last Committee meeting, we
14 were in the initial discovery phase and we were
15 confident we were going to solve this in the next week
16 or so. Obviously, that hasn't occurred.

17 The two irradiated fuel pins which are the
18 focus of this issue is from a fuel assembly that was
19 disassembled in 1972 to do some inspections on the
20 internals of the assembly. When the assembly was put
21 back together again, these two fuel rods were
22 displaced during assembly. And that was done in 1974.

23 In 1979, and in early 1980, we have
24 documentation that indicates that these two rods were
25 physically verified to be in a special canister in the

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1 spent fuel pool and I think the newspaper said the
2 northwest corner of the spent fuel pool.

3 The rods from the canister are no longer
4 in that location in the pool and we have not been able
5 to find any records to date which tell us where they
6 moved to. So in summary, that's the problem. We have
7 some records that says where they were in 1980 and
8 they're not in that location today.

9 We've put together an investigation team
10 to try to find where they are currently located and
11 determine the root cause of why we have this
12 documentation issue now. And basically, the team is
13 doing two parallel efforts to identify the location of
14 the fuel rods. The first effort is an on-going
15 investigation in the spent fuel pool. We have some
16 outside experts who are in --

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

18 MR. FORD: Sorry about that. I'll move
19 back -- have you all heard much of what I've said?

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Not too much.

21 MR. FORD: I'll back up a little bit.
22 We've established an investigation team to determine
23 where the fuel rods are and the root cause of the
24 issue. The investigation team is going down two
25 parallel paths for determining the location of the

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1 pins. The first effort is an on-going investigation
2 in this spent fuel pool itself. We brought in some
3 outside experts to help us do the investigation in the
4 pool. The other effort is a comprehensive records
5 review of all the potentially pertinent records going
6 back over the last 20 years. Retrieval or review of
7 these records is on-going. This effort is going to
8 take some time because the effort when you try to
9 encompass the retrieval and review of these records is
10 potentially hundreds of thousands of pages of
11 documents for the scope of what we're looking at.

12 We have looked at the possibility that the
13 fuel rods are no longer in the pool and determined
14 that the radiation levels associated with the fuel
15 rods would have precluded their removal from the pool
16 in anything other than a shielded transport cask and
17 that kind of cask would have been shipped to a
18 licensed facility that accepts radioactive material.

19 Although we've evaluated that possibility,
20 I do want to stress we found no documentation that
21 indicates that the fuel rods were removed from the
22 pool and therefore we feel it's very likely that
23 they're still stored in the pool and as previously
24 discussed, we're still looking for them in there.

25 We do feel confident though that due to

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1 controls in place, both at Millstone and at the
2 facilities were a cask shipment would have went to,
3 that because of the controls there, there's no undue
4 risk to the health and safety of the public or plant
5 and license facility workers.

6 That's kind of an overview of the subject.

7 The next part of this was a question and
8 answer time and I'd also like to introduce -- I lost
9 track of him in the crowd moving around, Larry Temple,
10 who's the General Manager at Unit 1 and Frank Rothman
11 who's the Officer responsibility for Unit 1
12 decommissioning and with that I'm open to questions.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: First of all, you
14 said that there are two paths. That one team is
15 taking two paths or do we actually have two teams
16 working on this?

17 MR. FORD: We have one large team and we
18 have different people from the team working on
19 different aspects of it.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

21 MR. FORD: Is that it came down to.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I can help clarify
23 that.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We have hired

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1 individuals from outside the company (Inaudible) and
2 he has been on site already. He's going to start full
3 time (Inaudible).

4 His responsibility will be project manager
5 of the (Inaudible) and working under him will be two
6 teams. One is a group of people from General Electric
7 that will be performing the in-pool inspection with
8 supervision from the Unit 1 operations staff. And
9 their job will be to go through and physically look
10 for the location of these pins in the spent fuel pool.

11 The second group of individuals, we have
12 12 people working on that right now. We'll be going
13 through a record search and it's quite voluminous,
14 everything from the operator shift logs right down to
15 nuclear records on the plant and that's on-going right
16 now.

17 What we had to do initially was to develop
18 a plan that was acceptable so it was a (Inaudible)
19 plan that was very disciplined, so we needed to
20 document (Inaudible) to end.

21 To that end, we brought in a group of
22 specialists, industry specialists that had a great
23 deal of experience in spent fuel pool management and
24 (Inaudible), independent consulting-type people who
25 are reviewing the process that we're using and the

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1 methodology that we're using (Inaudible).

2 We are touching every base. So basically,
3 from the time it was discovery until we put the team
4 together, and the fact that it led up to the holidays,
5 it took us -- we didn't get General Electric's crew in
6 here until Sunday evening. They're going through a
7 training process to (Inaudible) and they'll be ready
8 to start moving fuel on Saturday, the first shift on
9 Saturday. The records group has already started doing
10 their initial reviews and I'll be quite candid with
11 you. If we're lucky, we'll find it sooner. If you
12 have to go through that entire process, you can be
13 looking at (Inaudible) to be able to go through the
14 entire pool and go through those records and
15 everything else. It's a matter of how soon you find,
16 just going through this process and looking for it.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, and I think
18 you said G.E. is involved and why are they involved in
19 it?

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The reason we
21 contracted with General Electric is because of the
22 number of certified fuel (Inaudible) we have on staff.
23 For an effort of this size, looking at a considerable
24 work activity. If we're going to move two or three
25 bundles, handle ones like that, we have people on

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1 staff that can do it. But for this type of
2 (Inaudible), it just was the minimum resources we had
3 on site would take a lot longer and General Electric,
4 it is their design plant and they have experts that's
5 all they do is handle managed fuel and refuel. So we
6 called them and contacted them to see if they had
7 anyone available to bring in and they did and we're
8 pleased they were able to do that. That should
9 expedite this somewhat by having professionals who
10 that's basically what their job is.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So G.E. is going to
12 be strictly confined to the pool?

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Working inside the
14 spent fuel pool.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Spent fuel pool.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And they'll be
17 working under (Inaudible).

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's their
20 responsibility as a licensee (Inaudible).

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Could you give us
23 a little bit of a description of what looking into the
24 pool entails in terms of moving rods, where you are
25 putting them and so on?

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Go ahead, Brian.

2
3 MR. FORD: The first goal of the effort is
4 basically moving some -- a fair number of assemblies
5 and getting a camera down into the area so that we can
6 see whether or not anything is blocked by the view of
7 the assembly and in most cases after you've done that
just putting the assembly back in the location.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So you'll be
9 shifting stuff around in the pool and taking pictures?

10 MR. FORD: We will be doing some shifting
11 around. For the most case we'll pick it up, move it
12 out of the way and look down in there and put it back
13 into place.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, thank you.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Brian, just a point
16 of clarification. These pins are obviously separated
17 from the assemblies. They're 12 foot long, half inch
18 diameter. Are these the only two pins that are
19 separate or do you have dozens or hundreds or is it
20 just these two, do you know?

21 MR. FORD: We do have some pins that we
22 verified are in another container in the pool. So
23 when -- one of the places that we've already went and
24 looked was another container in the pool that was
25 designed to hold individual pins and the pins that the

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1 document said would be in there were in there and no
2 others.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So how many other
4 individual pins about?

5 MR. FORD: It was not many. It was on the
6 order of 7 or 9. It was just a (Inaudible).

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There's not a whole
8 lot of free pins in the pool, so if you --

9 MR. FORD: There's not a lot of them.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

11 (Laughter.)

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do they need
13 special containers, Brian? Are all the pins in
14 special containers?

15 MR. FORD: In general, they -- like even
16 these were put in a special container for holding pins
17 and that was what was documented back in 1979 and
18 1980. And so you wouldn't just take a pin and put it
19 by itself normally. And that's why we're
20 investigating all this is because we can't find the
21 container and we can't find the pins, so we're looking
22 at where else they could have been put in the pool,
23 outside of the container.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are we looking for
25 an entire container? We're not looking for an entire

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1 container?

2 MR. FORD: We've done an investigation
3 looking for the container and we didn't see it.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Why would you take
5 them apart in the first place?

6 MR. FORD: The assembly?

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

8 MR. FORD: Okay, that was done back in
9 1972 because they were trying to look at the effects
10 of some chloride that had gotten into the vessel at
11 that time to see whether it had an effect upon the
12 (Inaudible) and so General Electric and utilities were
13 trying to improve fuel performance and so this
14 assembly was taken apart so that G.E. could test some
15 of the pieces.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Could you give us
17 an idea of how you -- I don't know this personally.
18 How did you discover that they weren't there? And how
19 do you discover something is not there?

20 MR. FORD: As we were doing this records
21 validation and verification, he was going back through
22 all of the records associated with the pool and he
23 found one record that talked about these pins being in
24 the corner and so from there he went and looked and he
25 started pulling more records.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So he had a
2 location where they were supposed to be?

3 MR. FORD: Yes, back in 1979 and 1980, the
4 records show a location.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Now where I am, how
7 many times do you -- was there any account of what is
8 actually in the pool? Is it just an accounting once
9 every five years, ten years or when they sell the
10 plant or I mean, I'm not sure how that would work.

11 MR. FORD: We do do an inventory of our
12 special notes of material and it's just the way the
13 inventory is performed. Once the records become an
14 error, then it wasn't easy for somebody to pick up the
15 issue.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It wouldn't have
17 been easy for someone to pick that up?

18 MR. FORD: No. This issue, once the error
19 had been introduced was just difficult for the person,
20 for the people to catch and when we were doing this
21 in-depth review, we identified.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Then the inventory
23 that is for the purpose of doing what? If they had an
24 inventory back in 1980, correct, and that would be for
25 the purpose of?

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1 MR. FORD: We're required to provide an
2 update on here's the amount of special notes of
3 material we have on site.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

5 MR. FORD: And we provide that on a
6 periodic basis.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Periodic. Okay.

8 MR. FORD: Yes.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And so that's
10 normally done how often would you say?

11 MR. FORD: I want to say semi-annually.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Semi-annually?

13 MR. FORD: Yes.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Obviously, it's
15 alarming that there's unaccounted for radioactive
16 material.

17 Are you willing to speculate, able to
18 speculate how this can happen, how often are things
19 moved around in the pool?

20 MR. FORD: Right now we can't speculate on
21 how it occurred. We're still in the middle of our
22 investigation and we just don't want to speculate on
23 how it occurred yet until we have more facts.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is there a diagram
25 that we can see that kind of shows the configuration

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1 of how the material is stored in the pool?

2 MR. FORD: We have a map, but it's very
3 big. I don't know whether you came on the tour?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

5 MR. FORD: Basically, you have the pool of
6 water and in there you have racks where the individual
7 assemblies are set in the rack and that's basically
8 it. It just is a square of the assembly (Inaudible).

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm sorry
10 (Inaudible).

11 MR. FORD: Basically, they're stored in
12 dual locations inside the racks in the pool. We
13 currently have 2,884 fuel assemblies stored in those
14 racks and the pins that we're looking for are
15 components of a fuel assembly. So a fuel assembly for
16 the type of fuel that was -- the early type of fuel
17 that's in there would have 49 of these fuel pins in
18 each assembly.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All right. As far
20 as shipping off-site and what I read in the paper and
21 correct me if I'm wrong, these things would have read
22 about 1000R per hour, thereabouts (Inaudible). Is it
23 conceivable that any facility, whether it be Barnwell
24 or Hanford is allowed to take something of that
25 activity level?

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1 MR. FORD: Yes.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And have your
3 shipped items of comparable activity-wise to those?

4 MR. FORD: Yes.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So you do have
6 records of everything that was shipped to either
7 Barnwell, to G.E. Morris or Hanford?

8 MR. FORD: That's one of the things that
9 we're trying to pull all the historical records to
10 look at.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. So it should
12 be -- you should be able to determine whether they
13 were, in fact, shipped, because you're going to have
14 records of so many curies shipped or something like
15 that?

16 MR. FORD: We're going through all of that
17 --

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I know. My
19 question is (Inaudible).

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are there any other
21 -- sorry.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Could you give us
23 an idea of the size of the canister the two rods were
24 stored in? Was this something that holds both rods
25 and there are only two in this particular canister?

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1 MR. FORD: Yes sir. It was about a 4 inch
2 by 4 inch canister, 12 feet long and it was made for
3 holding fuel pins and in there, these two were placed
4 in it. I don't remember the exact number, but I think
5 it would hold like six is what it was designed to hold
6 up to. It was four inches by four inches by 12 foot.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That canister
8 couldn't have been shipped by itself. I mean it would
9 have to go into another canister or transportation?

10 MR. FORD: With these fuel pins in it, it
11 would have had to have gone into a shielded cask.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How much radiation
14 are we talking with a fuel rod, these two fuel rods.

15 MR. FORD: As Paul was saying, these fuels
16 would have been reading very high, around 1000R, so it
17 would not -- it would have been picked up by the
18 radiation monitors if it had been pulled out in
19 anything but a shielded cask.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can we ask
21 questions (Inaudible)?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm going to wait
23 until we have all the questions from MIDAC first and
24 then we will certainly get to the public. I don't
25 know if anybody else had any other questions.

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1 Okay. (Inaudible) before we get to the
2 public questions or comments?

3 (Pause.)

4 We will now start questions from the
5 public. Yes?

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can you tell us if
7 (Inaudible) is licensed to remove spent fuel from the
8 (Inaudible)?

9 MR. FORD: It is. You can ship spent fuel
10 to another facility that's licensed to have spent
11 fuel, yes.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Would you say
13 (Inaudible)?

14 MR. FORD: Not to take spent nuclear fuel,
15 no. But there is other places where you can ship
16 spent fuel to.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What other place
18 could you (Inaudible)?

19 MR. FORD: Morris, Pennsylvania. In years
20 past, there was going to be a reconstitution facility
21 built there and they accepted fuel from many utilities
22 to reprocess the fuel.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Morris, Illinois.

24 MR. FORD: Sorry, Morris, Illinois, wrong
25 State.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do we have any
2 others?

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Why do we have to
4 wait for the government to (Inaudible)?

5 MR. FORD: It's not designated for
6 permanent repositories and interim storage location.
7 When it was being -- when fuel was being transferred
8 there, they were planning to reprocess it back into
9 nuclear fuel. This was in the 1970s.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't know the
11 exact dates, but the reprocessing of spent fuel was
12 shut off during Jimmy Carter's Administration.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 1978.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 1978. So prior to
15 1978, they were sending spent fuel to the facilities
16 with the understanding that they would be
17 reconstituted at a later time, when is the process
18 they currently use in Europe right now, but during the
19 Carter Administration they stop processing these fuels
20 and were just storing -- in other words (Inaudible)
21 and reuse them.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) methods
23 that you say you do use (Inaudible).

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's not true.
25 (Inaudible). It's just a tremendous volume over a 20-

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1 year period of time. You're talking hundreds of
2 thousands of --

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, but you're
4 (Inaudible).

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And we're not at
6 all pleased that it happened.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Either are we.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)
9 mentioned 1000 rems per hour. Would that be within
10 the site, outside the shielded canister, so outside
11 (Inaudible).

12 MR. FORD: I don't know the numbers, but
13 there's limits for the dose readings for these
14 transport casks and I just don't know what that number
15 is. It's certainly low.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible).

17 MR. FORD: It's fairly. I just don't
18 remember what the numbers are. There's some
19 transportation limits in the Code of Federal
20 Regulations that we have to --

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 200 millirems per
22 hour for the dry cask ones (Inaudible) these dry cask
23 ones that you're mentioning --

24 MR. FORD: I really don't know.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Does anybody here

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1 have a guess?

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, (Inaudible).

3 Excuse me, the (Inaudible) for contact of a container
4 is what's called a sole use vehicle is 1R per hour,
5 but generally, it's 200 millirem per hour and 10 MR
6 (Inaudible).

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's for material
9 being shipped. I'm not saying (Inaudible).

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If it's going to be
12 shipped that would have been in the requirements that
13 they would have had to meet.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Nobody would even
15 think it was shipped at all or nobody hoped it was
16 shipped at all. How is it that you are not following
17 regulations for shipping it if you had to end up
18 shipping it?

19 MR. FORD: What he's saying is that -- to
20 ship a cask that we had filled with radioactive
21 material to send to a disposal site, those limits
22 would have applied to that cask, no matter what had
23 been put in it. It would have been verified to have
24 met those limits before it was shipped and then when
25 it got to the disposal facility, they also do their

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1 own verifications. Here's the contact readings and
2 that kind of activity.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) the
4 readings of items that left your facility?

5 MR. FORD: We're checking all the records
6 we can find.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The locations where
8 these may have gone to have those municipalities been
9 contacted to let them know that they're possibly
10 there?

11 MR. FORD: Yes, they have been contacted.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't understand
14 the question.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Would the container
16 that's in Unit 1 racks, containing the fuel rod, would
17 it have fit into the Unit racks?

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't know what
19 the answer to that would be. But we've never
20 transferred fuel between units so --

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, we don't know
22 what we did with this fuel.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, you would
25 have known if you took it out of the building.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, so it's in
2 the building then. We've determined that. It hasn't
3 been moved to off-site.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And it's not
5 dangerous.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is that what we're
7 saying?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What I'm saying is
9 is that the best of our knowledge it's in the spent
10 fuel pool. That's what's it's designed to store spent
11 fuel and it's of no risk or danger to the public.

12 If it was removed from the spent fuel pool
13 because of the high radiation levels, it had to be put
14 into a shipping cask and that cask would be the only
15 way you could get it out of the pool and that cask is
16 also designed to protect the health and safety of the
17 public and the workers out there. If it wasn't, you
18 wouldn't have set off every alarm in the place,
19 whether it was at Millstone or wherever it went, you
20 just couldn't take that higher level piece of
21 radioactive material out of the pool unless it was in
22 some kind of a cask. So it's either in the pool or it
23 was put in a cask and removed from the site and that's
24 the only two possibilities that you could have.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It could have been

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1 put in the cask and moved to the Unit 2 pool?

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I just don't think
3 that's even a remote possibility.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yo keep track of
5 the number of casks that you have? Are there that
6 many casks?

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The casks are
8 basically contract (Inaudible), so it's a service
9 that's provided to the industry, so we (Inaudible)
10 take the casks (Inaudible). We don't own any
11 shippings ourselves that I know of.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is everything
13 transported by truck on a highway or has anything gone
14 by rail?

15 MR. FORD: I just don't know.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Just low level
17 waste that you normally ship out?

18 MR. FORD: In general, truck transport is
19 what is used.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And the shipping
21 containers are then buried, I assume? (Inaudible)

22 MR. FORD: The shipping cask itself isn't
23 buried. Basically, we put all the material into
24 what's called a liner and then put the shipping cask
25 over the liner inside the pool and that's all

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1 transported to South Carolina. They take it out of
2 the shipping cask and then bury the contents and the
3 liner and then the shipping cask is used again at
4 other locations. So they do end up burying the
5 materials in the liner.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The liner is
7 (Inaudible) after 20 years (Inaudible). How long is
8 that liner (Inaudible) to last before it starts
9 degrading in the soil?

10 MR. FORD: I don't know the answers to
11 those questions. I do know that the facilities where
12 (Inaudible) and Richland, both of them environmental
13 impact statements and they've looked at here's the
14 effects of the -- of disposal of these materials in
15 their facilities. And looked at liners and transports
16 of materials, those kind of activities. I just don't
17 know the details of the liner design.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If they're at
19 Hanford, they are leaking.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Barnwell has no
21 liners. They don't have liners at Barnwell.

22 MR. FORD: These are just the packing
23 liners. I wasn't talking about a liner around --

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I thought she was.

25 MR. FORD: -- the facility.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is it true that you
2 found radioactive material outside the controlled
3 areas recently as last week?

4 MR. FORD: I'm really not sure.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I heard an alarm go
6 off, but I don't know if it was last Thursday or the
7 day before. It went off for about 20 minutes at least
8 and I called the police. They hadn't had any notice
9 of it. I heard it -- I live in an apartment near St.
10 John's Church and I heard it. I was supposed to go to
11 a meeting and I went down to the precinct and they
12 hadn't heard it. I called the State Police. Somebody
13 by accident had tripped it off. (Inaudible)

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) it
15 takes some amount of time to disconnect the siren and
16 turn it off.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do we have any
19 other questions from the public?

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Back to the
21 question of the (Inaudible), how long are they
22 designed to last?

23 MR. FORD: I really don't know.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How can you assure
25 us that your company is confident that these rods in

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1 the present state, wherever they are, pose no undue
2 risk to the public? I'm just wondering how you can
3 make that assurance if you don't even know the design
4 specifications of the containers that they may or may
5 not be in. Also, the length of the time, 8 years over
6 the potential loss?

7 MR. FORD: If they're still in the spent
8 fuel pool, then we've talked about the issues
9 associated with the pool. If they were shipped off in
10 a shielded cast, and went to an area, to a facility
11 that is monitored and has a monitoring program to
12 insure the safety of the surrounding areas --

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If I could just
14 follow up on that. I know Congressman Edward J.
15 Martin has raised concern about the possibility that
16 the rods may not be in the possession of any licensed
17 facility at all and in fact, may have been stolen or
18 diverted.

19 Can you give us any assurances there?

20 MR. FORD: The rods were 1000R per hour,
21 approximately, so they were very radioactive and it
22 would be very difficult to steal or divert one of
23 these shipping casks. They would have had to have
24 left the pool in a shielded container.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is it possible they

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1 may have been cut up and put into smaller pieces so
2 that they would fit into some other kind of container
3 other than what you've been looking for?

4 MR. FORD: We have looked at -- if it was
5 cut up into smaller pieces and taken out of the pool
6 and (Inaudible) monitors in the area around the pool
7 who have activated then also.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: With the past
9 history at Millstone, there's a lot of problems.
10 You're talking 20 years ago, probably before a lot of
11 these people were here. A lot of problems that are
12 uncovered as far as reports -- so how can we really
13 say that an alarm didn't go off and it was just
14 ignored?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We're not talking
18 present. We're talking years ago. History wasn't
19 that good.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)
21 decommissioning maybe you should know some of the
22 questions that have been asked over the years.

23 MR. FORD: Let me respond. One of the
24 things that (Inaudible) --

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm the general

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1 manager for Unit 1, decommissioning. Brian Ford is
2 the Decommissioning Director. This is a historical
3 item as we have through (Inaudible) discrepancies in
4 the records that shows that material was in a certain
5 place at one time and (Inaudible). We're trying to go
6 through and resurrect that and look at all the
7 documents. As Brian and (Inaudible) have said, there
8 are two significant evolutions that are taking place
9 (Inaudible) resurrected. One is a physical search
10 within the pool to try to locate the pins. The other
11 is the records search which very possibly can provide
12 an answer (Inaudible). But we're very early into this
13 and as Brian said earlier, it's going to take many,
14 many weeks to resolve this. We are asking ourselves
15 a lot of these questions, but if you really, early on
16 -- it's a historical evolution that we're trying to go
17 back and resurrect.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think the thing
19 that is the most upsetting is (Inaudible) and have
20 many years (Inaudible) and never found it. Pretty
21 bad.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'd like to ask who
23 discovered it and who was (Inaudible) to expose it?
24 Many things have not been exposed down at the plant,
25 many, many times. And why is this -- even though it's

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1 no danger to the public, why was this exposed and who
2 exposed it?

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: As we mentioned
4 through this other question (Inaudible) this took
5 place as a decommissioning activity. Unit 1 has been
6 permanently shut down and defueled (Inaudible).
7 (Inaudible) and to go through and to find everything
8 that's in the spent fuel pool for preparations for
9 some type of long term fuel storage, we will
10 reconstitute all the (Inaudible). So this item came
11 up. This item was treated just like any other
12 discrepancy that was identified. We have a condition
13 report system within the plant where this was
14 identified and it was identified as we went through
15 that process of near term of exposing this or making
16 it known, not only within management, but also with
17 the regulatory agencies that this possibility existed
18 as we went down the path and we were not able to
19 resurrect it, then it became an additional item that
20 we had to take additional resources and additional
21 plans to try to go through and resolve.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That sounds good.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: But a follow up to
24 that would be how do know that Millstone 2 and
25 Millstone 3 aren't missing rods?

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm sorry, I only
2 am at 1.

3 MR. FORD: We have gone back and conducted
4 an extensive (Inaudible) of Unit 2 and Unit 3 and
5 currently have the same people that are doing an
6 oversight on Unit 1 looking at those records,
7 verifying that what they did there was appropriate.
8 Right now, we're 100 percent that we do not have any
9 discrepancies on the (Inaudible) refuel pool, but we
10 are going back and verifying that with an outside
11 group of individuals to verify that there were no
12 errors made there either.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Didn't the
14 utilities have to go through a process of verifying
15 its design basis in 1996 and wasn't it necessary at
16 that time to disclose that there were two missing
17 spent fuel rods in Unit 1?

18 MR. FORD: No, it wasn't a requirement at
19 that time. In the 5050 (Inaudible), the decision was
20 made that the amount of money it would cost to
21 (Inaudible) the design basis, basically made that plan
22 uneconomical, so the decision was made for
23 decommissioning and shut it down. (Inaudible)

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So there was no
25 design basis certification for Unit 1?

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1 MR. FORD: Not on Unit 1, no.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: But (Inaudible)
3 generally disclosed the (Inaudible)?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't have an
5 answer to that. I don't know if we did a spent fuel
6 pool audit when we did the design verification. I'm
7 not sure if that was part of the criteria or not.

8 MR. FORD: The review assessment team that
9 was put together to look at this initially concluded
10 that the probability of the fuel pins are in the pools
11 are equal to and not greater than the probability that
12 they were shipped to another licensed facility, so it
13 sounds like 50-50 chance, maybe a little better chance
14 that it's still in the pool.

15 (Inaudible) said earlier it's very likely
16 it's in the pool and we're just trying to look at
17 which is a more accurate assessment of the situation.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think you'll say
19 that it's 60-40, 50-50, it's either in the pool or
20 it's in a cask, but that's pure speculation at this
21 point in time. The feeling is that that's the only
22 two places it could be.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Maybe the town dump
24 (Inaudible).

25 MR. FORD: I don't think that's possible.

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1 In fact, there's no contamination on (Inaudible)
2 field. We did extensive studies of that field and
3 (Inaudible) independently by the State of Connecticut
4 DEP and by the NRC. Three samples were taken in that
5 field and it was given a clean bill of health.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

7 MR. FORD: Pardon me?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Did you find any
9 radioactive material (Inaudible) to that?

10 MR. FORD: We found it on our property,
11 owner-controlled property, not on the ball field --

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Adjacent to the
13 ball field?

14 MR. FORD: Our property is adjacent to the
15 ball fields.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Question, if this
17 Agency that is conducting the proceedings, a
18 governmental agency?

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'd like to make a
21 request that you officially make a request of
22 Northeast Utilities to provide you with documents that
23 would establish the licensed facilities to which you
24 have radioactive materials including high level spent
25 fuel in the history of the plant and verification that

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1 all those States along the transportation route have
2 been verified. And also, a description of the --
3 actually, I have a whole list of things that I would
4 like to ask this group to request of Northeast
5 Utilities. (Inaudible) and we would be very happy to
6 put together a list that would be detailed that would
7 ask you to request of Northeast Utilities given this
8 extraordinary breach of public trust, really a
9 betrayal of the public trust for so many years. The
10 company has been in this community, relying -- the
11 community has been in reliance upon its ability to
12 operate the plants without unnecessarily exposing the
13 public here and who knows where else to unnecessarily
14 risk. So I would like to make that request.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Could you make that
16 in writing? Some of that information may or may not
17 be public information and we'd have to sort that out
18 first.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'd be happy to.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If you could put
21 that in writing, that would be fine.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Speaking here as a
23 citizen, I'm going to deal with the political office
24 that I hold. (Inaudible) the school closest to the
25 nuclear power plant for 24 years. I am concerned

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1 about this, but it happened 28 years ago and the
2 current management has really come forth with this and
3 I want to thank them for that, but it doesn't help
4 with the credibility of the operation of the plant.
5 They seem to shoot themselves in the foot every so
6 often here. I would like to thank you for holding
7 this forum and suggest that you hold another one as
8 soon as the information is available as to what has
9 happened so we can get a clear explanation of that,
10 please.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I will explain
12 also, Dr. Ferry (Phonetic), that (Inaudible) there
13 will be information that will be forthcoming by that
14 point in time. (Inaudible) February. So hopefully
15 by that point in time there will be something more
16 solid to report. (Inaudible) be able to explain more
17 about those, but yes, we will be following up on this,
18 absolutely.

19 Are there any more questions?

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. (Inaudible)
21 sale of Dominion?

22 MR. FORD: To the best of my knowledge,
23 right now, it's not had an impact on the (Inaudible).
24 It will obviously be Northeast Utilities'
25 responsibility because it happened on their watch

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1 (Inaudible).

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Other than the NRC,
3 is there any other federal agency involved in this
4 investigation, considering that there could be the
5 remote possibility that it was stolen?

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Not to my
7 knowledge. It will be up to the NRC to oversee
8 (Inaudible).

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) search
10 for this?

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: This is -- I'm
12 sorry, I'm Dr. (Inaudible) for the Department of
13 Environmental Protection. This is a regulatory -- NRC
14 has jurisdiction over licensing issues (Inaudible).
15 (Inaudible) looks at it and reviews it and will be
16 making comments to the NRC, but as far as us having
17 jurisdiction directly (Inaudible) by federal law.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Excuse me, could
19 the speaker be more specific as to what the Agency is
20 doing to monitor this?

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) we meet
22 with NRC and the licensee and follow along with all
23 the activities that they are taking in their search
24 for these fuel pins. And we made comments whether we
25 concur or disagree of what's been done. As a point of

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1 information to the NRC and give recommendations. To
2 date, we are agreeing with the NRC and the licensee
3 and the actions that they are taking to find these
4 fuel pins.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: A follow-up
6 question. Isn't it correct that your Agency keeps
7 records which Northeast Utilities is required to file
8 concern transport of radioactive materials from the
9 site? And in conjunction with that (Inaudible)
10 examines your own records?

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are you referring
12 to the low level radioactive waste manifest?

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Any kind of
14 radioactive waste (Inaudible) includes radioactive
15 (Inaudible).

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The requirements
17 and correct me if I'm wrong, but the requirement for
18 facilities which send copies of the manifest of the
19 low level radioactive waste shipments did not come
20 about until the late 1980s.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What about high
22 level, high level waste shipments?

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There was no
24 requirement as far as I know in the (Inaudible) in the
25 time frame of the early 1980s that would have required

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1 them to file with the Department of Environmental
2 Protection on their manifest (Inaudible) radioactive
3 (Inaudible).

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: But there's a
5 requirement --

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There is now.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Has your Agency
8 gone through a record search?

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: This time period is
10 before the time that we would have had the records.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are you sure?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Uh-huh. We don't
13 have any predictable date when they were lost. We
14 just have the last date they were seen which is 20
15 years ago. They might have been shipped out as
16 recently as six months ago (Inaudible) during the
17 decommissioning.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The record we would
19 have would be the copies of what Millstone has sent to
20 us.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So is it the fact
22 that your office has not reviewed its own records?

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, we have not.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If someone knew

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1 what happened, I would think they might be afraid to
2 speak up because something more might have been done
3 and I was wondering if that is any potential
4 impediment. If people would be willing to speak up
5 and say yes, I recall or we misidentified or
6 (Inaudible). How well is it going with talking about
7 personnel at that time and had they been willing
8 (Inaudible).

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think contrary to
11 that we've had a lot of -- people have seen this and
12 people have called and offered comments and tried to
13 help and we take (Inaudible) very seriously. So we've
14 had quite a bit of calling in saying I've worked back
15 here and here's some information and fortunately those
16 have not provided anything (Inaudible).

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, you've had
18 formal interviews with prior employees, haven't you?

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, we have done
20 some formal (Inaudible).

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So it hasn't always
22 been the case that there have been administrative
23 requirements that Northeast Utilities keep close track
24 of all fuel and high level radioactive waste leaving
25 aside (Inaudible). Would that be a fair statement?

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1 Somebody at the station was ultimately
2 responsible for keeping a record of the departure of
3 any high level radioactive waste (Inaudible)?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So that there
6 should be records that would have been maintained by
7 whoever was in charge of the site during the
8 intervening years. Wouldn't that be correct?

9 MR. FORD: And that's why we're doing our
10 records reviews and attempting to find any pertinent
11 records we can.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have a question.
13 (Inaudible) what are the utilities' options? Would
14 they bring it back or do something with it where it
15 is? Do we know? Do we have any idea?

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I really don't have
17 an answer to that. It would depend on if we find that
18 we had shipped the material off site which would be
19 illegal, it would be a violation of our license, it
20 wold be basically in the hands of the NRC to decide
21 what form of remediation would be required and I
22 assume it would the responsibility of Northeast
23 Utilities to meet those requirements, whether they
24 have (Inaudible).

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So to tell you what
2 would happen if they were there, I don't know.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: To follow up on
4 that, I think that was the question I started off with
5 is are you licensed to remove the spent fuel from the
6 site and Mr. Rothman just indicated that it would be
7 a license violation to do so. Is that correct?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: In this particular
9 case, if we had inadvertently moved spent fuel off the
10 site and had not identified it as spent fuel it would
11 be a violation, yes.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So that is
13 contradictory to what Brian stated at the onset?

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If we ship the fuel
15 off-site that fuel as spent fuel would be in
16 compliance with the requirements. But right now we
17 don't think that's what happened.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) of
19 Citizens Regulatory Commission, Fish Unlimited,
20 Connecticut Coalition against Millstone and now
21 Nuclear Pollution.

22 My question is anybody from the NRC
23 present this evening?

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, there's no one
25 here from the NRC.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Were they notified?

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, they were not
3 notified.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They were not
5 notified?

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, they weren't
7 because it's our forum here for MIDAC at the moment
8 and we wanted to have the opportunity for the public
9 to come in and to address the issues that they wanted
10 to address with Northeast Utilities only.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So any answers we
12 get we get them from Northeast, so many contractors
13 here and this is their bread and butter and they'll
14 say what they have to.

15 Thank you.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'd like to clarify
17 something on that, Joe. The moment we identified the
18 fact that -- the discrepancy in the records, we
19 immediately notified all the proper agencies and in
20 addition to that, we called all people that had a
21 vested interest in what goes on. I called you, as an
22 example, the (Inaudible). I called (Inaudible). We
23 called the Selectman. We called people in the various
24 towns. We called the DUP and everyone that we could
25 think of that would have an interest in this. We

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1 notified as soon as we found out about it. We're not
2 trying to hide anything with this and when the NRC was
3 made aware of it, they put it on their website so it
4 was public knowledge. It's not the implication that
5 we're trying to hide something. We're not. It's not
6 something we're happy about. It's a situation we find
7 ourselves in and we're trying to resolve it, but
8 nobody is trying to lie to anybody or trying to hide
9 anything. That's not the purpose of this meeting.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Another question.
11 Will this problem have to be straightened before April
12 when this sale to Dominion goes through?

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't know the
14 answer to that.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Because Dominion
16 also, we'll have to keep a sharp eye on them based on
17 their past history with total of nine deaths.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You said you called
19 everyone, wasn't that regulated by statute and when
20 you claim you gave 24 hour notice of loss of special
21 nuclear materials?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't think that
23 was the case. In this initial investigation we didn't
24 feel we lost it, it just wasn't in the location where
25 it was previously described and there's a time frame

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1 of 30 days before we'd have to make a formal
2 notification to the NRC about that and we took the
3 action to notify everyone.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Did it take 45
5 days?

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thirty days for
7 written notification if there's a discrepancy in your
8 audit of spent fuel pool.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How many days has
10 gone by since you've notified them?

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Since we've
12 notified them?

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Since you found out
14 that the fuel is missing?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have an NRC
16 weekly information report, November 24, 2000.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)
18 December, I think.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: December 16th, I
20 believe, when it had been made, the report on December
21 14th.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What was the date
23 when the rods were discovered missing?

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Off the top of my
25 head, I don't know.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: November 16th is
2 when we identified in a document of the discrepancy.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And when was the
4 last inventory of spent fuel at Unit 1?

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't remember.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Was it in the past
7 year?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If I remember
9 correctly, it's a biannual requirement, so it would
10 have been done some time earlier.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So it would have
12 been done six months prior to November 16th?

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And it wasn't
15 noticed at that time?

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: This wasn't being
17 done to perform our standard semi-annual audit. This
18 was being done as a decommissioning effort.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There's enough
20 (Inaudible) employees, how do you think this is going
21 to affect the fact that the NRC granted you more
22 (Inaudible), do you not think they're going to look at
23 that and say you can't control how much fuel you had
24 before, (Inaudible) store more?

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I really can't

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1 speak for the NRC (Inaudible). I don't think the two
2 are comparable, but it's purely their decision.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They're basically
5 a big T or an X. These rods are a road about the size
6 of your finger 12 feet long. They don't look anything
7 like a control rod.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) objects
9 out for shipment?

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I wouldn't say
11 routinely, but we have used them, yes.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Have they ever been
13 shipped?

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The fuel rods?

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Control rods? No,
17 control rods have been, yes.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They're used?

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They would be used
20 control rods, yes ma'am. They would also go in one of
21 these shielded casks that we've been talking about for
22 shipment.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think you're
24 confusing the two. She's saying fuel rod and you're
25 saying control rod.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sorry, I guess I
2 was connecting it back to his question. We have not
3 routinely shipped fuel rods.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There is some
6 documentation that some -- three foot and special test
7 rods were shipped back in the 1970s and the
8 documentation from where they were shipped to and this
9 shows that that's what they were. So yes, we did ship
10 spent nuclear fuel in accordance with the
11 requirements, but it wasn't these two pins, some all
12 the documentation.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And you're not
14 going to be shipping any of the present rods?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I know of no plans
16 to ship any.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Has the fuel pool
18 been reracked at any time in the last, since it was
19 initiated, to store more fuel?

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 1988.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 1988 was the
22 reracking?

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You would think you
25 would have picked it up then.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

2 inventory of the pool at this point?

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We have done some
4 investigation in the pool, some camera work. We've
5 looked in some locations. There's other areas that we
6 need to go look in and that's what --

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What percentage of
8 the pool you've looked at was looked at?

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm not sure you
10 can put it in a percentage. We've looked in the
11 places where we thought that there was a -- we had
12 some indications that they could be there, either by
13 some of these people calling in saying we think it may
14 be here or if it was easy. So we've looked in
15 -- I can't give you a percentage, but we've looked in
16 quite a few locations. We've already had two
17 different groups come in and do some specialized work.
18 We're looking at the next set of places where it could
19 be starting as Frank said, Saturday.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Basically, we only
21 looked (Inaudible). It wasn't in any obvious
22 location, so we needed a much more systematic approach
23 and had to expand the discovery -- a very thorough
24 (Inaudible) and that's where we are right now. So we
25 initially thought we'd be able to solve it fairly

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1 readily. Obviously, that's not the case and we find
2 ourselves in the situation where we have (Inaudible)
3 process to go through to look at the entire pool and
4 (Inaudible).

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Other than the fact
6 that they're (Inaudible), how can you distinguish them
7 from all the thousands of rods?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: With general
9 records, we're somewhat fortunate. G.E. is a
10 manufacturer that has a unique ID number of every fuel
11 pin that they have, so 140,000 have their own number
12 in that pool.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How bent are they?

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: One of them is bent
15 and it was just bent too much to put back in the
16 assembly, the tolerances are very tight. The other
17 one, because of the way the assembly was put back
18 together, just couldn't go back in because of some
19 specialized equipment had been brought in to put it
20 in. So one of them wasn't bent. The other one, a top
21 screw piece was bent on it.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's interesting,
24 you know how small the bend was in it, but you can't
25 locate it. You have physical documentation of what --

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1 how it was bent, but you don't know where it is.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's the very
3 reason (Inaudible) we do a search of the records.
4 We've got the answers there. We've got to compile the
5 records and go through and see (Inaudible). Rather
6 than doing just the records, we also take very
7 seriously in doing a physical search.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are you going to
10 continue the decommissioning?

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We are performing
12 decommissioning activities until 4/1.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't understand
14 (Inaudible) was this rod fissioned?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: To what level of
17 radioactivity is expected to be found at this present
18 time?

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't remember
20 the curies number, but a contact radiation level is
21 about now 850R per hour, right at that area. Back in
22 the 1980s it would have been about a 1000R per hour.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How about the
24 distance reading, 10B, 20B?

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I just didn't bring

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1 those numbers with me. We've done some calculations
2 on it. They're in the verification process. So are
3 just the numbers I remember.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: This is a historic
5 event. There's no other place in the country that's
6 sitting down talking about this right now.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Time for a couple
8 more questions here?

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, is there any -
10 - can you tell me is there any management working on
11 Unit 2 and 3 that has worked on Unit 1 that's still
12 there? They must be still working after 20 years or
13 15 years. Are they still with the plant somewhere?

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes ma'am
15 (Inaudible).

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can they be made
17 partly responsible? (Inaudible)

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm sure they could
19 (Inaudible).

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have a question
22 and a comment. Reading in the papers comments from
23 the Northeast Utilities and officials, they said that
24 there was no -- I'm not quote directing -- no danger
25 to the public or hazard or public hazard. How the

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1 heck do they know, that's number one, when they don't
2 know what happened to the rods. They may have been
3 shipped to a low level site, according to the press
4 and in that case, people may have been exposed in
5 transit. And at the site. There is a certain
6 carelessness going on in the nuclear industry of
7 radioactive waste.

8 The comment I have to make about this is,
9 please, I think you guys ought to realize that you're
10 the laughing stock of the community. People who don't
11 know much about the technology are laughing every time
12 they read and I'm talking about the ordinary citizen,
13 every time they read there's no hazard to the public,
14 no danger. Everybody laughs because it's become a
15 joke. I think you ought to change your mantra
16 frankly.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Getting back to the
18 question then, you wanted to find out about the public
19 safety aspect?

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. I definitely
21 want to know if this thing is not in a fuel pool right
22 now, and has been shipped and by the way when you say
23 that the control rod blades are kept -- are shipped --
24 you imply that it was safe, I know of the history of
25 how they sometimes have shipped control rod blades,

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wet and dripping, on the back of flatbed trucks in
cardboard boxes. I know of the history of that. And
I was actually face to face with one of your public
relations men when that incident took place when the
thing broke loose at a coffee stop and the radiation
control officer of the State involved had to come down
there with his rad alert and check it out and this
control rod blade had slipped out of the top seven
boxes on top. I'm not convinced that you're doing all
of this work safely. And I would like to know just
how -- if this thing is outside of the fuel pool and
has been shipped somewhere, how much danger is there
actually to the public.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Brian?

15 MR. FORD: If it was shipped out of
16 Millstone, as we said, so that -- to prevent the
17 radiation monitors from going off when it was shipped,
18 it would have had to have come out in a shielded cask,
19 just due to the radiation levels.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What would they
21 have done then?

22 MR. FORD: Shipped it out --

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Why would they have
24 shipped it out?

25 MR. FORD: Oh, we're not saying that they

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1 -- we know of no reason why they would have
2 intentionally shipped it out.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Then how do you
4 know it was put in a shielded cask or that there was
5 a radiation monitor available if that was the case?

6 MR. FORD: To the best of my knowledge,
7 there's always been radiation monitors required at
8 Millstone and all of the other nuclear plants.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I remember at Three
10 Mile Island, most of the radiation monitors were not
11 functioning.

12 MR. FORD: As we've said in the past,
13 we're still in the investigation phase ourselves,
14 trying to determine the history of how this occurred
15 and what occurred.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You have to realize
17 --

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have to agree
19 with her that you can't say there's no threat to the
20 public when there really is. It might be minute, but
21 you can't say there is no threat. There is.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And the NRC backed
23 you up.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You don't really
25 know.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We do have to say
2 that because of the radiation levels, and recognize,
3 one thing we haven't said is with the work in handling
4 these would have been under a large volume of water,
5 if they had been pulled out of the water, then the
6 radiation monitors would have gone off. That's at
7 1000R. For them to be -- and we're not saying they
8 have been transported. We're looking at the
9 possibilities of what could have happened. We're
10 still searching everything to say we haven't turned up
11 anything to say they have been shipped. But if they
12 had come out, they would have had to have been in a
13 cask that would have shielded them in a manner that
14 the radiation monitors would not have picked them up.

15 Also, the cask would have had to meet the
16 criteria for shipment to some licensed facility.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It doesn't sound
18 logical to me in this case.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You people have
20 inherited a lot of deceit and arrogance in the years
21 that (Inaudible).

22 We appreciate it. This is what
23 (Inaudible) that you're not going to try to give us a
24 (Inaudible), put your head up in the air, we don't do
25 nothing wrong. The problem is (Inaudible) and I

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1 appreciate it. Just keep us on top, keep it level.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) keep
3 the decommissioning activities up to full speed while
4 you're doing this investigation?

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Absolutely.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We have time for
7 about two more questions is all. Excuse me, excuse
8 me, we have time for two more questions. Thank you.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Two questions and
10 one quickly, can the radiation monitors be
11 deactivated?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, thank you and
14 my second and last question is are you aware that in
15 1972 it happened that two bent control rods were
16 shipped to California. Is it possible you're
17 confusing them with this incident?

18 MR. FORD: I don't think we've found any
19 records that show that two bent control rods were
20 shipped to California in 1972. We do have some
21 records that show that three foot segmented rods for
22 a special test program had been shipped to California
23 and those are the only records that we've been able to
24 identify either through the government sources,
25 contacting the company in California or our own

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1 records. We're still looking at all the possibilities
2 that -- we would have been happy to have found a
3 record that showed that they were shipped to
4 California because then we would --

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I wonder if you
6 could speculate as to why the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
7 Commission released information in conjunction with
8 the closure (Inaudible) may have been shipped to a
9 facility in California which happens to be the
10 facility where two bent control rods were (Inaudible).

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We knew that these
12 two bent control rods were still in the pool in 1980.
13 So we know they weren't shipped in 1972 anyway.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Couldn't that have
15 been a false record?

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, could be.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I guess it could
18 have been.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think there's
20 another technicality here and the technicality is the
21 rods that were shipped in 1972, correct me if I'm
22 wrong, the shipments of spent fuel rods during that
23 period of time were three foot rods and not 12 foot
24 rods.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: On the NRC website

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1 when, as Frank said, when we found out this
2 information, when we initiated this (Inaudible), we
3 called and told (Inaudible) what's going on and at the
4 time we were still investigating because we knew that
5 there had been some kind of shipments to California in
6 the past and we were just beginning to go out there
7 and find records. You were sending people to the
8 locations to look at the records themselves and so
9 that the information from the website was even earlier
10 in our investigation of this and as I said we're
11 trying to run down every lead we can find.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I appreciate the
13 comments and the questions, I really do. The thing is
14 we have to remember this is a historical event we have
15 uncovered and we're trying to go down very
16 methodically and systematically through this office
17 and we're providing you the best information we have.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: At some point, has
19 somebody behind closed doors said oh shit, what is the
20 worse case scenario?

21 (Laughter.)

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I would have to say
23 yes.

24 (Laughter.)

25 We are asking ourselves that question. We

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1 still do not have anything that shows that these have
2 been shipped from the spent fuel pool. We still have
3 to go through (Inaudible) can we find what is the
4 (Inaudible)?

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: But I mean are you
6 confident that (Inaudible) there are documents that
7 they were shipped?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There's a
9 possibility that they could have (Inaudible). We just
10 don't know. We have to go through (Inaudible) and
11 there's such a (Inaudible).

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's my question,
13 what was the worse case scenario if somebody in
14 whatever department that might (Inaudible)?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We've asked that
16 question. I don't have an answer to that. The main
17 thing is we're not only looking to see what is taking
18 place. Just because we're talking about (Inaudible),
19 what if scenarios and that's the reason we get into,
20 if they're shipped, what. That's what we're trying
21 (Inaudible).

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) that
23 they were shipped?

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Those are licensed
25 facilities (Inaudible).

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is there any kind
2 of physical, anything happening, you know, physical
3 (Inaudible).

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Not at one time.
5 They have been notified and are aware of the
6 situation. Mr. Rothman talked to them personally and
7 so they are aware. We have made them aware of the
8 situation.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What was their
10 response?

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Their response was
12 they were appreciable of the fact that I called them
13 and I assured them we would keep them informed and
14 they wanted to be kept informed.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are they checking?

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible).

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have one other
18 question here. Bob?

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You've got two
20 needles in a haystack of paper or in a pool somewhere,
21 maybe. What if both searches prove negative? What
22 happens then?

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We don't know.
24 Right now we are just going through our searches. Do
25 the investigation the best we can.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't think they
2 should be allowed to continue with the
3 decommissioning. I don't think they should be allowed
4 to sell the plant until their inventory has been taken
5 care of and I think that they should have an
6 independent study of the Millstone 2 and 3 on the
7 spent fuel. If they can make mistakes like that, it's
8 possible (Inaudible).

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I just have one
10 question. I know that on the NRC website there is
11 information about this. Would there be anything like
12 on Millstone's website as well, if anybody wanted --
13 in the public to look up information on the progress
14 of the (Inaudible)? All right.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm not sure who
16 can answer this, but Mitzi brought up a question and
17 Larry, you said something about it and it has to do
18 with safety to the public. And you said you've looked
19 at the absolute worse case scenario, correct?
20 Anything you can think of, within reason.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We have asked
22 ourselves that question. We have not (Inaudible) at
23 any means.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: But using your
25 engineering knowledge and so on, what is the worse

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1 case scenario that you've come up? I've tried to
2 visualize something in my mind and even a worse case
3 scenario still says either they're buried somewhere or
4 they're in a pool. I mean that's about it.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's exactly it.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I mean what is the
7 worse case scenario, that's got to be it, isn't it?
8 I can't think of any other G.E. facility unaccounted
9 for.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: As part of that
11 worse case scenario wouldn't it be that somebody
12 wanted to get rid of these two pain in the rod bent
13 pins and secretly got rid of them?

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I've been around
15 Millstone for 30 years and I know the way Millstone
16 operates. Been at Millstone 1, no, that could not
17 have happened. I know the controls that were there in
18 1972 when I started and believe me, they never turn
19 off the radiation monitors. There's no way you could
20 have gotten those things out of there.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So you think
22 they're still in the pool?

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm not saying
24 that. Either they're in the pool or they were
25 shipped, but not recognizing it was spent fuel. It

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1 could have been mislabeled as control blades,
2 something like that, but whatever scenario you come up
3 with, there is no significant exposure to any one. I
4 don't think anyone --

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What about the
6 people who buried (Inaudible)?

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: In the 1980s when
8 Sturgeon was the public relations man, Mr. Sturgeon.
9 I used to call him Mr. Fish, but anyway, he on the
10 radio program we were on together and that was the
11 time when a shipment of low level radioactive waste
12 was being sent on a flat bed truck in the 1980s. I
13 don't have the exact date although I have the records
14 at home. So these cardboard boxes one on top of the
15 others, seven, I'm sorry -- was it five or seven?

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think it was
17 seven.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Seven. On a
19 flatbed truck and the top one was a control rod blade,
20 not carefully shielded, but in a plastic bag, wet,
21 soaking wet, inside a cardboard box and that was
22 shipped from Millstone and that was proved because the
23 radiation detection person from the State, what State
24 was it?

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: South Carolina?

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It was North
2 Carolina. I think it was before it got to Barnwell,
3 but I have it all on record. This man came
4 (Inaudible) and his detector went off the chart. He
5 was furious because he was contaminated. So that's
6 the kind of carelessness that took place as early as
7 the 1980s at least and (Inaudible), so I don't trust
8 that kind of confirmation. I'm not so sure that you -
9 - that either of you are saying what really can happen
10 when you say it had to be in a shielded container, not
11 necessarily, not in my experience.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, I think for
13 right now we have in discovery that Northeast
14 Utilities is doing what they need to do to try to
15 discover at least what happened to them, in the spent
16 fuel pool or being shipped or whatever happened.

17 Now might be the time to at least give
18 them time to go over their records, take a look at
19 that pool, find out if they are there and then keep on
20 top of it and have them come back to us and report
21 back again. I certainly appreciate the time, Frank
22 and Brian. Thank you very much. And Mary Temple.
23 Thank you.

24 I think for the time right now MIDAC will
25 be going into its portion of the meeting. The public

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1 is certainly welcome to stay.

2 I think we'll go right to the minutes of
3 the December 7th meeting. I don't know if everybody
4 has had an opportunity to at least look those over.

5 Is there a motion to accept, approval?

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All in favor?

8 (Ayes.)

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Opposed? Any
10 abstentions?

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I abstain.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: One abstention.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: As far as old
14 business goes, I think we pretty much covered what we
15 needed to do at the last meeting as far as going over
16 that (Inaudible).

17 Jim, you weren't here. I needed just a
18 little (Inaudible) in review. (Inaudible) something
19 that we should have covered and we didn't get -- if
20 anybody had any suggestions about (Inaudible).

21 Now I did hear from the NRC and they're
22 going to be coming down and making a presentation to
23 us. They do ask, however, that we try to be as
24 specific as we can as far as what we'd like
25 (Inaudible).

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1 I know a couple of times we've mentioned
2 how (Inaudible) to decommissioning. NRC doesn't think
3 that's (Inaudible).

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I sent a formal
5 letter, I can send you a copy and you can distribute
6 it, but it was a comment requesting formal comments on
7 the Connecticut Yankee license termination plan.
8 There was a meting on October 15 on a license
9 termination plan that I attended at the (Inaudible)
10 High School and I asked questions and really didn't
11 get any answers. It was obvious the NRC had an
12 entourage of people there. I've stated that I've
13 think in the license termination plan for
14 decommissioning plan would discuss what license is
15 being terminated. Well, when I asked what license is
16 being terminated under the license termination plan,
17 I couldn't get a direct answer, okay? There's a dozen
18 different licenses that these facilities have. So
19 that was one of the questions I asked in a letter and
20 I also asked in the license termination plan, what is
21 the plan for terminating a license, what is the time
22 frame? They weren't able to give me those answers, so
23 I wrote a letter, I think it was around December 20th,
24 formal comments -- request for formal comments that I
25 sent to the NRC. I'll send you a copy of it and you

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1 can distribute it. I think that would be the
2 beginning of good dialogue with the NRC as far as what
3 regulations do apply when an inspector goes in to
4 inspect for compliance with the license? The
5 inspectors have no idea what are the regulations that
6 are applicable. The public doesn't know. The NRC
7 doesn't know. The inspectors don't know and I think
8 that the general public has a right to know what
9 regulations are applicable to decommissioning plants.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You said the NRC
11 couldn't answer what were applicable?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No. You'll see my
13 letter. I'll send it to you tomorrow and I've gotten
14 some e-mail back that said we are working on the
15 response. I had about a dozen questions as to the
16 applicability of regulations, including viabilities
17 required, what security is required, what about the
18 special nuclear material license which is another
19 license that they have. Is that going to be
20 terminated? Is the operating license going to be
21 terminated or are they going to go to high level waste
22 license -- all those questions that I brought up
23 before, but I decided to formalize those questions and
24 if you think it's appropriate, maybe that would be
25 leading some of the discussion when we do get together

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1 with the NRC.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Your questions on
4 decommissioning cover the storage elements like dry
5 versus wet? How much storage can be kept on one site?
6 Can people shift? In other words, if (Inaudible)
7 decides they want to come up with a commercial
8 contract with Northeast and ship their materials here,
9 that whole venue of questions regarding storage, I'd
10 like to hear NRC talk about that.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Those are not my
12 questions, but those questions have obviously been
13 asked at the public meetings at the (Inaudible) High
14 School and that's why the planning and zoning wouldn't
15 approve the zoning variance for Connecticut Yankee.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So decommissioning
17 is one aspect of the questions or one bundle of
18 questions. I think another bundle of questions might
19 be related to storage. Can you bring it on? Can you
20 take it off? Is it wet? Is it dry? What's the
21 amount, what's not the amount? Is there going to be
22 off-site storage some day in the future? Should NRC
23 be gearing up for that? And anything else that
24 relates to the storage issues.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, there's a

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1 -- again, I said it to Pearl this morning or
2 yesterday, it came from Washington. It was a note
3 from Dave Lockbaum of Union of Concerned Scientists
4 and I guess you can distribute that. It's public. I
5 think I sent to you and anyone else's e-mail I had.
6 But what it is is a paper and I was talking to one of
7 the Commission's offices today. It's a paper put
8 together by the NRC staff on the risk of high level
9 waste storage. Dave Lockbaum has talked to some of
10 the staff people at the NRC and it started out that
11 the document which the Commission staff told me was
12 almost 3 inches thick discusses the risk of long term
13 high level waste storage and the document essentially
14 states that the risk to the public is much greater
15 than anticipated before in any public documents.

16 The Commission has normally ten days to
17 vote on the release of that document, but it was sent
18 to him on the 20th of December. I expect it to be
19 released either tomorrow or Monday, based on
20 conversations I had. According to Dave Lockbaum, it's
21 going to have a significant impact or potentially a
22 significant impact on decommissioning plants from the
23 perspective of security. They discuss, obviously,
24 terrorist potential and also liability insurance.
25 They've provided exemptions to regulations for various

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1 decommissioning plants like Maine Yankee and Yankee
2 Row (Phonetic) for liability insurance and variances
3 or exemptions from security. Now the NRC staff is
4 saying maybe those weren't appropriate exemptions, so
5 that will be coming out within the next week. Will
6 generate a lot of obviously media attention,
7 opposition from utilities and so on and so forth.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Let me just
9 interrupt you for just a minute. I want to get a
10 question in. Would that be along the same lines as
11 the insurance exemption --

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Exactly.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is that right?

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's the same
15 thing.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, so this could
17 be --

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have no idea to
19 predict what the impact could be, but they're saying,
20 from what I understand the risk is -- well, the
21 consequences of any accident are pre (Inaudible).

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And our homeowner's
23 insurance exempt that, if you look at your policy.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh yes.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Nuclear war or

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1 nuclear accident are not covered.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We've been over
3 that.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So this is
5 something that NRC specifically requires regulation
6 on?

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What it is is just
8 an internal NRC report and information is going to be
9 released by the Commissioners. What is done beyond
10 that is up to (Inaudible) regulations, whether they're
11 going to impose backfit regulations for it, whether
12 they're going to remove sanctions, you're talking a
13 new legal area where, whether they can take back the
14 exemptions they granted Maine Yankee, Yankee Row
15 (Phonetic), Connecticut Yankee for security and
16 liability. A total unknown. But it's going to be a
17 long time before that gets ironed out and there's
18 going to be a lot of political lobbying to refute the
19 report, the industry is going to be out there saying
20 this is inconceivable beyond the realm, beyond
21 realistic probabilities and they go back and forth,
22 but it's going to generate a lot of controversy.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can I just ask if
24 anybody knows what the legal parameters are, for
25 instance if a community says we will no longer permit

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1 storage of spent fuel, is that an option?

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's a lawsuit.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is it (Inaudible)?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't think it's
5 been determined yet.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Nobody wants it in
7 their backyard.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Don't you think the
10 probable answer would be that (Inaudible) under
11 federal regulations?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh yeah, NRC
13 regulations (Inaudible) everything else, but they will
14 argue it's there already, we're not changing anything.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And where are you
16 going to put it?

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, that's the
18 real problem, that's right.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So if you've got
20 it, you're stuck with it.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right. It's there.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Technically, on
23 February 1st, 1999, didn't by federal law -- wasn't
24 DOE suppose to take physical possession?

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think January

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1 1998, wasn't it?

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It was like
3 February 1st.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And that's why the
5 utilities are suing DOE. Connecticut Yankee is suing
6 DOE and saying it's your responsibility.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have another
9 question to ask, where do you plan to hold this
10 meeting?

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: For the NRC?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, we'll
14 probably --

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If you have
16 something like this, it's good for us, but it's hard
17 for the audience.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't know what
21 would be more appropriate.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Upstairs is good.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If it's available.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It was unavailable.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Not tonight, but

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1 for the future, it's available.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: But you could not
3 hold an NRC meeting like that in this room.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No. If worse comes
5 to worse (Inaudible) the high school.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You could get the
7 (Inaudible).

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You can't have the
9 meeting there.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We've had many of
11 them there.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Not for the public.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh yes, you did.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, you have, but
15 I would advise against that.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Why?

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Some people might
18 be uncomfortable going there.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, fine.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) this
21 goes back to May a year ago. A year ago we were
22 holding (Inaudible) at Maine Yankee tour at the time
23 that you (Inaudible) and for various and sundry
24 reasons that didn't happen and even though it looks
25 like really the decommissioning for this is going to

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1 be (Inaudible) the decommissioning of two (Inaudible)
2 whatever the next one down the line is (Inaudible).

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) boiling
4 water. I really think we ought to --

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. I think we
7 ought to take the opportunity to go and visit because
8 if we wait until some time later then it's a done deal
9 (Inaudible). You might want to (Inaudible) while
10 they're still going through this process.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Just as a thought.
13 (Inaudible)

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We'll keep that in
15 mind then.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: As a potential --
17 I don't know if anybody else is interested.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, yeah, I think
19 it would be worthwhile.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I know --

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I wouldn't have to
22 be a Thursday night. It could be whatever
23 (Inaudible).

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think it was the

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1 4th of May, just turned out to be a -- (Inaudible) six
2 people were going to go and then two (Inaudible).

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)
4 schedule is and see if that's a possibility. As far
5 as the NRC, I'd like to get something down pat for
6 that. So far we've got as far as (Inaudible)
7 inspection, liability, security, operating license and
8 fuel. Now as far as the storage of that fuel, are
9 there regulations specific to storage?

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Again, I think it's
11 the intent of most wanting to retain their
12 (Inaudible), the operating license, because it would
13 be just totally inconsistent for the other two units.
14 The way they're controlling it with the staffing
15 they've got, my own personal assessment, it's okay.
16 What bothers me is when you have a single plant and
17 then they just reduce staff, ten people total working
18 three shifts that's when I start worrying. I'm not
19 concerned about how long, I'm concerned about the
20 integrity pool. I'm not concerned about (Inaudible)
21 water due to loss of power because you've got 16 days
22 before the temperature even rises to 150 degrees. I
23 don't have the concerns (Inaudible) I would have for
24 Connecticut Yankee, Yankee Row or Maine Yankee where
25 that's all it is is a high level waste facility. This

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1 is going to be more than that. So there's going to be
2 plenty of staffing around. There's not going to be
3 security barrier around. I think for the main part of
4 the site. It's going to be very similar to what
5 they've done out at Dresden, out at San Onofre, where
6 they've got an I/O plan. It's just sitting there.
7 It's going to be very similar. They haven't had any
8 major problems down there. I have a concern when they
9 decommission a stand alone plan and just have a high
10 level waste facility which is what they were going to
11 essentially do here and I'm a little more comfortable
12 in the way they've done that. We need to hear from
13 the NRC as far as what are the regulations. They
14 don't know.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, well, they
16 can tell us.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They all say
18 (Inaudible). We'll get their best answers.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And then we had
20 also discussed having Dominion make a presentation to
21 this group as well, probably along the lines of March
22 of April, just after (Inaudible) ownership.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'd prefer to have
24 a couple of months after they settle in here is at the
25 very minimal, no Dominion people around here right

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1 now. I don't think they have fully assessed the long
2 term situation. I'd rather - I'm speaking personally,
3 I think they're more qualified to make a presentation
4 say mid-summer after they've been in place for a
5 while.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are you thinking
7 how they would be handling the transition in the
8 decommissioning process or were you thinking it would
9 be beneficial in our meeting with them?

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If we get Dominion
11 in front of us before it actually -- before the
12 transition, then if there's something we have a
13 question about, we can address it to them and if
14 there's something they like of what they hear, then
15 they can end up doing something about it. After it's
16 already done if we had concerns along that line and
17 it's a done deal, they might come out and say gee, we
18 wish we had known, maybe we would have looked towards
19 that area. That may be how we look at that too,
20 before they actually take the reins (Inaudible).

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: When we had the
22 NEAC meeting we asked them to do a presentation on
23 storage also.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And they said they
25 would be happy to do that, yes.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think the main
2 thing I'd be interested in hearing and I sort of have
3 chatted informally with you and I think a couple other
4 members is, if in fact when they take over the
5 decommissioning of 1 is certainly going to go on hold
6 until they decommission one of the other units because
7 there's rumor to the effect that rather than spend the
8 time and effort there to get someone to keep an eye on
9 spent fuel and then decommission two plants at once or
10 --

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Maybe three at
12 once.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Maybe three at
14 once, but -- and maybe they haven't made up their
15 mind. I think the (Inaudible) is put on April 1st,
16 that's what I've heard. And I'm not sure any work has
17 been put forward. If no work has been put forward,
18 it's not that I don't like to meet with people, but
19 I've got enough on my plate as I'm sure other people
20 do too, but maybe not disband the group, but maybe
21 meet once every six months (Inaudible).

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) that we
23 would meet on either a semi-annual or annual or
24 quarterly basis after that point because we can't --

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Maybe they wouldn't

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1 be at a point then, but as I understand it right now,
2 energy goes away on 1 April.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And then what
5 happens on the 2nd of April, I'd be curious to know
6 and maybe they don't really know yet.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't think
8 you're going to see much going on.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Just ask them
10 directly.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The only thing that
12 could change is the storage. Is it dry? Is it wet?
13 Where is it? How much is it? That's the only thing
14 that could change after it gets decommissioned.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't think --

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They might not
17 continue the decommissioning program.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I would like to ask
19 them that directly, what are your plans for the
20 continuing of the decommissioning.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. I think would
22 get them (Inaudible) get them in under March
23 (Inaudible).

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, what are your
25 plans for decommissioning (Inaudible).

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All right.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, I know. I'm
5 not ignoring you, Joe, but I'm going to get down
6 everything --

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I just thought --
8 I've trained right now. I've been present at the DPC
9 meetings when Mr. -- I don't know what his last name
10 was, the new CEO for the Command came forward and he's
11 already made the decision they're not going to try to
12 put it in dry cask storage as (Inaudible) has taken
13 (Inaudible) and also the (Inaudible). And everything
14 was all set and then the CY has already been getting
15 contracts as far as the dry cask storage and now the
16 (Inaudible) are working Unit 1, right? Or they can
17 take the fuel out of Unit 2 and put it there so they
18 keep pumping these plants and running them longer,
19 they get the (Inaudible) of (Inaudible).

20 Am I right, Paul, what I'm saying so far?

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm not sure what
22 you said, but --

23 (Laughter.)

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I hope I spoke
25 plain and audibly. The other thing is I met with

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1 these gentlemen. Whenever I come around and I stand
2 in the, out in the foyer with them, this is a private
3 conversation. So already by making meetings with --
4 the employees opened up their own new concerns as far
5 as the ones that (Inaudible) Northeast Utilities,
6 they're concerned about their future and their
7 pensions and all, see. So I went over and I said,
8 this is a private conversation. I'll be right back
9 with the camera. They're not too happy with yours
10 truly.

11 The other thing is he says I'm sorry that
12 you think we're not telling the truth and that we're
13 liars. I spent all those hours up there behind the
14 camera and when I listened to them, I'm telling it the
15 way I see it. Already now they've got nine deaths for
16 the record (Inaudible). They cut back 25 percent of
17 their work force as soon as they (Inaudible). And the
18 NRC says oh, well those fellows died because the
19 (Inaudible) had all been ruptured and that's an
20 industrial accident, so that doesn't count at a
21 nuclear plant, even though (Inaudible).

22 So we're back to the same old (Inaudible),
23 everybody keeps looking to the NRC to help them out.
24 The NRC is not here to help out you and I. The NRC is
25 out there to help out the industry.

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1 Thank you.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, so we'll get
3 Dominion here in March then and see what they have to
4 say about their (Inaudible) plans for decommissioning
5 (Inaudible).

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And storage.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And storage, yes.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's my only
9 message.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Whether it's dry or
11 wet. Long term plans, short term plans. Can you
12 bring it in? Can you bring it out? Safety, security.
13 Can it be used as a commercial site? Can they lease
14 space to other facilities and have it stored there?
15 Can they store at high level or low level. Everything
16 related to storage.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Or to paraphrase,
18 it's the storage.

19 (Laughter.)

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Once it's
21 decommissioned, it's only the storage.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do we have any
24 upcoming joint things?

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) We

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1 have two meetings in January, but they're going to be
2 (Inaudible). And then they won't have a regular
3 meeting until the end of February. So they're meeting
4 every other month, so right now only one other and I'm
5 not so sure (Inaudible). We're starting to get the
6 politicians involved and we had an offer from Mr.
7 (Inaudible) that if we were to extend an invitation
8 (Inaudible), but I don't know what Mr. (Inaudible)
9 says now, but we'd love to see. That's something else
10 we can think about when we --

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's something I
12 wanted to bring up. I mean if he could get moving on
13 this, we could get (Inaudible).

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He simply doesn't
15 have to worry about re-election, he can have one
16 glorious term and do something right.

17 (Laughter.)

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) when
19 the NRC is here.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He's in Washington
22 during the week so it might be difficult. If we could
23 be a little flexible in our schedule --

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) High

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1 sounds like a good location.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: At Millstone we
3 asked a lot of questions about security and sabotage
4 and Brian was nice enough to give me an 89 page report
5 on the physical plant protection that covers
6 everything from picture (Inaudible) to marine vessels
7 to just flipping through it, number of bullets per gun
8 per hour you can shoot, how to secure and restrain the
9 enemy and all that good stuff, so I'll flip through
10 it. Nothing to read to the kids.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: This is just part
12 73 out of the Code of Federal Regulations, but the
13 question you need to ask is is that totally applicable
14 to the decommissioned facility.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's the
17 question. We're all aware of (Inaudible), but it's
18 applicability as I mentioned before, Maine Yankee has
19 a variance or an exemption from Part 73.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's the real
22 question. Don't bother yourself reading --

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, with
24 (Inaudible) we're going to be a little bit different
25 because obviously (Inaudible), so is that going to

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1 affect?

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's the question
3 you ask the NRC, what parts of that are applicable to
4 the storage of spent fuel?

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)
6 applicable to something else?

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The barriers start
8 with two, you'll be passed by the time you get to the
9 barriers.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All right.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Anyway, so I'll
12 finish with it and I promise in the next month I won't
13 read it to the kids at night.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Better than a
15 sleeping pill.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All right, so if
17 there's no further business left, I motion to adjourn.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second? Okay, all
20 in favor?

21 (Whereupon, the meeting was concluded.)

22

23

24

25

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This is to certify that the attached proceedings
before the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
in the matter of:

Name of Proceeding: Millstone Proceeding

Docket Number: ASLBP 00-771-01-LA

Location: (not provided)

were held as herein appears, and that this is the
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Francesca Zook

Francesca Zook
Official Transcriber
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