

From: Neil Sheehan *NS*  
To: INTERNET: CLorie@Reformer.Com  
Date: 5/5/04 5:07PM  
Subject: re: Vermont Yankee inspection

Carolyn,

Thanks for forwarding the press release. We believe the release is referring to a portion of the Vermont Yankee power uprate application in which Entergy requests an exception (*not* an exemption) to not perform main steam isolation valve closure and turbine-generator load-rejection tests. The NRC staff has not yet determined whether the proposed exception is acceptable.

As for our returning to the area for another meeting, I would prefer to say, "We welcome input from the public as we continue to review the uprate application."

The NRC formally began reviewing the Vermont Yankee uprate application as of the end of January. The agency has committed to having a decision by next Jan. 31. The engineering assessment inspection will be conducted late this summer, on a date still to be determined. That inspection results will be available well before the NRC's review of the uprate request is completed.

Neil

>>> "Carolyn Lorie" <clorie@reformer.com> 05/05/04 03:07PM >>>  
Hi Neil,

Thanks for the information.

One more question: NEC stated in the press release that VY has an exemption from having the Main Steam Isolation Valves inspected. Is this accurate and if so, why is it allowed? Shouldn't these be tested as part of the uprate review?

Last thing (really). When I asked you how you guys felt about returning to the area for another meeting you said, "That's democracy" can I use this?

Carolyn

--- Original Message ---

From: [NAS@nrc.gov](mailto:NAS@nrc.gov)  
To: [clorie@reformer.com](mailto:clorie@reformer.com)  
Subject: re: Vermont Yankee inspection  
Date: Wed, 05 May 2004 14:56:52 -0400

>Carolyn,

>

>The new engineering assessment inspection that will be used at  
>Vermont Yankee is part of a pilot program that has been under  
>discussion for several months.

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>One other piece of information: Since 2000, the NRC has performed  
>more than 860 hours of safety system design inspections at Vermont  
>Yankee. And in 1997, the agency conducted an architect/engineering

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>inspection at the plant to evaluate the capability of selected  
>systems to perform their required safety functions, the adherence of  
>systems to their design and licensing basis, and the consistency of  
>the as-built configuration with the plant's Final Safety Analysis  
>Report. The NRC concluded the systems we evaluated were capable of  
>performing their intended safety functions and that overall, the  
>company's activities in this area have been rigorous. In short, the  
>NRC has devoted a considerable amount of effort in recent years  
>toward looking at key safety systems at Vermont Yankee. The  
>inspection announced today, in combination with update review  
>process, will enhance the large body of information we have already  
>compiled about the plant.

>  
>Neil  
>NRC Public Affairs  
>(610) 337-5331  
>  
>  
>

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**Creation Date:** 5/5/04 5:07PM  
**From:** Neil Sheehan

**Created By:** NAS@nrc.gov

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