



---

# NRC NEWS

**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Office of Public Affairs, Region I  
475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, Pa. 19406  
E-mail: [opal@nrc.gov](mailto:opal@nrc.gov)  
Site: <http://www.nrc.gov>

---

No. I-07-066

December 17, 2007

Contact: Diane Screnci 610/337-5330  
Neil Sheehan 610/337-5331

## **NRC ASSIGNS NEW SENIOR RESIDENT INSPECTOR TO VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR PLANT**

Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials in King of Prussia, Pa., have selected Ricardo Fernandes as the new Senior Resident Inspector at the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant in Vernon, Vt. He joins NRC Resident Inspector Beth Sienel at the site.

Fernandes replaces Dave Pelton who was promoted to a position at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Md.

Most recently, Fernandes worked as an NRC Resident Inspector at Millstone Station in Waterford, Conn. Prior to that, he worked in the NRC Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response. He first joined the NRC in 1993 as a reactor engineer and then worked as a region-based specialist inspector in the Division of Reactor Safety in King of Prussia, Pa. Fernandes has worked as an NRC Resident Inspector at the James A. FitzPatrick and Nine Mile Point nuclear power plants in Scriba, N.Y., and as a Senior Resident Inspector at the R.E. Ginna plant in Ontario, N.Y. He left the agency in 2002 and rejoined the NRC in February 2006.

"Rick Fernandes has the experience and commitment to safety that will help the NRC ensure that Vermont Yankee conducts operations with the highest safety standards to protect public health and safety," said NRC Region I Administrator Samuel J. Collins.

Prior to joining the NRC, Fernandes worked for General Dynamics, Electric Boat Division in Connecticut, as a shift test engineer, project engineer and steel trades supervisor. He received a bachelor's degree in marine engineering from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

Each U.S. commercial nuclear plant has at least two NRC resident inspectors. They serve as the agency's eyes and ears at the facility, conducting inspections, monitoring major work projects and interacting with plant workers and the public. The Vermont Yankee resident inspectors can be reached at 802/257-4319.

###

News releases are available through a free *listserv* subscription at the following Web address: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/listserver.html> . The NRC homepage at [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov) also offers a SUBSCRIBE link. E-mail notifications are sent to subscribers when news releases are posted to NRC's Web site.