

Pelton, David

From: Meyer, Jeff
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2004 10:28 AM
To: DYKES, JIMMY; White, Thomas - VTY; 'Bob Gallagher'; 'Bob Olveira'; Cosgrove, Brian; Card, John; Faison, Charlene; Mannai, David; McElwee, David; Pelton, David; 'Dennis O'Dowd'; 'Gerald Wilson'; 'Henry Porter'; Hoffman, John; Meyer, Jeff; Devinentis, Jim; 'Jimmy Still'; Hoffman, John; McCann, John; 'Mike Ault'; 'Mike Elsen'; Empey, Mike; Ramsdell, Roy; 'Rick Ennis'; Williams, Rob; 'Ron Sanacore'; Ryan, Patrick ; 'Stanley Marshall'; Thayer, Jay; Wanczyk, Robert
Subject: RE: Supplemental NRC Notification

The following attachment was the subject of a supplemental NRC notification made today, pertaining to the missing fuel rod pieces and is provided for your information.

Jeff Meyer
VY Licensing



New Wordpad
ocument.doc (29 K)

-----Original Message-----

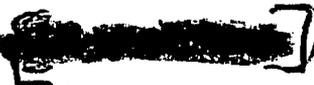
From: Devinentis, Jim
Sent: Monday, May 17, 2004 11:14 AM
To: Jimmy Dykes; White, Thomas - VTY; Bob Gallagher; Bob Olveira; Brian Cosgrove; Card, John; Charlene Faison; Dave Mannal; Dave McElwee; Dave Pelton; Dennis O'Dowd; Felumb, Rhonda; Gerald Wilson; Henry Porter; Hoffman, John; Jeff Meyer; Jim DeVincentis; Jimmy Still; John Hoffman; John McCann; Meyer, Jeff; Mike Ault; Mike Elsen; Mike Empey; Ramsdell, Roy; Rick Ennis; Rob Williams; Ron Sanacore; Ryan, Patrick ; Stanley Marshall; Thayer, Jay; Wanczyk, Robert
Subject: FW: Update on VY Fuel Rod Investigation

FYI - Latest update -

Jim DeVincentis, PE

Manager, Licensing

Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, Phone 802 - 258 - 4236



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-----Original Message-----

From: Williams, Rob
Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2004 5:09 PM
To: Gottlieb, Larry
Subject: Update on VY Fuel Rod Investigation

FYI:

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Act, exemptions 6
FOIA- 2004-267

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For the interview process, Entergy has selected a team of experts in the field to conduct formal interviews of about 65 present and former employees and contractors who have been associated with spent fuel pool operations over the years.

The second part of the investigation involves reviewing pool-related documentation produced over the past 25 years. The team is reviewing more than 3,500 pool-related documents which include data on radiological controls, maintenance, fuel movement, quality assurance, fuel storage and shipping.

The portion of the investigation that involved the visual inspection of the pool is essentially completed. That work included searches with pole-mounted and crawler-mounted cameras above and below all the spent fuel storage racks as well as in empty fuel racks and other containers and storage areas. The camera search did not find any fuel rod segments.

The State of Vermont and the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) are actively overseeing this project. The NRC has established a separate web page dedicated to its oversight of these activities.

Here is the link: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/plant-specific-items/vermont-yankee-issues.html>.

- Rob Williams
Vermont Yankee

ENTERGY NUCLEAR VERMONT YANKEE

ENS EVENT NOTIFICATION

REPORTING CRITERION: 10 CFR 20.2201(a)(1)(ii)
10 CFR 74.11(a)
REPORT DATE: May 19, 2004

SUBJECT: Two Fuel Rod Pieces Unaccounted for at Vermont Yankee.

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT:

On April 20, 2004, Vermont Yankee (VY) determined that two short pieces of spent fuel rods were not in their documented location in the spent fuel pool. An investigation team, consisting of Entergy personnel and industry peers is working to locate the fuel rod pieces. This is being accomplished by completing a review of special nuclear material storage records, performing a thorough, methodical inspection of the spent fuel pool, interviewing current and former VY personnel and contractors and reviewing all radioactive materials shipping records generated since 1979, corresponding to the date that the fuel rod pieces were loaded into the storage container.

The two missing fuel rod pieces are approximately 7 and 17½ inches in length and approximately one half inch in diameter. According to station documentation, in 1979, the highly radioactive rods were placed in a stainless steel container in the spent fuel pool after a fuel inspection to address fuel cladding deficiencies. This container was not designed with sufficient shielding for safe transport outside of an underwater environment such as the spent fuel pool.

VY has an extensive system of radiation monitors on the refuel floor and throughout the station with alarm set points that are capable of alerting control room operators and plant personnel to the uncontrolled movement of highly radioactive material in the protected area. Due to the radioactive nature of the material, the pieces could not have been inadvertently removed from the pool in anything other than a container specifically designed to contain this form of radioactive material. Therefore, there is reasonable assurance that public health and safety is not, nor was ever at risk as a result of this issue. VY will continue to keep the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and state authorities informed on the progress of the investigation.

The portion of the investigation that involves the visual inspection of the pool is essentially completed. That work included searches with pole-mounted and robotic crawler-mounted cameras above and below all the spent fuel storage racks as well as in empty fuel racks and other containers and storage areas. The camera search did not find the unaccounted for fuel rod pieces. Continuing efforts include, but are not limited to, document reviews and extensive interviews with approximately 65 present and former employees and contractors who have been associated with spent fuel pool and radioactive waste disposal operations over the years.

The State of Vermont and the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) are actively providing oversight for this project.

PREVIOUS EVENT NOTIFICATION INFORMATION

USNRC EVENT NUMBER: 40694
REPORT DATE AND TIME: April 21, 2004 at 18:00
REPORTING CRITERION: 10 CFR 50.72(b)(2)(xi)