



**YANKEE ATOMIC ELECTRIC COMPANY**

49 Yankee Road, Rowe, MA 01367/19 Midstate Drive, Auburn, Massachusetts 01501

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Small Fire Extinguished at Yankee Rowe** *Unusual Event Declared/Terminated*

Rowe, Massachusetts – April 14, 2004 - Yankee Atomic Electric Company declared an Unusual Event at 12:25 this afternoon as a result of a small fire in the containment structure. The empty containment structure is in the process of being dismantled as part of decommissioning. Hot metal from torch cutting activities ignited some plastic sheeting and wood materials that were inside the structure as part of dismantlement. Due to the fire and smoldering plastic, smoke was released from the containment building.

The Rowe Fire Department in conjunction with Yankee's fire brigade extinguished the fire at 1:03 p.m. The Unusual Event was officially terminated at 2:08 p.m. There were no injuries.

In accordance with plant procedures, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the State of Vermont and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission were notified and updated as warranted by the situation.

According to plant procedures, Yankee declared an Unusual Event because the fire and smoke continued for more than 30 minutes. Due to the decommissioned and defueled status of the plant, these types of events pose no threat to the general public or the environment. There was no release of radioactivity associated with this event. The transfer of all nuclear fuel to steel and concrete casks on the site was completed in 2003.

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