

Date: February 17, 1981

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-81-21

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: Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company
Maine Yankee Nuclear Power Station
Wiscasset, Maine
(DN 50-309)

Subject: TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION MPT LIMIT EXCEEDED

In June 1980 Maine Yankee received results from Charpy V-notch impact tests of a reactor vessel wall surveillance capsule which indicated a much higher than predicted RT_{NDT} (Reference Temperature, Nil Ductility Transition) shift. (LER 80-14). A report of the dosimetry results for this capsule was received by Maine Yankee in December, 1980, confirming the Charpy V-notch data. The licensee delayed reporting this to the NRC until February 13, 1981, following completion and evaluation of additional tests of actual Maine Yankee reactor vessel material, which they contend demonstrates that R.G. 1.99 values are too conservative. Based on R.G. 1.99 (T.S.) values, the hydrostatic test of the Reactor Coolant System performed in March 1980 was performed at 27° below MPT (Minimum Pressurization Temperature). Based on their recent additional testing of actual Maine Yankee samples, the hydrostatic test was performed with a margin of at least 33° above MPT.

NRC Region I was notified about this occurrence from the resident inspector and the HQ duty officer about 3:15 p.m. on February 13, 1981.

This PN is issued for information only. The licensee does not plan a press release. No NRC press release is planned; media inquires will be answered. The state of Maine has been informed.

Contact: W. J. Lazarus
488-1258

E. J. Brunner
488-1240



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