

NORTHEAST UTILITIES



THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
THE HARTFORD ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY
WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY
WOLYMAK WATER POWER COMPANY
NORTHEAST UTILITIES SERVICE COMPANY
NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

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79-01/INF

January 23, 1980

MP-2-4269

Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director
Region I
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Dear Sir:

This letter is provided for your information concerning the loss of the main control board annunciators at Millstone Unit 2 on December 29, 1979.

The information is presented in sequence and includes the events leading to the loss of annunciators, the loss of annunciators, immediate corrective action, and the short term actions to prevent recurrence.

During the evening of Friday, December 28, 1979 an anomaly occurred in the Annunciator System in that certain alarm windows (one or two) began to flash without any audible alarm. The flashing windows would extinguish (return to normal) upon depressing the annunciator reset pushbutton. This occurrence was not considered to require immediate attention and the Operators on shift submitted a maintenance request to the Instrument and Control Department.

During the evening of December 29 a similar event occurred. This time the window(s) could not be reset and at 2320 all annunciator windows began to flash and eventually all windows went out.

The Shift Supervisor inspected the Annunciator System cabinets and although he detected no physical damage he did detect the smell of overheated electrical components. He directed the supply breaker to be opened.

Upon investigating the failure of the Annunciator System it was determined that of the twenty eight Rochester Instrument System (RIS) Model AN-159 power supplies that are paralleled to provide the voltages required for the annunciator electronics, lamps and field contacts, fourteen had failed. This condition resulted in the remaining power supplies being overloaded. The design of the power supply is such that once sufficiently overloaded, the supply will automatically shut down. When this happened the Annunciator System was disabled.

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mr. Boyce H. Grier

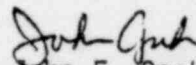
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At 0542 on December 30, 1979 following replacement of the fourteen failed supplies the Annunciator System was re-energized and declared operable.

Short term actions to prevent recurrence have been taken. They include the implementation of a Surveillance Procedure to periodically verify the operability of all Annunciator System power supplies and discussions with the supply manufacturer to determine if the supply can be upgraded through component changes.

Long term actions to prevent recurrence are being considered. When they have been determined, the Resident Inspector will be made aware of our program. If additional information or clarification is necessary, please contact us.

Very truly yours,



John F. Opeka
Station Superintendent
Millstone Nuclear Power Station

JFO/ECF:kaf

cc: J. T. Shedlosky

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