

NORTHEAST UTILITIES



THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
THE HARTFORD ELEC. CO. LIGHT & POWER
WESTERN CONNECTICUT ELECTRIC COMPANY
NEW BRITAIN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY
NORTHEAST UTILITIES SERVICE COMPANY
SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER

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August 9, 1979

Docket No. 50-336

Mr. V. Stello, Jr.
Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

References: (1) W. G. Council letter to R. H. Grier dated June 15, 1979.
(2) W. G. Council letter to V. Stello, Jr., dated July 13, 1979.

Gentlemen:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2
Load Center Transformers

In References (1) and (2), Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) advised the NRC Staff of recent experiences involving dry-type 4160/480 V load center transformers. The details of the specific problems involving three different transformers, along with the schedule for affecting replacement of the safety-related transformers of Millstone Unit No. 2, were provided.

Since the date of Reference (2), events affecting plant availability have occurred. Specifically, an unscheduled cold shutdown is required to affect repair of a cracked weld in a non-isolable steam line. The purpose of this letter is to document the resulting change in the scheduled replacement of the safety-related transformers, as discussed verbally earlier today with the NRC Staff.

One of the two safety-related transformers will be replaced with a fully qualified transformer from a different vendor prior to resuming plant operation from the current shutdown. Replacement of the second transformer, which is a refurbished unit from the original vendor, is scheduled for a planned outage beginning no later than October 6, 1979. Effectively, the outage activities originally planned for the September 1 outage are being completed in two phases, either during the current shutdown or the one tentatively scheduled for October 6, 1979. This is acceptable from a safety perspective in that the subject transformers are operated continuously and operability requirements are detailed in current Technical Specifications. NNECO has concluded that with the replacement of the first transformer, additional assurance regarding operability of AC power sources is provided to justify continued, safe plant operation until the second replacement can be affected. The qualification documentation for the second transformer is currently being assembled, and will be available before the replacement is completed.

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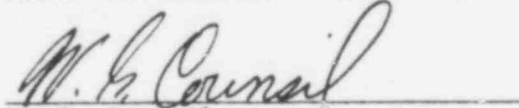
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Post removal inspection of the transformers being replaced is expected to further the level of understanding regarding failure mechanism.

We trust the above information is sufficient to clarify our revised replacement program.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. G. Counsil", is written over a horizontal line.

W. G. Counsil

Vice President