



Date: Sept. 16, 2014
For Release: Immediately
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News Release

Vermont Yankee Beginning Gradual Power Reduction; Has Operated Continuously Since Spring 2013.

Vermont Yankee has begun a planned gradual reduction of plant energy output, a so-called coastdown period, which typically occurs at the end of each 18 months of the plant's operating cycle. Reactor power level and associated electrical generation will gradually decrease during this period due to the depletion of the fuel in the reactor, and will culminate with the plant shutdown targeted for late December.

According to VY Site Vice President Chris Wamser, during coastdown, the Vermont Yankee control room staff will update the electric grid dispatcher, ISO-New England, on the projected plant output. The updates will assist ISO-New England in its role of ensuring sufficient electrical generating capability remains available on the New England grid.

Wamser said, "VY has reliably operated more than 500 days as a base-load plant during its final operating cycle." During this period it has provided more than 7.5 million megawatt-hours of electricity to the New England grid -- about 70 percent of electricity generated in Vermont, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. VY engineers and technicians continue to focus on safe plant operations as their highest priority," Wamser concluded.