

# NORTHEAST UTILITIES



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

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August 24, 1981

Docket No. 50-423  
AEC-MP3-247  
A01869

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mr. E. J. Brunner, Chief  
Projects Branch #1, Division of Resident and  
Project Inspection  
Region I  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Reference: (1) E. J. Brunner letter to W. G. Council, dated  
July 23, 1981.

Gentlemen:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3  
I&E Inspection No. 50-423/81-06

On May 8 - 29 and June 1 - 5, 1981 the NRC Office of Inspection and Enforcement conducted an inspection of selected areas of Millstone Unit No. 3. As a result of that inspection, Reference (1) was transmitted to us for response. That transmittal contains essentially two parts: Appendix A, Notice of Violation, and IE Inspection Report No. 50-423/81-06.

Pursuant to the provisions of 10CFR2.201, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company hereby is submitting a response to the Notice of Violation. In regards to the inspection report we assure you that assignments have been or will be made to ensure corrective actions are made on the observations cited.

In Appendix A it was stated that contrary to 10CFR50, Appendix B Criterion V, Northeast Utilities Service Company (NUSCO) Topical QAP 5.0, and Stone and Webster Quality Standards QS 1.31, as of May 16, 1981, three mechanical snubbers (ITT Grinnel mechanical shock suppressors) were installed in the reactor plant component cooling water system without the use of the required supplier's instruction manual (No. PHD-7594-1, Revision 3, issued October 12, 1979).

In response to this Notice of Violation the licensee offers the following:

At the time this violation was originally noted, installation work on all mechanical snubbers was halted. The decision was made to remove all mechanical snubbers and return them to the warehouse to be placed in storage where they would be protected from dust accumulation which they are more subject to in the field. On June 7, 1981 a notice was issued directing the return of all mechanical snubbers in the field.

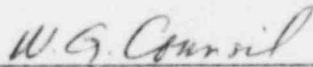
To ensure all future installation of ITT Grinnel mechanical snubbers is done in accordance with the proper procedures manual, the ITT Grinnel Maintenance and Installation Manual PE-217-1 (of which procedure PHD-7594-1 is a part) was received on-site on July 20, 1981 and was immediately made available on controlled distribution. All future installations will be done in accordance with this manual. Within the manual it is recommended that mockups temporarily be installed in place of snubbers to avoid snubber damage during construction activities. The design of these mockups has been completed and is being reviewed. These mockups will be installed on an ongoing basis. The return to storage of all mechanical snubbers will be completed by October 30, 1981.

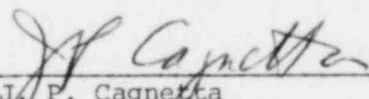
It was suggested by the NRC Inspector that our response to Appendix A include a revision to Specification 968 to include that snubbers shall be installed in accordance with manufactures' instructions. Specification 968 pages 1-6, lines 5.50 through 5.52 and pages 1-37, lines 29.19 through 29.22 adequately cover requirements for manufactures' instructions. Therefore, a Specification change is not warranted.

We trust the above responses satisfactorily respond to the violation and observations cited by your inspector.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
W. G. Council  
Senior Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
By: J. P. Cagnetta  
Vice President Nuclear and  
Environmental Engineering

cc: See Following Page

STATE OF CONNECTICUT )  
 ) ss. Berlin  
COUNTY OF HARTFORD )

*August 24, 1981*

Then personally appeared before me J. P. Cagnetta, who being duly sworn, did state that he is Vice President of Northeast Utilities Service Company, agents for Licensees herein, that he is authorized to execute and file the foregoing information in the name and on behalf of the Licensees herein and that the statements contained in said information are true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

*Shirley M. Oates*  
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Notary Public My Commission Expires March 31, 1986

cc: Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director  
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Mr. Harold D. Thornburg, Director  
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