

NRC NEWS

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NRC ISSUES TWO INSPECTION REPORTS ON VERMONT YANKEE; **SCHEDULES MEETING**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued two reports on recent inspections at the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant in Vernon, Vt. Both reports are being released now in response to requests from local stakeholders for time to review the final reports in preparation for an upcoming meeting on the reports.

The first report documents the conclusions of an engineering inspection that was conducted from August 9th through September 3. The preliminary results were released on November 5th and posted on the NRC web page.

The second report contains the results of a special inspection to look into spent fuel segments that were reported missing at the facility. The team concluded the pieces found in July 2004 are the pieces misplaced in January 1980. One apparent violation was also identified: Entergy did not adequately account for the two fuel rod pieces from 1980 through 2004.

Both final inspection reports and the earlier preliminary findings are posted on the NRC web page at http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/plant-specific-items/vermont-yankee-issues.html.

The findings of both inspections will be discussed publicly at a meeting of the Vermont State Nuclear Advisory Panel (V-SNAP) on December 16 at Brattleboro Union High School, beginning at 6 p.m. This meeting replaces NRC meetings that had been scheduled for November 9, but were postponed because of concerns that the expected attendance would exceed the capacity of the facilities.

"We appreciate V-SNAP's agreement to moderate a meeting on a topic of great interest to many citizens in Vermont. We believe they will provide structure to the meeting process and help us hold a constructive meeting," NRC Region I Director of Reactor Safety Wayne D. Lanning said.