Date: September 8, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-80-126

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff on this date.

Facility: Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation
Vermont Yankee N.P.S. (DN 50-271)
Vernon, Vermont

Subject: PICKET LINE AT PLANT GATE

A picket line was set up at 6 am on September 8, 1980 at the main entrance to the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station. The picket line was established by Local 421 of the IBEW in protest over construction practices at Vermont Yankee and other power plant sites. Approximately 50 personnel were picketing the plant front gate as of 8 am on September 8. Licensee personnel represented by Local 300 of the IBEW, including auxiliary operators and licensed control room operators, are honoring the picket line. Non-union personnel are reporting for work. The normal licensed operator shift crew is on duty until 12 noon and an alternate shift staffing plan is being prepared for subsequent shifts utilizing licensee supervisory personnel. The plant security guard force is non-union and has reported for normal duty. The Town of Vernon Police Department has been notified. There is no estimate of how long the picket line will remain in place at the present time.

Media interest is possible. The State of Vermont has been informed. A press release is not planned by the licensee nor by the NRC.

NRC Region I (Philadelphia) received notification of this event by a telephone call from the Resident Inspector. The licensee made a 50.72 report to the HQ Duty Officer at 6:05 am on Septmber 8, 1980.

Contact: W. J. Raymond/S. J. Collins 802-257-4319; T. T. Martin 488-1255; E. J. Brunner 488-1240

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