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May 6, 1993

BY HAND DELIVERY

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Re: NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY, Millstone Nuclear
Power Station, Unit No. 2, Docket No. 50-366-OLA
(Spent Fuel Pool Design) 336

Dear Administrative Judges:

This letter is to inform the Licensing Board and the parties that Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (NNECO) will within the next few days file with the NRC an application for another license amendment related to the Millstone Unit No. 2 spent fuel pool. We advise the Licensing Board of this matter mindful of our obligation to keep it apprised of new information which is relevant and material to the matters being adjudicated.^{1/} However, this proposed amendment will not impact the matters presently before the Licensing Board in this proceeding.

The forthcoming license amendment application will seek NRC authorization (and revised plant Technical Specifications) to modify the fuel storage pattern in Region C of the Millstone Unit No. 2 spent fuel pool. Under current Technical Specifications, unconsolidated fuel assemblies in Region C may be stored only in a

^{1/} See Duke Power Co. (William B. McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 & 2), ALAB-143, 6 AEC 623, 625 (1973).

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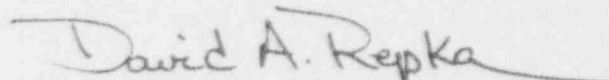
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3-out-of-4 pattern.^{2/} Cell blocking devices are installed in the fourth location to provide passive control. The proposed amendment would allow removal of the cell blocking devices in Region C (not Region B) and would allow, subject to certain conditions, storage of unconsolidated fuel assemblies in the fourth location. Proper reactivity would be achieved through requirements on assembly average enrichment and assembly average burnup, and through use of poison pins (i.e., borated stainless steel rods) installed in the fuel assemblies.

The present proceeding relates to the criticality analysis supporting previous Amendment 158, addressing only Regions A and B of the spent fuel pool. Region C was unaffected by Amendment 158 (other than by a name change), does not contain Boraflex panels, and was licensed based on a separate criticality study. The forthcoming license amendment application affecting Region C will be based on a new criticality analysis and does not impact Regions A and B or the supporting analysis for those regions. Accordingly, the application has no bearing on the issues in the present proceeding.

Nonetheless, as soon as the amendment application is filed with the NRC, NNECO will provide a copy to the Licensing Board and parties. In addition, NNECO will be meeting with the NRC Staff to discuss this amendment in the near future. We expect that a meeting notice will be issued by the NRC Staff.

Very truly yours,


Nicholas S. Reynolds
David A. Repka

Counsel for Northeast
Nuclear Energy Company

cc: Service List

^{2/} Placement of consolidated fuel storage boxes in the fourth location is presently allowed in Region C if the consolidated fuel boxes comply with certain requirements and all surrounding cells in the pattern are occupied by consolidated fuel.