

NORTHEAST UTILITIES



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

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March 11, 1993

Docket No. 50-423
B14400

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3
Alternate Minimum Flow System for the Charging Pump

In response to the request of November 25, 1992,⁽¹⁾ and a subsequent request dated December 18, 1992,⁽²⁾ Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO), licensee for Millstone Unit No. 3; along with Georgia Power Company, licensee for Vogtle Units 1 and 2; Texas Utilities Electric Company, licensee for Comanche Peak Units 1 and 2; and Duquesne Light Company, licensee for Beaver Valley Unit 2 met with the NRC Staff on January 7, 1993. The purpose of this meeting was to provide a forum for licensees to present the Staff with information regarding the design, operational and testing experience, and justification for long-term operability of the alternate minimum flow (AMF) path in the high head/safety injection pump systems installed at Beaver Valley Unit 2, Millstone Unit No. 3, Vogtle Units 1 and 2, and Comanche Peak Units 1 and 2 nuclear power plants. The nuclear steam supply system vendor, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, was invited to attend by the utilities in order to provide the necessary generic history and system details concerning the AMF. NNECO representatives reviewed the Millstone Unit No. 3 system in detail and identified the basis for determining system operability.

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- (1) J. A. Calvo letter to J. F. Opeka, "Operability of the Alternate Minimum Flow Paths for the High-Head Safety Injection Pumps (TAC No. M84948)," dated November 25, 1992.
- (2) Meeting Notice from N. B. Lee, NRC Project Manager, "Forthcoming Meeting with Duquesne Light Company, Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, Georgia Power Company, and Texas Utilities Electric Company, Licensees for Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 2, Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit 3, Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2, and Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2," dated December 18, 1992.

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NNECO's conclusion of operability was based on the following:

- An engineering analysis performed by NNECO and validated by Westinghouse to confirm that hydraulic design parameters were satisfactory to prevent fluid flow problems such as relief valve chatter.
- A successful AMF flow test was performed at the Comanche Peak Plant. Millstone Unit No. 3 and Comanche Peak Plant have similar hydraulic characteristics.
- There are significant differences in configuration and hydraulic design parameters between Millstone Unit No. 3 and the Shearon Harris Plant. It was these unique design parameters that contributed to the Shearon Harris Plant event.
- The conclusion and the results of the safety analysis presented in the Millstone Unit No. 3 Final Safety Analysis Report remains valid for a reduction in the charging pump flow in the event of a potential blowdown through the relief valve in the AMF line, even if the lift setpoint drifted downward to 1665 psia during post-accident conditions.

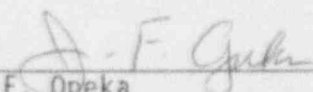
In addition, NNECO will continue to ensure the piping section between the relief valve and the first isolation valve in the AMF line is filled and vented after any maintenance, and NNECO will bench test at least one of the subject relief valves at each refueling outage to verify the valve setpoint.

As discussed in the meeting of January 7, 1993, the Millstone Unit No. 3 AMF path in the charging system is operable and the AMF path would function as required.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact my staff directly.

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY



J. F. Opeka
Executive Vice President

cc: T. T. Martin, Region I Administrator
V. L. Rooney, NRC Project Manager, Millstone Unit No. 3
P. D. Swetland, Senior Resident Inspector, Millstone Unit Nos. 1, 2,
and 3