

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-88-102

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 the Region I staff on this date.

Facility:	Licensee Emergency Classification:
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation	<input type="checkbox"/> Notification or Unusual Event
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station	<input type="checkbox"/> Alert
Vernon, Vermont	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Area Emergency
Docket No. 50-271	<input type="checkbox"/> General Emergency
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable

Subject: High Radiation Area Access Control Problems

On September 28, 1988 at 9:45 a.m. with the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station (VYNPS) at full power, two Instrumentation and Control (I&C) technicians were observed by a Health Physics (HP) technician to be attempting to gain entry to a posted High Radiation area through a locked door without the use of a key. The I&C Technicians were performing a routine monthly surveillance on the off-gas system. The HP Technician stopped the I&C Technicians from proceeding further and required that they gain entry to the area by following established procedures. Radiation Protection (RP) department management was informed of the incident and an HP Event Report was initiated. Senior plant management was subsequently informed of the incident. Examination of locked radiation area doors determined approximately fourteen had indications of possible past attempts at entry without use of a key. These doors have been modified to prevent recurrence. No security related doors were involved. A licensee task force has been formed to investigate the incident and related issues in detail.

The resident inspectors have been onsite reviewing licensee corrective actions. A Region I facility radiation specialist arrived onsite on October 5 for a special inspection of the incident and licensee immediate corrective actions.

The licensee informed the State of Vermont; the NRC will also discuss this matter with the State.

The licensee plans a press release.

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