



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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STATEMENT OF NRC CHAIRMAN GREGORY B. JACZKO ON VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will issue a Demand For Information (DFI) to Entergy to determine what, if any, regulatory actions are necessary regarding the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant. In accordance with our Enforcement Policy, the NRC staff will issue the DFI to Entergy to provide information under oath to allow us to make this determination. This step is being taken in response to Entergy's investigation of their interactions with the State of Vermont.

Earlier this month I told the Vermont Congressional delegation that the NRC would closely monitor the developments at Vermont Yankee. Once Entergy responds, the NRC will assess and independently verify the information provided to ascertain the implications on NRC-regulated safety activities and the impact on safety culture at the site. The NRC will determine whether it needs to take any further action.

This is the latest of several steps that the NRC has taken on this matter. Senior personnel will soon arrive at Vermont Yankee to verify assertions and information that Entergy has provided regarding its recent licensing activities. In addition, the NRC has sent a Region I manager to the site to provide additional oversight, augmenting the NRC Resident Inspectors assigned to Vermont Yankee.

I will see to it that the NRC takes every measure necessary to independently assure that the health and safety of the public and the environment is protected at Vermont Yankee.

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