

**Maine Yankee
Community Advisory Panel on Decommissioning
Meeting Minutes – Adopted 1/16/03
Thursday, September 12, 2002**

Meeting called to order at 9:05 AM

Attendance: All members were present with the exception of Lewis Curtis. Ralph Keyes joined the meeting after lunch.

- I. Introduction.** Michael Meisner, Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer, welcomed the panel to its 41st meeting. The end of decommissioning is in sight. The project is about two-thirds complete and today's discussion will focus on the activities that remain for the CAP for the remainder of the project. A key issue on the agenda today is how to bring closure to the work of this group. Mr. Meisner also noted that Catherine Ferdinand, Maine Yankee staff to the panel would be leaving the company at the end of September. Eric Howes and John Arnold will be providing staff support to the group in the future. Chair Marge Kilkelly then presented Ms. Ferdinand a gift from the CAP in thanks for her five years of service to the group. Mr. Meisner then discussed two issues relative to security. On Tuesday when the Attorney General Ashcroft elevated the national security color code to orange, Maine Yankee stopped work on the project to focus on taking enhanced security measures to be in compliance with NRC guidelines for NRC's comparable Level IV condition. Work resumed on Thursday and the NRC inspector has confirmed that Maine Yankee is in compliance with the recommendations for enhancements. The Project on Government Oversight (POGO) has issued a study based on 20 anonymous interviews of security guards that makes several criticisms of security at U.S. nuclear plants. Mr. Meisner stated that there is nothing applicable to Maine Yankee in this report. Mr. Meisner also distributed an article from the *Washington Post* grading security at a variety of facilities nation wide that gave nuclear plants a grading of A-/B+. The NRC has denied the Friends of the Coast (FOC) petition to ensure that the ISFSI meets the security design basis threat (DBT). Mr. Meisner reminded the group that as passed out to the CAP last summer, NRC had already determined that Maine Yankee could accommodate the DBT. Mr. Shadis noted that the FOC position is that the design of the casks at the ISFSI was a step back from the multi-barrier design of operating plants. Maine Yankee received the enhanced security orders from the NRC for the spent fuel pool and expects enhanced orders for the ISFSI in about month.
- II. Decommissioning Update.** Mr. Meisner then discussed the status of the decommissioning activities. The decommissioning is about 67% complete with 440 workers on site. The first canister of spent fuel was placed on the ISFSI on August 19. The reactor pressure vessel (RPV) is in its shipping container and on its way out of containment to the back yard where it will be stored until it can be shipped. 95 million pounds of waste has been shipped to

date, about 40.5% of the total. Slides of Mr. Meisner's presentation are included with the meeting record as **Attachment 1**. Don Hudson asked how long it will take to get the RPV package to South Carolina by barge. Mr. Norton indicated it would take about two months to load the barge and get it to its final destination at Barnwell. Having the RPV staged on a barge is cost prohibitive.

- III. Planning Session.** The facilitator's report and notes of the planning session are attached as **Attachment 2** to the meeting record.
- IV. Committee Business.** The panel discussed revisions to the charter and recommended that staff review the charter and recommend changes to the panel. Mr. Jarrett moved to approve the minutes of the May 23 and June 20 meetings. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. The panel adopted the minutes with two members abstaining. Mr. Shadis passed out copies of a draft fact sheet on dispersal of spent fuel, and copies of a letter to the Governor's Technical Advisory Panel and a letter to Pat Dostie, included as **Attachment 3**.
- V. Public comment.** Fred Viles, Wiscasset. Mr. Viles is a retired electrical engineer and was a registered professional engineer in 4 states during his career. He introduced himself to the panel and stated his wish that the general public had a better understanding of the processes civilization has used to get to the concerns we have now regarding green house gases.
- VI. Meeting adjourned** at 2:55 PM.