YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY

Telephone (413) 424-5261



Star Route, Rowe, Massachusetts 01367

October 25, 1989 BYR 84-157

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Document Control Desk Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Licensee Event Report No. 50-29/89-014

Technical Specification Violation Concerning Entry Into High Radiation Area

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i), the attached Licensee Event Report is hereby submitted.

Very truly yours,

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Timothy K. Henderson Acting Plant Superintendent

DJK/pkg ENCLOSURE cc: [3] NSARC Chairman (YAEC) [1] Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO) [1] USNRC, Region I [1] Resident Inspector 8910310312 891025 PDR ADOCK 05000291 PDR ADOCK 05000291

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On September 25, 1989, at 0900 hours, while in Mode 1 at 100% power, a plant worker entered a High Radiation Area (HRA) in a pipe trench under the Primary Auxiliary Building cubicle corridor. The individual entered the pipe trench to perform a pre-work inspection for insulation removal and was not wearing an alarming dosimeter. An investigation was conducted and the determination was made that the conditions of entry did not comply with Technical Specification (TS) 6.12.5.

The root cause of this event was attributed to personnel error in that approved Radiation Protection (RP) procedures were not followed correctly. With the exception of wearing the proper protective clothing and a self reading pocket dosimeter, the worker did not comply with the remaining Radiation Work Permit (RWP) requirements. The RWP was not signed by the individual, an alarming dosimeter for entry into a HRA was not obtained, a breathing zone air (BZA) sampler was not obtained and RP was not notified prior to gaining access to the HRA.

Immediate corrective action involved ordering the worker to exit the HRA, return to the control point and leave the plant radiation control area (RCA). No unnecessary radiation exposure occurred, nor was there any spread of contamination; the individual received zero (0) mrem and was not contaminated. The worker was suspended for 3 days without pay for failing to comply with RP program requirements. This individual has been restricted from the plant RCA pending completion of an RP training course.

Additional plant evaluations have not revealed any programmatic deficiencies:

- o The TS requirements for entry into HRAs were found to be adequately presented in the RP portion of General Employee Training.
- o The plant procedure which describes RWPs and the specific RWP applicable to this event were both reviewed and found to be adequate and appropriate.

This event is considered an isolated occurrence; to confirm this, an RWP compliance observation program has been temporarily established. Unless this observation program identifies an adverse trend, no further corrective action is deemed necessary at this time.

There was no adverse effect to the public health or safety as a result of this event.