

From: Neil Sheehan *IRT*  
To: smalheer@sover.net,  
Date: 5/27/04 1:07PM  
Subject: Re: Questions re: Vermont Yankee

Susan,

Sooner is a relative term, I suppose.  
I'm out of the office today, but I did get a chance to read your story today. One thing I would point out is that the NRC staff, not the NRC Office of Investigations, reviews and responds to 2.206 petitions.

Neil  
NRC Public Affairs

<<< "Susan Smallheer" <smalheer@sover.net> 5/26 6:14p >>>  
Sooner? four weeks late?

SS  
----- Original Message -----  
From: "Neil Sheehan" <NAS@nrc.gov>  
To: <smalheer@sover.net>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2004 6:05 PM  
Subject: Re: Questions re: Vermont Yankee

> Susan,  
>  
> We don't, as a routine matter, immediately release Special Inspection  
charters or immediately put them on our web site. In fact, sometimes they  
are released as attachments to Inspection Reports. And Inspections Reports  
can be issued up to 30 days after a Special Inspection is wrapped up. In  
this case, there was a decision made that due to high level of interest, it  
made sense to issue the charter sooner rather than later.  
>  
> Neil  
>  
>  
> >>> "Susan Smallheer" <smalheer@sover.net> 05/26/04 05:42PM >>>  
> Neil -  
>  
> why does it take so long to be posted? it was dated April 30.....  
>  
> SS  
>  
>  
> ----- Original Message -----  
> From: "Neil Sheehan" <NAS@nrc.gov>  
> To: <smalheer@sover.net>  
> Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2004 5:40 PM  
> Subject: Re: Questions re: Vermont Yankee  
>  
>  
>> Susan,  
>>  
>> You're correct. I just checked and the charter is indeed there now. I  
must

*C-128*

> have been misinformed by a staffer trying to be helpful late in the day  
> about when it would be released. In any case, you can see the charter  
simply  
> provides some more details about what our review entails. Yes, feel free  
to  
> use it :)  
>>  
>> Neil  
>>  
>>  
>>>> "Susan Smallheer" <smalheer@sover.net> 05/26/04 05:26PM >>>  
>> Neil --  
>>  
>> I found it on your website. So, does that mean I can't use it?  
>> (hahahahahahahah)  
>>  
>>  
>> Susan  
>>  
>> ----- Original Message -----  
>> From: "Neil Sheehan" <NAS@nrc.gov>  
>> To: <Susan.smallheer@rutlandherald.com>; <smalheer@sover.net>  
>> Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2004 5:15 PM  
>> Subject: Questions re: Vermont Yankee  
>>  
>>  
>>> Susan,  
>>>  
>>> The charter for the NRC's Special Inspection into the Vermont Yankee  
>> missing spent fuel pieces is not publically available as of now. But we  
do  
>> expect to release it sometime in the near future. As I mentioned  
earlier,  
>> the charter is two pages and just basically lists the inspectors  
assigned  
> to  
>> the review and the tasks they are expected to accomplish. I will be glad  
> to  
>> provide you with a copy as soon as it's releasable.  
>>>  
>>> Also, in the October 2001 final report on its missing spent fuel, as  
> well  
>> as in other related filings, Millstone did not provide the NRC with a  
cost  
>> estimate for its search efforts. (Millstone's former owner, Northeast  
>> Utilities, took responsibility for conducting and paying for the search  
>> since the fuel rods were apparently lost on its watch.) Millstone did,  
>> however, state that the 10-month-investigation involved 50,000 hours of  
>> research, interviews, document retrieval and verification. It also said  
> the  
>> investigation was conducted by a team of 20 experienced nuclear  
>> professionals, with a separate Independent Review Team (IRT) providing  
>> oversight throughout the process. I believe the cost estimate that has  
> been  
>> mentioned in press accounts recently resulted from a reporter or  
reporters

> > calling Millstone officials for details of that effort after the Vermont  
> > Yankee fuel pieces were determined to be missing.  
> > >  
> > > Regards,  
> > > Neil  
> > > NRC Public Affairs  
> > > (610) 337-5331  
> > >  
> >  
>

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**Subject:** Re: Questions re: Vermont Yankee  
**Creation Date:** 5/27/04 1:07PM  
**From:** Neil Sheehan

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

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smalheer		

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