

# VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD **DECEMBER 11, 2023**

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# Inspection Program

Brief overview of the  
Decommissioning Inspection  
Program

Transition from the Reactor  
Oversight Process to the  
Decommissioning Inspection  
Program

Recent findings/violations at  
decommissioning reactors

Decommissioning Inspections  
at Vermont Yankee





# Transition to Decommissioning

## Purpose

- Operating reactor assessment program
- Shutdown of reactor
- Verification of removal of fuel from vessel
- Decommissioning oversight program



# Inspection Program

- Inspection Manual Chapter 2561
- Comprehensive and intrusive inspections
- Inspections can involve multiple inspectors





# Insights

- Planning the work and working the plan
- Variety of site cultures at decommissioning sites
- Embracing the corrective action program



# Challenges

- Fires
- Lack of surveys
- Security issues
- Sensitivity to working at a nuclear facility
- Stakeholders understanding the risks



# Issues of Concern (Potential Violations)

- ❑ Identification
- ❑ Assessment
- ❑ Disposition: SL I, II, III, IV, minor
- ❑ Non-Cited Violations
- ❑ Cited Violations
- ❑ Civil Penalty

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## **NRC Enforcement Policy**

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January 13, 2023

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Enforcement  
Washington, DC 20555-00



# Notification of Violations

Licensee Informed upon  
completion of inspection

Public Inspection Report

Security-related violations  
not shared publicly due to  
sensitivity

To the Plant owner,  
State, Local Governments,  
Public

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION ENFORCEMENT MANUAL

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Enforcement  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

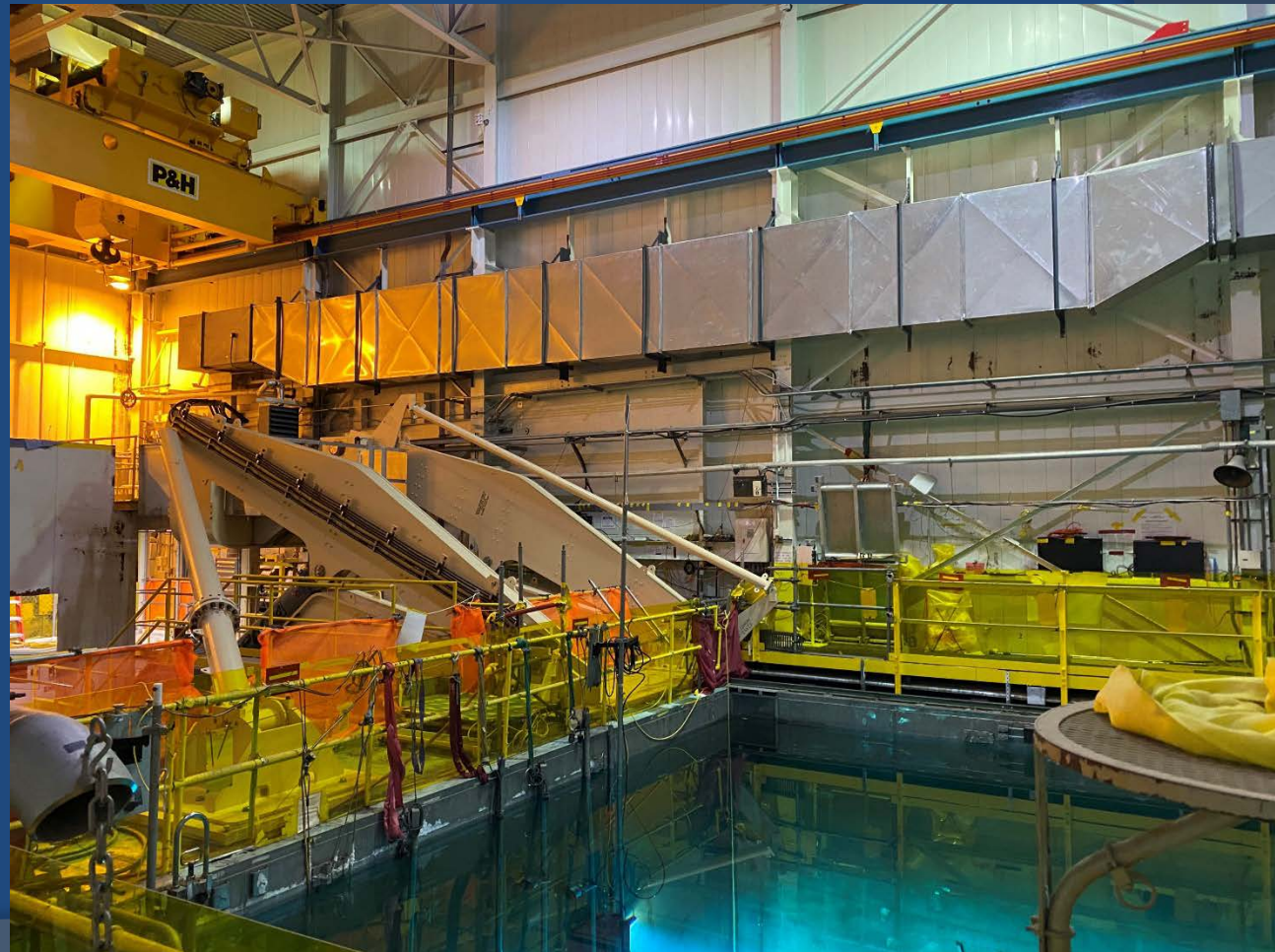


Revision 11  
Change 10  
February 24, 2022



# Examples of violations

- Failure to Survey
- Fires
- Securing Radioactive Material



# Successes

- Good communication with stakeholders and NRC staff
- Significant progress in decommissioning
- Packaging and shipping of radioactive waste





# VY Decommissioning Inspections

Phase of decommissioning  
at Vermont Yankee

Focus of the inspections

Frequency of the inspections





# VY Decommissioning Inspections

## How NRC inspects

Observations

Interviews

Walkdowns

Communications

Documentation Review



# Core Radiological Inspection Procedures

## IP 83750 - OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION EXPOSURE AT PERMANENTLY SHUTDOWN REACTORS

To ensure adequate protection of worker health and safety from exposure to radiation or radioactive material

To evaluate whether the licensee adequately identifies problems and implements appropriate and timely corrective actions related to occupational radiation safety

## IP 84750 - RADIOACTIVE WASTE TREATMENT, AND EFFLUENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

Discharges of radioactive materials are adequately quantified and evaluated from all established release points and releases

Ensure that Radiological Environmental Monitoring Programs (REMP): are effectively implemented

## IP 86750 - SOLID RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND TRANSPORTATION OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

Verify effectiveness of licensee's programs for processing, handling, storage and transportation of radioactive materials

# Summary

- ⦿ Issues identified assessed - Enforcement Policy
- ⦿ Inspections are intrusive, sometimes more than one inspector
- ⦿ Inspection Results – publicly available
- ⦿ Violations are processed through our Enforcement Policy
- ⦿ Our Website [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov) contains a lot of information