

October 16, 1998

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-98-048

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by Region I staff in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania on this date.

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Licensee Emergency Classification</u>
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp.	Notification of Unusual Event
Vermont Yankee 1	Alert
Vernon, Vermont	Site Area Emergency
Dockets: 50-271	General Emergency
	X Not Applicable

Subject: EARLY COMMENCEMENT OF PLANNED OUTAGE DUE TO A DEGRADING STEAM LEAK

At 1:12 a.m. on Friday, October 16, 1998, Vermont Yankee commenced a normal plant shutdown due to increasing steam leakage from an instrumentation line on the main steam high pressure drain system in the steam tunnel. The licensee had previously planned for an outage to effect repairs on the main turbine regulator systems to commence on Monday, October 19, 1998. Major work planned for the outage is repair of the main turbine pressure regulator system and repairing the steam leak in the steam tunnel. No significant problems were encountered during the shutdown. Currently the licensee is in the process of cooling the plant down to atmosphere pressure and temperature less than 200 degrees Fahrenheit. The outage is expected to last several days.

There were no abnormal increases to external radiation levels due to the steam leak or the reactor shutdown.

The licensee has issued a press release.

The State of Vermont has been informed about the information in this PN.

Contact: B. McDermott	C. Cowgill
(802)257-4319	(610)337-5233

9810230034 981016
PDR I&E
PNO-I-98-048 PDR

220010

1E34
0/1