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DATE OF MEETING

6/28/01

The attached document(s), which was/were handed out in this meeting, is/are to be placed in the public domain as soon as possible. The minutes of the meeting will be issued in the near future. Following are administrative details regarding this meeting:

Docket Number(s)

05000271

Plant/Facility Name

Vermont Yankee

TAC Number(s) (if available)

Reference Meeting Notice

No 01-032

Purpose of Meeting  
(copy from meeting notice)

Annual Assessment Meeting

NAME OF PERSON WHO ISSUED MEETING NOTICE

Glenn Meyer

TITLE

Branch Chief

OFFICE

Region I

DIVISION

DRP

BRANCH

Branch 3

Distribution of this form and attachments:

Docket File/Central File  
PUBLIC

# **ANNUAL ASSESSMENT MEETING**



**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission**

# Agenda

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- Introduction
- Reactor Oversight Process
- Plant Performance Results
- Vermont Yankee Remarks
- NRC Closing Remarks

# NRC Representatives

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- Glenn Meyer, Chief - Reactor Projects Branch 3

[gwm@nrc.gov](mailto:gwm@nrc.gov) (610) 337-5211

- Brian McDermott, Senior Resident Inspector

[bjm@nrc.gov](mailto:bjm@nrc.gov) (802) 257-4319

- Ed Knutson, Resident Inspector

[eck@nrc.gov](mailto:eck@nrc.gov) (802) 257-4319

- Robert Pulsifer, Project Manager - Division of Licensing Project Management

[rmp3@nrc.gov](mailto:rmp3@nrc.gov) (301) 415-3016

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# **Reactor Oversight Process NRC Web Site**

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**WWW.NRC.GOV/NRR/OVERSIGHT**

**Documents are also available via ADAMS or by  
contacting the PDR at 1-800-397-4209**

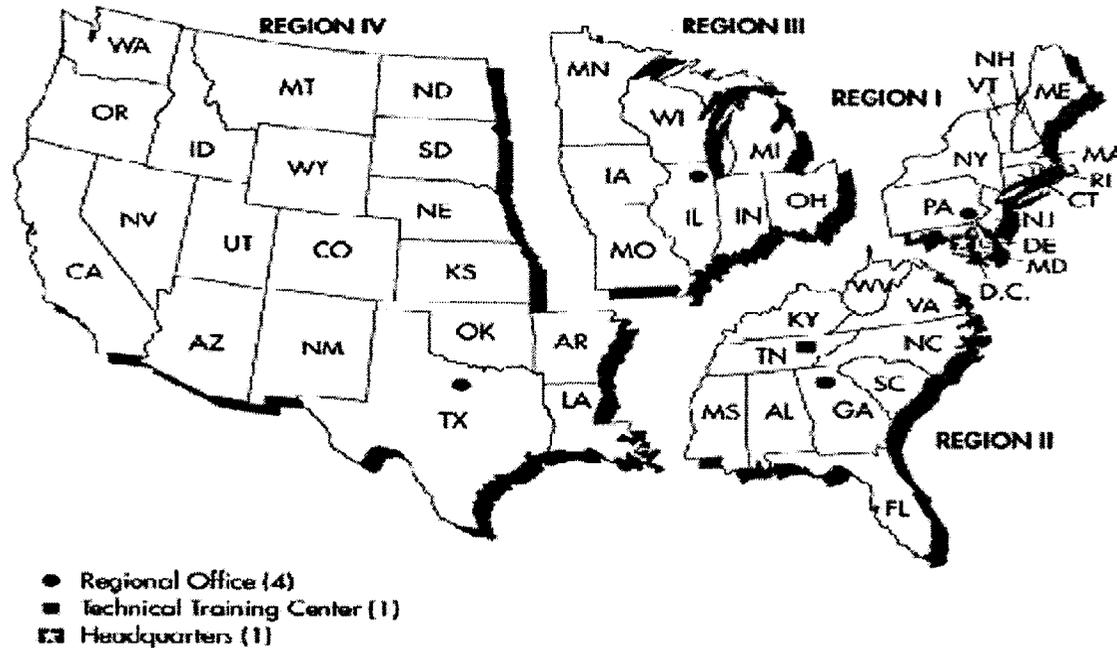
# NRC Activities

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- Ensure nuclear plants are designed, constructed, and operated safely
- Issue licenses for the peaceful use of nuclear materials in the U. S.
- Ensure licensees use nuclear materials and operate plants safely, and are prepared to respond to emergencies

# NRC REGIONAL OFFICES

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Note: Alaska and Hawaii are included in Region IV.

Source: Nuclear Regulatory Commission

# NRC Performance Goals

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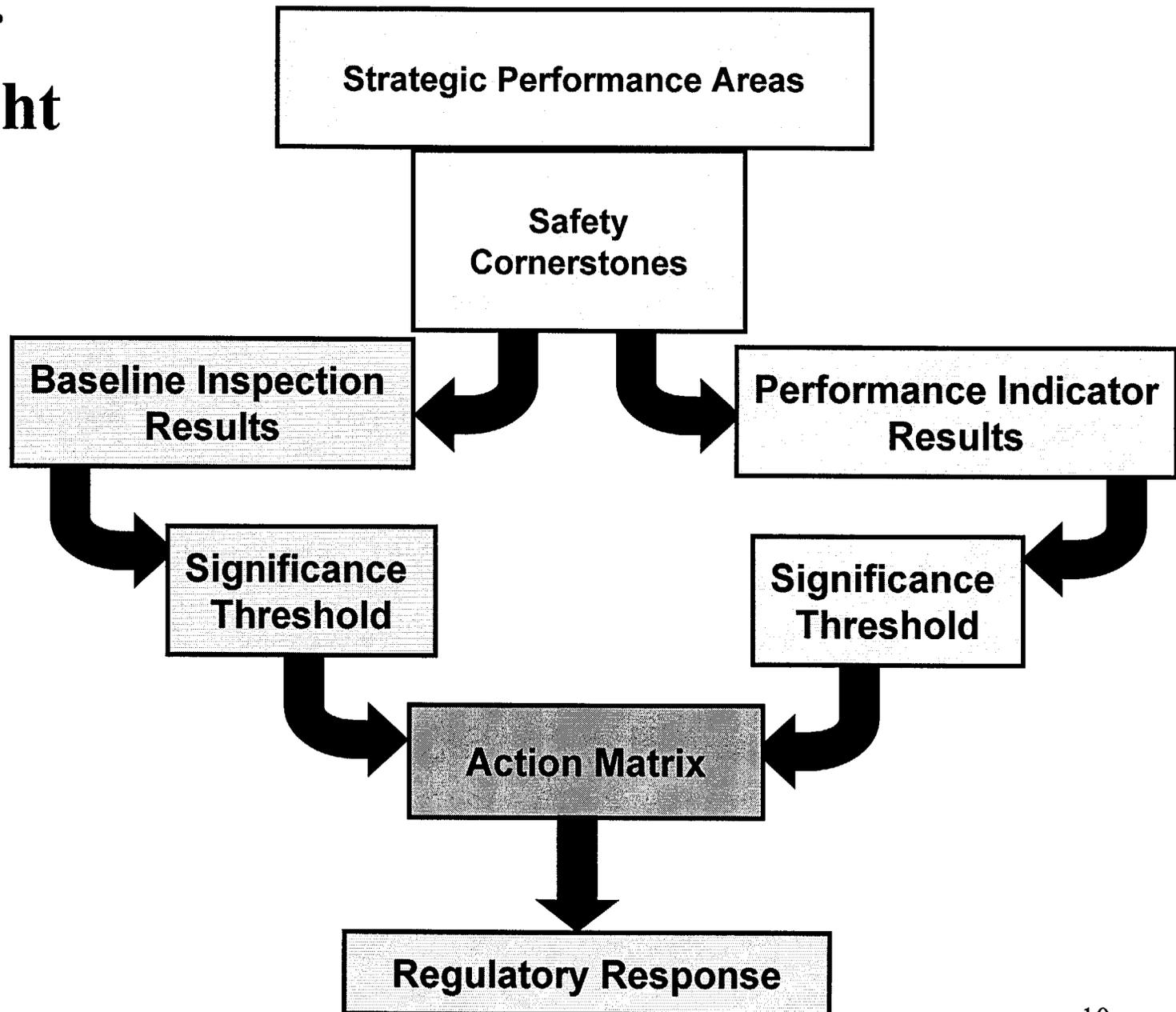
- Maintain safety and protect the environment
- Enhance public confidence
- Improve effectiveness, efficiency, and realism of processes and decision making
- Reduce unnecessary regulatory burden

# NRC Oversight Activities

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- Provides assurance plants are operating safely and in accord with the regulations
- Risk informed process
- Objective indicators of performance
- Inspections focused on key safety areas
- Defines expected NRC and Licensee actions

# Reactor Oversight Process



# Strategic Performance Areas

## Safety Cornerstones

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- Reactor Safety

- Initiating Events
- Mitigating Systems
- Barrier Integrity
- Emergency Preparedness

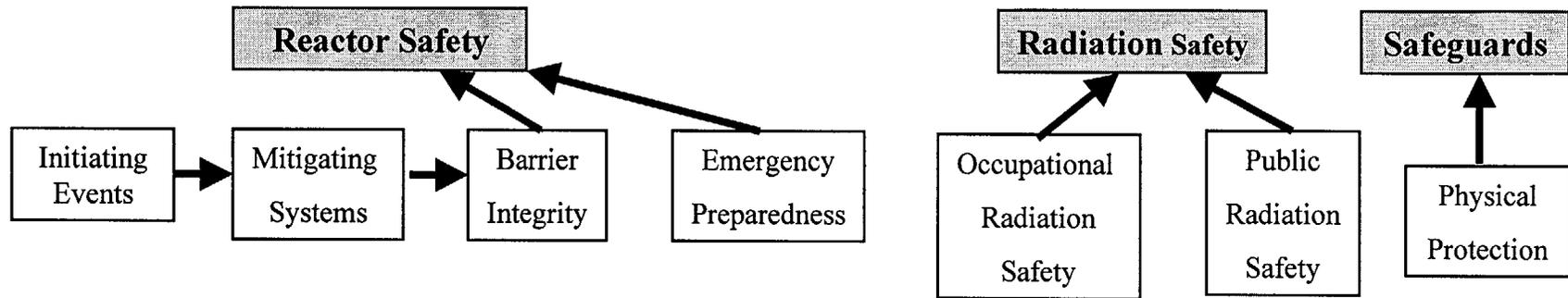
- Radiation Safety

- Occupational Radiation Safety
- Public Radiation Safety

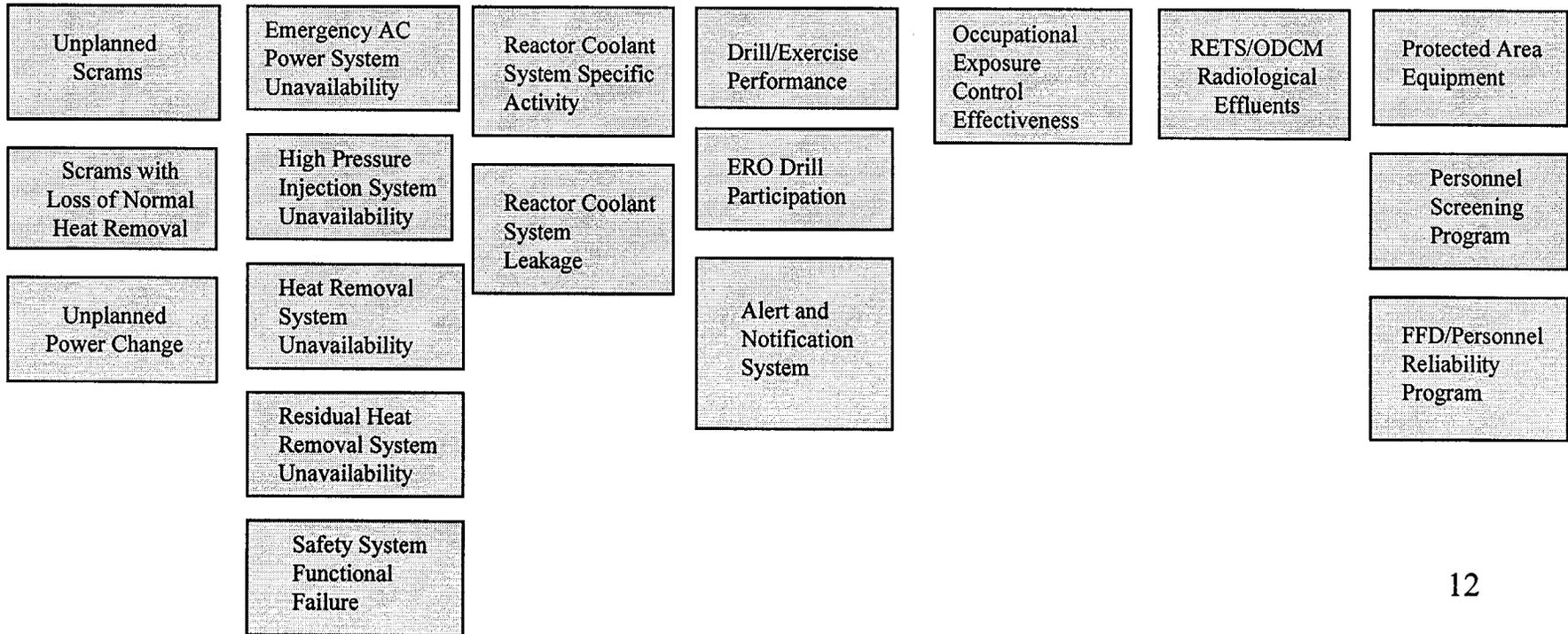
- Safeguards

- Physical Protection

# Relationship of Strategic Performance Areas, Safety Cornerstones and Performance Indicators



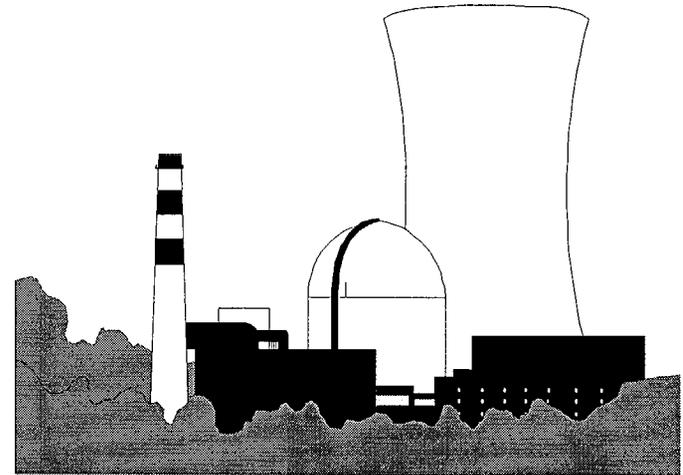
## Performance Indicators



# NRC Resident and Regional Inspectors Conduct Safety Inspections

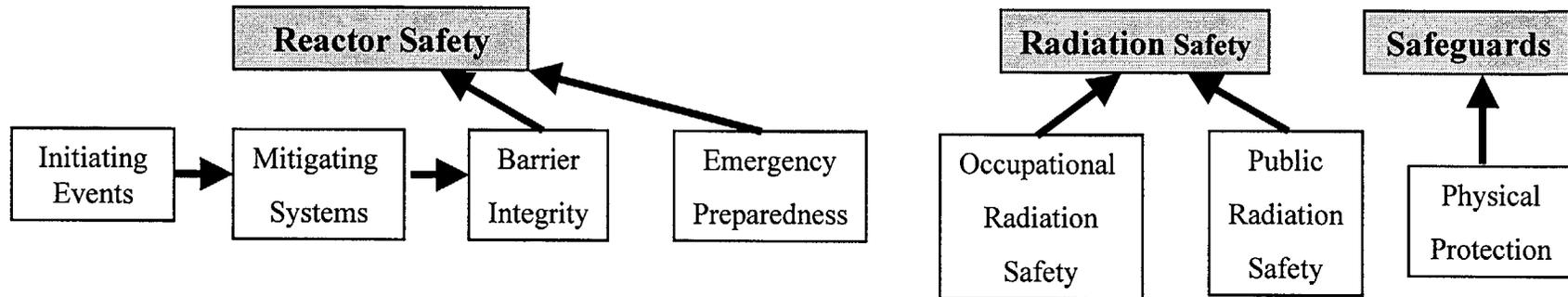
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Baseline Inspections at all reactor sites to monitor plant safety performance in each of the strategic Performance Areas



Event follow-up and Supplemental Inspections when required

# Inspection Areas



## Inspection Procedures

- |  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adverse Weather</li> <li>• Evaluation of Changes</li> <li>• Equipment Alignment</li> <li>• Fire Protection</li> <li>• Flood Protection</li> <li>• Heat Sink</li> <li>• In-service Inspection</li> <li>• Operator Requalification</li> <li>• Maintenance Rule Imp</li> <li>• Non-Routine Plant Events</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operability Evaluation</li> <li>• Operator Workarounds</li> <li>• Permanent Plant Mods-Online</li> <li>• Permanent Mods</li> <li>• Post Maintenance Testing</li> <li>• Refueling Outage</li> <li>• SSDI</li> <li>• Surveillance Testing</li> <li>• Temporary Modifications</li> <li>• PI&amp;R</li> <li>• Event Follow-up</li> <li>• PI Verification</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercise Evaluation</li> <li>• Alert and Notice</li> <li>• ERO Augment</li> <li>• EAL</li> <li>• EP Preparation</li> <li>• Drill Evaluation</li> <li>• RAD Access</li> <li>• ALARA Plan</li> <li>• RAD monitoring</li> <li>• RAD effluents</li> <li>• RAD Transport</li> <li>• RAD Environmental</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sec Authorization Access</li> <li>• Sec Search</li> <li>• Sec Response</li> <li>• Sec Plan change</li> </ul> |
|--|--|--|---|

# Key Aspects of Baseline Inspection Program

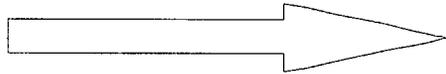
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- Objective evidence of plant safety
- Conducted at all plants
- Emphasizes safety significant systems, components, activities, and events
- Monitors licensee effectiveness in finding and fixing safety issues
- Inspection reports describe significant findings and non-compliance
- Inspection reports are publicly accessible

# Action Matrix Concept

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<b>Licensee Response</b>	<b>Regulatory Response</b>	<b>Degraded Cornerstone</b>	<b>Multiple/Degraded Cornerstone</b>	<b>Unacceptable Performance</b>
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Increasing Safety Significance

Increasing NRC Inspection Efforts

Increasing NRC/Licensee Management Involvement

Increasing Regulatory Actions

# Examples of Baseline Inspections

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- Plant safety tours
- Plant control room tours
- Maintenance and alignment of equipment
- Operator response during simulated emergency conditions
- Worker radiation protection
- Controls for radiation releases
- Plant security

# Event Follow-up and Supplemental Inspection

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- Review events for significance
- Follow-up significant inspection findings
- Determine causes of performance declines
- Provides for graduated response

# Significance Threshold

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## Performance Indicators

**Green:** Performance requiring no NRC oversight beyond Baseline Inspection

**White:** Performance may result in increased NRC oversight

**Yellow:** Performance that minimally reduces safety margin and requires more NRC oversight

**Red:** Performance that represents significant reduction in safety, requires more NRC oversight, but provides adequate protection to public health and safety

# Significance Threshold

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## Inspection Findings

**Green:** Very low safety issue

**White:** Low to moderate safety issue

**Yellow:** Substantial safety issue

**Red:** High safety issue

# Key Aspects of Assessment Program

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- Objective assessment of performance
- “Action Matrix” to determine agency response to performance:
  - Inspection level increases
  - Management involvement increases
  - Regulatory actions increase
- Plant specific assessment letters
- Information on NRC public web site

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# National Summary

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First Quarter Calendar Year 2001  
Performance Indicator Results

Green	1818
White	14
Yellow	0
Black	0

Total Inspection Findings  
(April 2000 - March 2001)

Green	1031
White	20
Yellow	1
Black	1

# National Summary

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## Plant Performance -102 Plants

(At End of First Quarter Calendar Year 2001)

Licensee Response.....	83
Regulatory Response.....	15
Degraded Cornerstone.....	3
Multiple/Repetitive Degraded Cornerstone.....	1
Unacceptable.....	0

# Vermont Yankee Annual Assessment

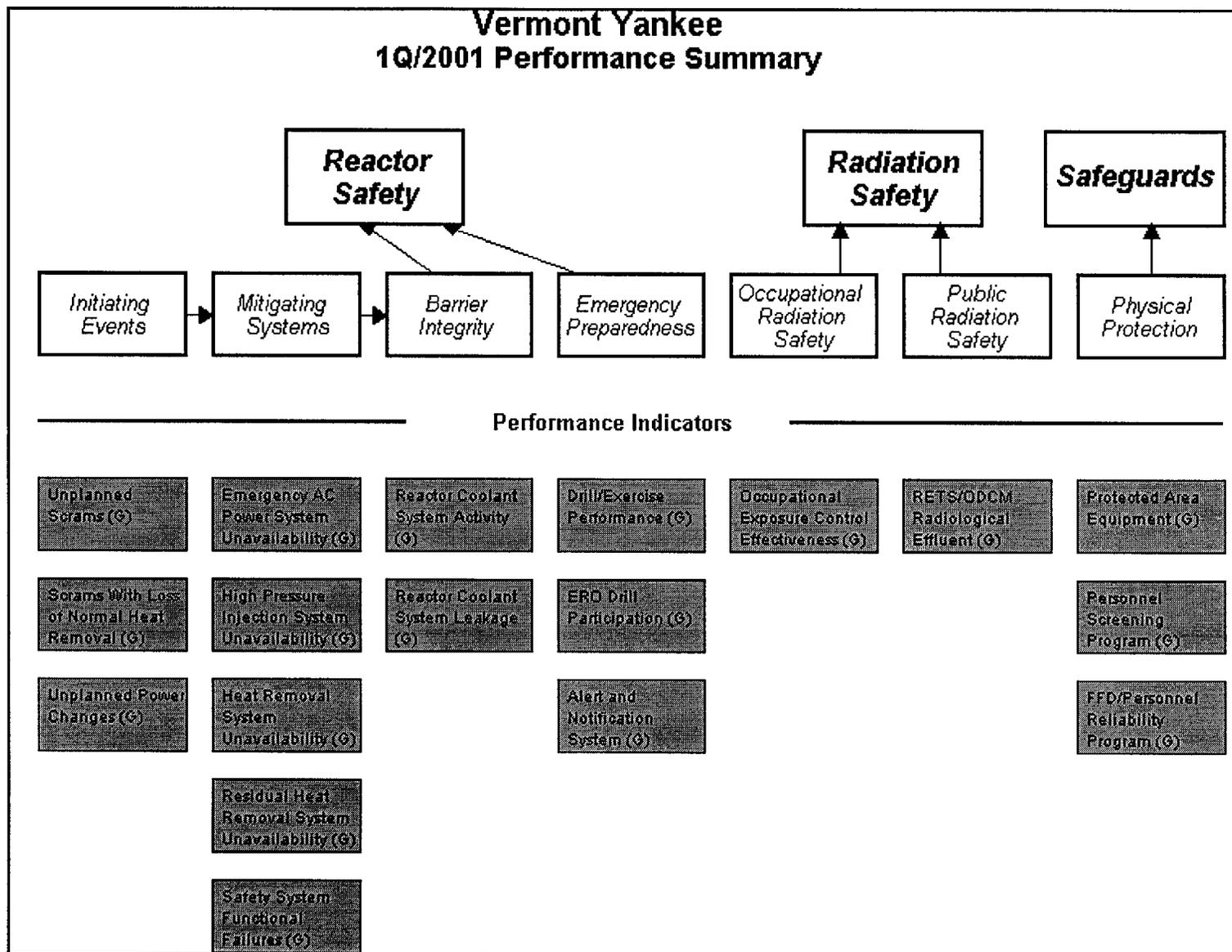
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- Operated safely
- Fully met all cornerstone objectives
- Current performance within Regulatory

## Response Column of Action Matrix

- All Inspection Findings of very low safety significance (Green)
- All Performance Indicators are Green
- NRC plans to conduct the baseline inspections at Vermont Yankee during ROP-2

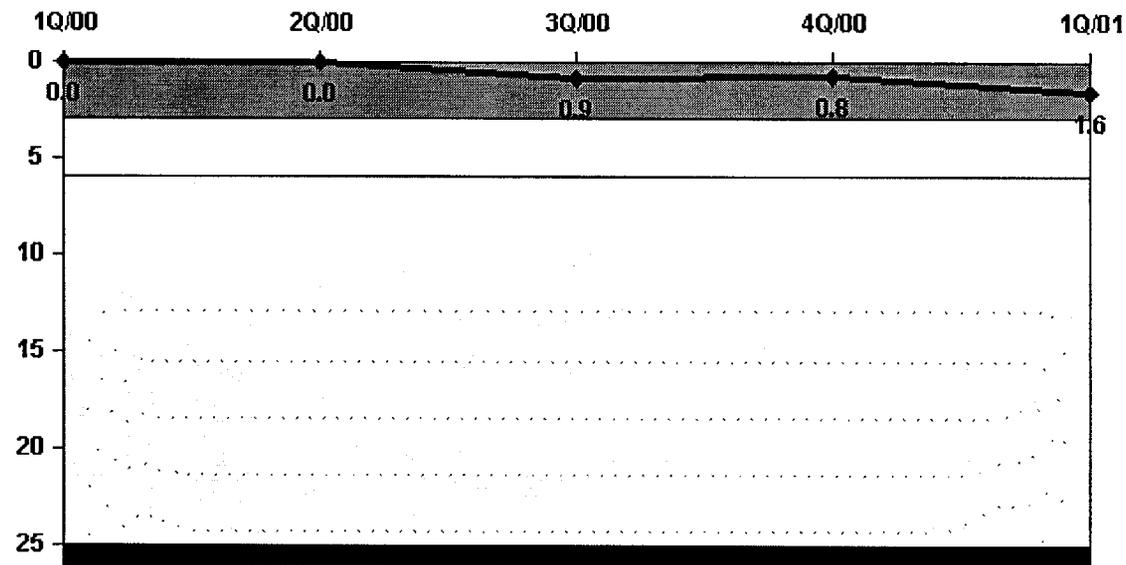
# NRC Web Site - Plant Assessment Results



# NRC Web Site - Plant Assessment Results

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Unplanned Scrams per 7000 Critical Hrs



Thresholds: White > 3.0 Yellow > 6.0 Red > 25.0

# NRC Web Site - Plant Assessment Results

	<i>Initiating Events</i>	<i>Mitigating Systems</i>	<i>Barrier Integrity</i>	<i>Emergency Preparedness</i>	<i>Occupational Radiation Safety</i>	<i>Public Radiation Safety</i>	<i>Physical Protection</i>
<b>Most Significant Inspection Findings</b>							
1Q/2001	No findings this quarter	G	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	G
4Q/2000	No findings this quarter	G	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter
3Q/2000	No findings this quarter	G	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter
2Q/2000	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter	No findings this quarter
<i>Miscellaneous findings</i>							
<b>Additional Inspection &amp; Assessment Information</b>							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Assessment Reports/Inspection Plans:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> 1Q/2001</li> <li><input type="radio"/> 4Q/2000</li> </ul>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>List of Inspection Reports</b>			

# NRC Web Site - Plant Assessment Results

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## Mitigating Systems

**Significance:**  Feb 17, 2001

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: FIN Finding

**As-found Data not Evaluated for Impact on Over-Current Relay Operability**

### **Determination**

The inspectors identified that data collected during corrective maintenance for degraded over-current relays was not bounded by the values that had been assumed in an associated operability determination. VY did not confirm the as-found condition was consistent with the deficiency evaluated in Basis for Maintaining Operation (BMO) 2000-016. This was of concern because similar degraded relays were installed in other safety related 4kV breakers. This finding was of very low safety significance (Green) because a revised operability determination provided reasonable assurance of operability for the affected safety related 4kV switchgear and associated systems. VY entered this issue in their corrective action program.

Inspection Report# : [2000011\(pdf\)](#)

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